Scottish Association of Motor Sports Clubs

Minute of Ordinary General Meeting

Tuesday 15 November 2022 at 19:30hrs

Held by Zoom

Attendance

Bruce Lyle	Interim Chair and Vice President
Grahame Douglas	Vice Chair
Keith Butler	Treasurer and Acting Secretary
Raymond Mann	Calendar Manager
Sandy Denham	Motor Sports Council Representative
Roy Campbell	Stage Rally Co-ordinator – SRC
Trix Grant	Stage Rally Co-ordinator – STRC
Rhona Dickie	Stage Rally Co-ordinator – J1000EC
Steve Burns	Race Co-ordinator
Jon Bolton	Training Co-ordinator
Rupert Hine	Training Co-ordinator
Bill Creevy	Autotest Co-ordinator / Stage Rally - SSVRC / Autotest Committee Representative
Graham Couser	Historic Technical Committee Representative
Ron Cowan	Safety Committee Representative
Garry Headridge	Marshals Advisory Group Representative
John Harrington	Medical Expert Group Representative

Delegates from the following Member Clubs:

63 Car Club	Knockhill Motor Sport Club
Berwick & District Motor Club	RSAC Motorsport
Borderlands Motor Vehicle Club	Saltire Rally Club
Caledonian Classic & Historic Motor Sports Club	Scottish Hill Rally Club
Dunfermline Car Club	Scottish Motor Racing Club
East Ayrshire Car Club	Scottish Motorsport Marshals Club
Glenrothes Motor Sport Club	Scottish Off Road Club
Grampian Automobile Club	Scottish Sporting Car Club
Hawick & Border Car Club	Solway Car Club
Highland Car Club	SRC Car Club
Jim Clark Memorial Motor Club	

Guests

Rory Bryant	Development Funding Committee
Jim Reid	Timekeeper
Stan Thorogood	Timekeeper
Iain Tullie	Motorsport UK

Apologies

Maggie Bateman	West Cumbria Motorsport Club
Graeme Forrester	Wigton Motor Club Sprint & Hill Climb Sub Committee Representative
Lock Horsburgh	Website Manager
John Macfarlane	Association of Motorsport Recovery Operators
Dave MacKintosh	Road Events Co-ordinator Scottish Navigational Rally Championship Co-ordinator
Tom Matthews	Condor MSC
Ian McRae	Junior 1000 Ecosse Challenge
Sam Ollis	Condor MSC
Monty Pearson	Border Ecosse CC
Rod Taylor	Association of Scottish Kart Clubs Kart Committee Representative
Dan Wright	Jim Clark Memorial MC

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		Action
1	**Welcome and Sederunt** Bruce Lyle welcomed all attendees to the meeting.	
2	**Apologies** Apologies received are listed above.	
3	**Minute of Ordinary General Meeting held on 20 September 2022** The minute of the Ordinary General Meeting held on 20 September 2022 was approved. Proposed by Sandy Denham, seconded by Glenrothes MSC.	
4	**Action Log and Matters Arising not covered elsewhere in the agenda** See Action Log.	
5	**Motorsport UK – Number of events and future of rallying** Bruce Lyle welcomed Iain Tullie to the meeting noting that Iain was attending to discuss the points raised at the September meeting. Iain advised that he had not had sufficient time to share with colleagues a paper from Dan Wright outlining the issues however it did raise a number of important points. The 2030 Vision document circulated with the meeting papers did answer some of them. Iain opined that having too many events had not been directly raised with Motorsport UK before but was valid. Iain proposed it required a revisit to the purpose of dates meetings to avoid clashes and resources being spread too thinly. This was certainly a case for Northern Ireland who had very limited resources. Iain remarked that date clashes were always a topic however Motorsport UK cannot restrict events from running if they want to. Iain acknowledged that a potential lack of insurance cover for events not authorised by Motorsport UK gave rise to concerns, noting that some events ran under permits from the International Organisation of Professional Drivers (IOPD), or other bodies that can authorise off-highway events, or had no permit at all. In response to a question from Bruce, Iain opined that Motorsport UK would need to have a reason for not issuing a permit but that he would need to discuss this with his Legal colleagues. Commenting briefly on forest vs closed road rallies, Iain observed that environmental related pressures could restrict forest events in future. However, closed road rallies may not be possible in some areas and the number of such events that could be held was finite. Iain committed to sharing the paper with his senior colleagues. Bruce responded that he looked forward to feedback from Motorsport UK on the points raised. Roy Campbell noted that he and Iain were in regular communication. Bruce thanked Iain for his attendance.	Iain Tullie

