



MORRIS REGISTER

The Club for Morris vehicles designed before 1940

MINUTES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Held Saturday 3rd October 2015 at the Coventry Transport Museum

The meeting opened at 11.15, following the AGM.

1. Those Present & Apologies for Absence:

President: Malcolm Dixon

Committee members Present: John Ford, Stephen Gant, Jane Nathan, Rob Symonds, Pat Farmer, Jim Riglar, Roger Needle, John Powell, John Nagle, Barbara Farmer, Tony Nathan, Anne Riglar, Neil Truslove, John Howells, Dave Lawton, Julian Jankowski, Tom Taylor, Chris Lambert (*Session 1 only*), Roy Pidgeon.

Other members Attending: Tom Bourne, Pam Lee, Dave Lee, Jo Nagle, Gideon Booth, Roger Clitheroe, Trevor Willsden, Christine Truslove, Brendan Jones, Yvonne Booth, Paul Ollis, John Sargent, June Sargent, Geoff Salminen, Richard Downing (*Session 1 only*).

Apologies for absence received from: Ben Gadsby, Harry Good, Mike Brears, Val Brears, Ken Johnson, Hilda Johnson, Tim Harris, Caroline Harris, Stephen Parks.

Session 1 - Business - chaired by John Ford

2. Approval of the Minutes of the National Committee of 25 April 2015. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

3. Matters Arising and Actions.

ITEM	MINUTE	ACTION
4	<u>GOVERNANCE</u>	
	<p>a. Specialist Officers The National Committee ratified unanimously the co-option of Dave Lawton as Spares Secretary and Tom Bourne as Historian.</p> <p>b. Directors The National Committee agreed unanimously to ratify the choice of John Ford, Steve Gant, Jim Riglar, Rob Symonds and Jane Nathan to serve as directors.</p>	Man. Team
5	<u>THE DVLA AUTHENTICATION SERVICE</u>	
	<p>The chairman thanked Gideon Booth, who was relinquishing the DVLA authentication role, for the service he had provided on behalf of the club for the past 4 years.</p> <p>Tom Bourne summarised recent DVLA registration recovery and & age related registration issues. As a result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The task required of our DVLA Officer has become more complicated, • our procedures for recovery of original numbers will require amendment • new procedures for "age related" cases will be required. 	