6	**SportScotland funding** Sandy Denham reported that some progress had been made. There had been a successful meeting with Hugh Chambers, Claire Kirkpatrick and Sue Sanders. He was pleased with the support promised although there had been limited contact subsequently as Sue had contracted a virulent strain of Covid. Sandy further reported that there had been a change to the monetary aspect as SportScotland were now looking to support projects rather than employment of personnel. Sandy opined that this may be to our advantage. Rory Bryant confirmed that going forward the way Sport Scotland would fund sports was that the sport would need to have a development strategy and within that SportScotland would fund specific projects to achieve the outcomes agreed by the sport. The next step would be for Motorsport UK to carry out a consultation through for example surveys and focus groups to understand key needs. From a funding perspective SportScotland are leaning towards equality and diversity so projects meeting those criteria were more likely to secure funding. First and foremost however the plan must be right for the sport. In discussion with Bruce, Sandy and Rory clarified that Motorsport UK had agreed that they will send out requests for information and undertake the collation. It will be up to clubs, volunteers and competitors to respond and provide their input. Motorsport UK will formulate the required documentation and deliver it to SportScotland. The role of the Association, and the Development Funding Committee, to which more members will be co-opted as appropriate, will be to feed in additional information as required and facilitate the flow of information to Motorsport UK. Bruce and Sandy both thanked Rory for his involvement and guidance. Bill Creevy enquired whether there were plans for a Development Officer for Scotland. Bruce opined on recent engagements with Motorsport UK on the subject noting that the latter did not intend to reinstate the previous Development Officer network nor would agree to us creating such a role. Bruce proposed that pending the outcome of an application to SportScotland the topic of a Development Officer be put to the side for the timebeing.	
7	**Recruitment of a Minute Secretary** Details of this new post are included in the Secretary's Report. Bruce Lyle expressed sadness that Dave MacKintosh was unwell and was having to stand down as both Road Events Co-ordinator and Scottish Navigational Rally Championship Co-ordinator. Bruce reported that he had spoken to Dave by phone and was sure the meeting would echo his best wishes to Dave. Bruce asked that word be spread about the need to fill these three vacancies. [Note: subsequent to the meeting the role of Minute Secretary has been filled.]	All Member Clubs

8	**Chair's Report** The Chair's report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read. No matters were raised.	
9	**Treasurer's Report** The Treasurer's report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read. No matters were raised.	
10	**Secretary's Report** The Secretary's report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read. No matters were raised.	
11	**Calendar Manager's Report** The Secretary reported that Raymond Mann had 2023 dates for stage rallies and Knockhill events. Member Clubs are asked to provide Raymond with all other 2023 dates as soon as possible.	All Member Clubs
12	**SAMSC Co-ordinator Reports** The following reports had been circulated in advance and were taken as read. Race Co-ordinator's Report Scottish Rally Championship Report Scottish Tarmack Rally Championship Report Junior 1000 Ecosse Challenge Report Training Co-ordinator's Report Bill Creevy reported that the Autotest Championship had been close all year with Garry Clark winning the championship at the final round. Bill asked that clubs running championship events in 2023 look at accommodating three disciplines within each event (PCA, Club Autotest, Expert Autotest) with less tests but more runs at each test. Bill also reported than the Scottish Single Venue Rally Championship had had a really successful first year with 62 entries, being decided at the final round in favour of Des Campbell. The 2023 championship will include a double header at Mach 1 Stages and the 1 litre class will be retained. Bill agreed to provide written reports for general circulation after the meeting. Bruce Lyle observed that no report had been received for some time from the Scottish Sprint & Hillclimb Championship. Speed was an important discipline and an update by the year end would be welcomed. The Secretary was asked to contact the Championship. Lovat Fraser offered to also raise the matter with the Championship at a meeting on 3 December and Grahame Douglas reported that he understood Ian Thompson had been tasked with providing reports. Grahame had also raised with the Championship their attendance at these meetings.	Bill Creevy Keith Butler