	<p>Tom Bourne offered to take on the task for an interim period, to monitor the changes from DVLA and prepare a set of procedures. He advised that appointment of a second club signatory would be sensible.</p> <p>The costs of providing the service are considerable. Fixed case fee charges were proposed and concerns that these might be insufficient to cover costs (special delivery postage etc) noted.</p> <p>The National Committee agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • second Tom Bourne as DVLA Officer • appoint Jim Riglar as second DVLA process signatory • charge fees for DVLA registration cases of £30/member, £70 non-member, and noted these will be kept under review. • pause the service for new cases until 1 January 2016 whilst procedures are developed and current cases processed. 	Man Team / TB
6	<u>EDITORIAL POLICY</u>	
	<p>The Secretary explained that the magazine Editor has full editorial freedom, but where he/she feels that such editorial action may be controversial, he/she shall refer the matter to the Chairman, who may in turn refer it to the Management Team. Any complaint about an editorial decision shall be dealt with by following the Complaints and Grievance Procedure.</p> <p>The National Committee agreed this unanimously A recommendation from the Management Team that, for clarity, this practice should be written down as policy for reference in the National Committee Manual.</p>	Man. Team
7	<u>NATIONAL COMMITTEE MANUAL</u>	
	<p>The Secretary presented a revised National Committee Manual, and summarised changes which related to the management structure. It now provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a default that all the 6 elected officers to be, automatically and by definition, the management team and directors. • some latitude and flexibility to have fewer directors than elected officers. <p>The National Committee unanimously agreed to the changes.</p>	JR
8	<u>THE SPARES SERVICE</u>	
	<p>Dave Lawton provided a comprehensive report: On-line spares service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since the implementation, sales have quadrupled • The work task for Dave & Lindsay Smith has been simplified. • About 50% of parts are supported by photos, the remainder should be complete in 3-4 months. • Sales were now being made worldwide (USA & Canada excepted). <p>Stock holdings and range:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing suppliers are being reviewed with an intention to consolidate where possible. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New suppliers and items are also being identified. New items will be subject to an investment appraisal before any commitment to purchase. • Stock levels of some items will be maintained and replenished, whereas others will be restocked on a just-in-time basis. Some that can be readily purchased from other suppliers will just listed for information. <p>Concerns about those unable to use the on-line process were raised and it was agreed to produce a stock list (of between 350-400 line items) which could be issued to individuals on request.</p> <p>The National Committee unanimously agreed the responsibilities and levels of delegated authority for the Spares Secretary and the Spares Working group, and that Jim Riglar would replace Tom Bourne on the group (TB shadowing until the Feb 16 stocktake)</p>	DL
9	<u>FINANCE MATTERS</u>	
	<p>a. Budget and Subscriptions The treasurer presented the financial report and a draft budget for the year ahead. In view of both the financial position and reduced overseas postal rates used by our new printers, Lavenham, it was proposed for 2016 to freeze UK subscription rates, to harmonise/reduce European & Rest of World rates and reduce Electronic rates. The National Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreed the draft budget for 2016/17 2. Authorised the Management Team to fix subscriptions for 2016/17 within a £1 range in the light of the finalised budget. <p>b. Purchase of Spares from Australia The Chairman advised that the MMOC has located a huge volume of ex-military Morris 8 engine spares in Australia, and has suggested that the MR joins them in joint venture to import and sell these. The risks and scope of purchases were discussed and the National Committee cautioned that there were too many unknowns for it to be able to give approval or not. The potential for further negotiations would be explored.</p> <p>c. Morris 8 interior door handle rubbers. Richard Downing explained he has produced tooling drawings for the manufacture of M8 interior door handle rubbers. Tooling costs would be £200 +VAT, with unit costs of the items produced in nitrile rubber at £3.50 and £3.00 respectively for front and rear door handle rubbers. Concern was expressed that there may be a low demand for such items.</p> <p>The National Committee agreed to place an article in MoMo to seek/determine demand.</p>	<p>Man. Team /SG</p> <p>JF</p> <p>JF</p>
11	<u>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT</u>	
	Jane Nathan presented a membership report covering April-October 2015. Membership stands at 1954, of which 250 have joined since	

	April. The renewals process will be reviewed in light of experience gained with 2015 renewals; anticipated support from regional membership secretaries did not materialise and the mailing of joining packs to new members remains an issue. The possibility of using Lavenham's for this task had been suggested and will be explored. The Chairman considered that perhaps he and/or the President should issue welcome letters to new members.	JF
13	<u>INSURANCE</u>	
	The Secretary advised that the club's liability insurance cover, particularly in respect of spares was under threat as underwriters appeared to be questioning this provision for all car club policies. The FBHVC is currently looking at this issue. Care will be required to ensure we maintain adequate cover on policy renewal next year. Tom Bourne noted that vehicle policies for the club van & lorry were in his name. It was agreed not to amend these, but to accommodate the change of club secretary as policy holder on renewal(s).	
14	<u>INFORMATION OFFICE</u>	
	John Nagle, advised that he was producing an updated Information Booklet/Directory of Club Officers which would include details of website information, regional committees, noggins, and events. This would be made available in softcopy.	
15	<u>PROCEEDINGS OF THE MANAGEMENT TEAM</u>	
	The committee considered and noted the report on the proceedings of the Management Team for the period May to September 2015.	
16	<u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING / MEETING DATES FOR THE COMING YEAR</u>	
	16 April 2016 at Coventry Transport Museum – Nat Cttee 1 October 2016 at Coventry Transport Museum – AGM & Nat Cttee	

Session 2 - Discussion - chaired by Malcolm Dixon

The session started at 13.55

17. President's Welcome

The President welcomed all and commented that it was good to see some new faces among the attendees. During the last year, he had been heavily involved with club activity, attending the Classic Car and the Restoration Shows at the NEC, participating in the inaugural MVA Rally and manning the Register's stand at Beaulieu Autojumble. This had given him the opportunity to meet many members and recruit a six new ones! He had also provided a direct service to members by manning the Information Service telephone hotline for a number of weeks.

18. Review of the year

The 2015 plan, agreed last October was reviewed. It was noted that the strategic direction had been maintained, that the management issues had been addressed and that club activities had been achieved.

19. National Rally Charging

The charging arrangements introduced for 2015 were discussed. It was noted that a few members had objected to this, however the consensus of the meeting, informed by

the Treasurer's report, was that the charging arrangements were supported and should continue. The budget had allowed a net cost to the club of about £4,000, but the actual cost had been nearer £3000.

20. National Rally Futures

A sub-committee had been established in 2014 to examine future options for the National Rally, however it had made little progress over the past 12 months and it was agreed that it needed to be re-invigorated. The secretary reminded the meeting that the sub-committee should cover a broad scope and was not simply about location.

Constructive feedback/suggestions from the 2015 rally were raised by the meeting, including: Giving MVA clubs a standing invitation to future MR National Rallies; Saturday evening entertainment should be subtle (piped instead of live music?) to allow members to have a good chat!; separate marquees for entertainment and member services; more flexibility of camping arrival time; better organisation of helpers; make it a 1940's themed event; more information in Morris Monthly beforehand, Shared with clubs.

21. How to Get Younger members

The meeting had a general discussion on future development of the club, recognising that whilst our cars may be of little interest to the younger in society they should certainly be of interest to those perhaps in their late 30s and older. A number of suggestions were made, including: use of social media (facebook, twitter etc), attending school/college open days, leafleting at motoring events, reduced rates for young members, membership as a gift, advertising/articles in classic car magazines. All of these are aimed at raising the profile of the club and promoting it as an attractive organisation to join.

22. The Plan for 2016

The Secretary presented the plan for 2016. This was noted and agreed by the meeting. National events were discussed and it was considered that The Classic Car (Nov) and Restoration (Mar) Shows at the NEC, the Bristol Classic Car Show (Jun), the Beaulieu Autumn Autojumble (Sep) and the Manchester Classic Car Show (Sep) should be regarded as "national events", qualifying for funding support from national funds if/where required. NW Region advised they were unlikely to require funding for the Manchester Show. John Nagle would capture these in the update of the Information Booklet. The Chairman considered that regions should hold a core of display/presentation materials.

23. Officer Reports

Chairman – All issues were covered during business session

Secretary – Thanked all committee members for their support. Pleased to see increases in membership, and noted we are only just short of the "2,013 members by 2013" target we set in 2012.

Editor – Change to Lavenham printing contract had gone well.

Webmaster – A member has expressed a potential interest in the post, the Secretary will follow this up. **Action JR**

FBHVC Representative – mentioned the end of the tax disc, ethanol in petrol, CoE, and Drive it Day as examples of recent topics discussed by the FBHVC.

MSA Officer – Reported that all was going well and that several MSA CoE applications had supported already.

Spares – All issues were covered covered during business session

DVLA – All issues were covered covered during business session

Shopkeeper – Sales are steady, particularly for information manuals. Three new items will be added to the range shortly.

Archivist – New slide scanner is of assistance. Progressing with next batch of photographs.

Vehicle Registrar – A full refresh of the vehicle records, the first since 2008, has been initiated.

Overseas Secretary – magazines from Australian and New Zealand Morris clubs are circulated regularly to the National Committee. Noted that Australia NSW Club has “gone quiet”

Regional Reports:

Chilterns – going well

Midlands – membership is healthy and increased by 24 this year.

West - Chairman Anne Riglar reported on committee, noggins and events. IoW event planned for 2016 (see Appendix 1)

East Anglia – Saturday noggins have been disbanded. New North Cambridge noggin being established.

South East – Not represented. Secretary read report submitted by SE Committee (see Appendix 2)

North East – The region has just taken over the custody of the club van from Wales.