13	**Motor Sports Council Representative Report** The Motor Sports Council Representative's report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read. Sandy Denham noted Iain Tullie's observation that calendar management was a key item that should be looked at. Sandy confirmed that he had raised the matter at Council noting the positive progress made by the Association. He had also commented positively on the appropriateness of Tom Matthews' recent appointment as MOD Liaison Officer. He was gratified that the issues appeared to have filtered through Motorsport UK. Sandy also confirmed that he had raised Roy Campbell's issue on average speeds and this had now been referred to a new sub-committee for review.	
14	**Motorsport UK Committee Member Reports** The following reports had been circulated in advance and were taken as read. Marshal's Advisory Group Report Safety Committee Report Cross Country Report At the invitation of Bruce Lyle, Garry Headridge noted that the Marshal's Advisory Group (MAG) were making progress and moving from recruitment to retention was very much on the agenda for next year. Garry observed that the balancing of the calendar was also a key issue in England and Wales and the MAG had been made aware that the topic had been raised by Bruce at Regional Committee and Sandy Denham at Motor Sports Council. Sandy offered to provide Garry with what support he could on the issue of marshalling resources. Russell Fair noted a reference in the Safety Committee Report to a discussion concerning the impact of safety regulations on affordability and sought further information. Ron Cowan replied that the discussion was very short and the meeting minute had not yet been formally issued however he could say that there was concern that we must not rule out affordability matters for safety or vice versa and the matter was ongoing. Graham Couser reported that he had attended a meeting of the Historic Technical Committee earlier in the day. There is still a lot of concern about the overdevelopment of historic vehicles, one thing particularly in focus being modern specification dampers on historic stage rally cars due to the difference in level of performance. Graham noted that concerns had been raised about the risks arising from drivers demonstrating high powered vehicles, without the necessary experience, at demonstration events (ie. events not holding Motorsport UK permits; although they could form part of such an event eg. demonstrations at Silverstone Classic), although this appeared to be more of an issue in England and Wales than Scotland. Graham reported briefly on discussions around the use of LED bulbs in historic vehicles, which was currently not permitted by motorsport regulations, and activity underway to seek a waiver for daytime events.	

	Graham undertook to provide a written report for circulation.	Graham Couser
15	**President** Bruce Lyle reported that nothing had been received from the President but that he would be speaking to him at a mutual engagement the forthcoming weekend.	
16	**Matters from Member Clubs** A list of 2023 events at Knockhill Racing Circuit had been circulated in advance. Graham Couser on behalf of Saltire Rally Club noted a proliferation of road events organised by unlicenced clubs or one-make clubs and expressed concerns about the impact on licenced events. There were issues around driving standards and a lack of PR activity and Graham enquired whether other clubs had similar experience and whether anything could be done. In response to a question from Bruce Lyle, Graham noted that these were road run type events or similar and commented that one notorious example was a regular event run by the Austin Healey Club from Holland where participants tended to drive at speed and antisocially. Lindsay Burnip reported similar problems in Northumberland and over the fells of Weardale. Both Graham and Lindsay reported that such events were quite common. Lindsay also remarked on the number of clubs of various kinds undertaking Jim Clark runs around Duns, an issue being that they look like an organised motorsport event but without a permit or any PR. In respect of the Dutch Austin Healey Club, Lindsay reported that Andy Whittaker, Chair of the Association of North East and Cumbria Car Clubs and Route Liaison Officer had been working very hard to engage with them but it was proving difficult. Graham remarked that some events may be run by Motorsport UK licenced one make clubs but the organisers are unaware they need a Waiver of Permit and to contact the Route Liaison Officer. Andrew Little reported that the issue was also prevalent in the North East and tended to be small clubs not associated with Motorsport UK out for a hurl. Graham added that one thing that events could do was to engage with local residents and develop good relations and awareness. In summary, Bruce opined that there appeared little the Association could do but we could certainly monitor it and review if the situation gets worse.	
17	**Any Other Competent Business** Bruce Lyle drew attention to the gaps in the Association's administration. Importantly, no nominations for the role of Chair had been received. Ideally, we are seeking someone involved in the sport who is enthusiastic and knowledgeable.	

	Bruce noted as previously mentioned in the meeting the need to appoint a new Road Events Co-ordinator and Scottish Navigational Rally Championship Co-ordinator. While Dave MacKintosh currently filled both roles that need not be the case going forward. Bruce asked Member Clubs to give the vacancies their serious consideration. We ideally need to have new officials recruited in advance of the AGM in March. Bruce referred to previous discussion on resurrecting annual dates meetings. Bruce opined that with the problems around event dates and the shortage of officials and marshals, we should try to be cleverer than in the recent past and a dates meeting appeared to be a solution. Bruce expressed uncertainty whether an online meeting would work and suggested instead a face to face meeting be tried. Bruce asked that Member Clubs give it consideration. Bruce also suggested a social event could be considered, noting that face to face meetings had the added benefits of social interaction together with knowledge sharing and problem resolution, that online meetings could not deliver. Bruce acknowledged the financial and time costs of face to face meetings but opined that the benefits outweighed these. Bruce enquired whether there was an appetite for a social gathering that could also include a dates meeting. Bruce asked that anyone willing to assist or provide input contact him. Bruce thanked Jon Bolton for his technical support in holding the meeting and everybody attending.	All Member Clubs All Member Clubs All Member Club Representatives
	Next Meeting The date for the Annual General Meeting and the next Ordinary General Meeting are to be confirmed.	
	The meeting was closed at 20:35.	