North West – Organised tours are proving to be very popular.

Wales - Secretary John Howells reported on activity including providing MR stands at two shows. A new show at Margam has replaced the now defunct Tredegar event.

24. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None raised.

25. Date Of Next Meeting

The next Nat Cttee meeting will be 16 April 2016 at Coventry Transport Museum and the AGM & Nat Cttee meetings 1 October 2016 at Coventry Transport Museum.

The President thanked all present for attending and closed the meeting at 4.15

Morris Register West Region (Region 3)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT to AGM 2015 / National Committee 03 OCT 2015

Committee

The region maintains an active committee, which meets on a formal basis 2-3 times per year, with out-of-committee discussions as necessary. The current committee is in mid-term, having been elected at the regional AGM in April 2015.

Noggins

Efforts have been made to increase the number and coverage of noggins across the region.

- **Somerset** (Shepton Mallet) – established about 15 years ago, the noggin continues to attract a regular turnout of 30-40 members from within a radius of up to 50 miles!
- **East & South Devon** (mid-way between Exeter & Sidmouth) – has now been running for the best part of 2 years and now has an established core of regulars
- **New Forest** (North Gorley) – has been running for over 2 years and attracts regular attendance from members in East Dorset & South Wiltshire
- **Solent** (Golden Common) – having merged with a British Made Car Club noggin at the same venue a few years ago, MR attendance had unfortunately been in steady decline.
- **North Wilts** (Royal Wootton Bassett) – Attracts a very small but regular core of members
- **North East Wilts** (Burbage) – A long established noggin, it has struggled to find a comfortable home since closure of its original venue and is still on the look-out for a new long term home. A move from evening to lunchtime meetings has seen an increase in numbers, attracting a few from West Wilts in addition to its established North & East Wilts and West Berks attendees.
- **Jersey** – Two Sunday lunchtime noggins hosted by the Jersey Old Motor Club

Events

Between them, the NE Wilts, New Forest, Somerset and S&E Devon noggins have organised about a dozen events over the course of the season. The region also organised its fourth and very successful, annual break in May to West Sussex. Building on that success, an event has already been booked for the Isle of Wight next May and for which 44 people in 23 cars from the West and South East regions are already booked.

The regional members also put in a strong presence at the National Rally at Thoresby.

Morris Register South East - Region 5

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2015

The last twelve months has been 'business as usual' in our region, with an increase in restored vehicles appearing on the scene for the first time.

Our members have attended numbers of localised rallies and events in both Kent, Sussex, and Surrey areas and we find that support for the old-style informal rallies has revived, possibly due to the demise of large events because of costs and health & safety guidance. Also members are enjoying liaising with other clubs.

Both West Sussex and Kent have their own email system to remind and advise area members of local news and roving noggins as well as supporting the Morris Monthly Newsletter. I am pleased to report that members seem much happier now that MM arrives earlier.

Our daytime noggins have proved a big success, being well attended by members bringing their Morris out and about, although we do still hold an evening noggin in Mid-Sussex and Surrey.

This summer we were pleased to welcome Hampshire when they had a week's hotel stay in the depths of West Sussex, with many of our members joining in their visits to Tangmere's air museum, the Chalk pits at Amberley and Chichester Canal.

Our South Coast Run had lower numbers as did our barbeque weekend – a pity, because we had ordered brilliant sunshine!

The West Sussex barbeque coincided with the Shoreham Air Show disaster which affected us all, especially since we lost an old friend, Maurice Abrahams, a long-standing member and staunch helper to the club.

The National Rally at Thoresby was a pleasure to attend, with the 'amalgamation' of other Morris related Clubs making new friends.

At our last National Committee meeting we discussed the 500+ historical brass plaque collection which we had 'inherited' from Richard Buckles. For over a year we had been trying to find an organisation to take them. I am pleased to report that they now reside in the Morris Area of the Oxford Bus Museum.

Generally, it has been a good year for Region 5. Now we just have the Christmas Dinners to look forward to.