



MORRIS REGISTER

The Club for Morris vehicles designed before 1940

MINUTES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Held Saturday 25 April 2015 at the Coventry Transport Museum

The meeting opened at 10.30

1. Those Present & Apologies for Absence:

President: Malcolm Dixon

Committee members Present: John Ford, Tom Bourne, Stephen Gant, Jane Nathan, Rob Symonds, Ben Gadsby, Pat Farmer, Jim Riglar, Roger Needle, John Powell, John Nagle, Barbara Farmer, Tony Nathan, Caroline Harris,

Other members Attending: Tim Harris, Pam Lee, Dave Lee, Jo Nagle, Roger Clitheroe, Roy Smith,

Apologies for absence received from: Julian Jankowski, Alec Elliot, Tom Taylor, Neil Truslove, Christine Truslove, Harry Good, Gideon Booth, Mike Brears, Roy Pidgeon, John Howells, Ken Johnson, Gideon Booth, Chris Lambert, Dave Lawton, Anne Riglar, Hilda Johnson,

2. Approval of the Minutes of the National Committee of 4 October 2014. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

3. Matters Arising and Actions. The Secretary reviewed the actions from the last meeting. These were mostly completed, apart from the Spares and the National Rally Working Groups, which were on-going.

4. Proceedings of the Management Team. The Chairman reviewed the proceedings of the Management Team since October 2014, which had been circulated. These were accepted.

ITEM	MINUTE	ACTION
5	<u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u>	
	The Treasurer presented his draft accounts for the year ending January 2015. These showed a healthy result, with savings on admin expenses due to reduced meeting costs. There was a discuss on Regional Funding, and the status of regional funds was clarified as belonging to the regional committee, but is Morris Register money, and the regional committees are accountable to members via the National Committee. It was pointed out that the guidelines for regional funding are in the National Committee Manual, web version.	
6	<u>MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT</u>	
	The Membership Secretary reported that numbers were on the increase, with 58 new members in April alone. Subscription payments by PayPal were increasing, with fewer by cheque. Jane will send a list on non-renewals to the regions, so that they can do any necessary chasing. The problem of late renewals was discussed; there were diverging views about a surcharge of £5 for late renewals. It was agreed that we should review the arrangements now in place at the October meeting. Jim will email as many as possible of those who have not renewed, as this also affects members eligibility for web access. It was thought that the 188 non-renewals was about a normal level for "churn", and not a matter for concern.	JN JN/SG JR

7	<u>PRINTING CONTRACT</u>	
	<p>The Secretary reported that the contract for printing the Magazine had been put out to tender, in keeping with the previous agreement that this should be market tested every 3 years. Four companies had been invited to tender, and the analysis of the results were described in detail. This pointed clearly to the tender of The Lavenham Press being the most financially advantageous, as well as satisfying the service levels that had been set. The Chairman regretted that we would move from OMP, as they have served us so well. The contract with The Lavenham Press also narrows the gap in costs between partial colour (8 pages) and full colour, meaning that full colour will be an affordable option.</p> <p>The National Committee agreed that the contract for printing Morris Monthly for the next 3 years be awarded to The Lavenham Press, and that 3 months notice should be given to OMP.</p>	TB
8	<u>PRE-WAR MINOR NETWORK AFFILIATION STAGE 2</u>	
	<p>The Secretary reported on discussions that have been held, leading to a detailed proposal (circulated with the agenda) for a second phase affiliation of PWMN and Morris Register. This had been prompted by a question whether PWMN events could apply for a CoE. This would only be possible if it was an approved MR Event. By making PWMN fully a part of the Morris Register, and approving their events, those events can apply for a CoE (where appropriate).</p> <p>This also works towards our previously agreed goal for affiliation of PWMN with MR, which is in the best interests of both sides. A third phase will be needed to address the open nature of PWMN. An simultaneous announcement will be made in Morris Monthly and the MR and PWMN web sites.</p> <p>The National Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agreed to the proposed second stage of affiliation of the PWMN with the Morris Register. ii. Agreed that the PWMN Annual rally at Holme Next the Sea on June 4th, 5th and 6th 2015 be recognised as a Morris Register event. iii. Co-opted Chris Lambert onto the National Committee as a Specialist Officer with responsibility for the PWMN. 	TB/CL
9	<u>AGREEMENT FOR THE CLUB VAN.</u>	
	<p>An agreement for the use of the Club Van, based on the previous agreement of 1977, was discussed. It was agreed this was needed. Some of the detail was discussed, and agreed that the management team should agree detailed changes. It was noted that the van is now due to move from Chilterns to Wales region, and that North East have expressed an interest in having the van for the following year.</p> <p>The National Committee agreed that the Agreement For Use of the Club Van is now put into effect.</p>	TB
10	<u>MORRIS REGISTER INFORMATION CENTRE</u>	
	<p>The Management Team at its January meeting had agreed to the creation of this role, and that it should be filled by John & Jo Nagle, subject to endorsement by the National Committee. John Nagle described the purpose of the Centre, and summarised progress so far. This has already relieved the workload of others. A “Vonage” internet based phone system has been hired, cost £10/month.</p> <p>The National Committee endorsed the Management Team’s decision that the Information Centre should be created, and that it should be operated by John & Jo Nagle.</p>	

11	<u>MSA REPRESENTATIVE</u>	
	The Management team had previously agreed to the cooption of Roger Needle as MSA Representative, subject to confirmation by the National Committee. The National Committee confirmed the cooption of Roger Needle as MSA Representative.	
12	<u>RESOLUTIONS AND NOMINATIONS FOR AGM</u>	
	It was noted that Jim Riglar has agreed to be nominated as Secretary. This would mean finding a volunteer to take over his role as web master. Jim will put a note in the Web Wise column in the next Morris Monthly.	JR
13	<u>MERGING NATIONAL COMMITTEE AND PRESIDENT'S CONFERENCE INTO ONE MEETING.</u>	
	The Secretary reported that there has been a long-standing complication arising from earlier reorganisations. The National Committee had effectively moved partially into the role of the President's Conference. It is still important that we enable the wider discussions to engage members in reviewing progress and planning for the future, and this can be achieved with the President chairing the "Discussions" part of the meeting. The first part of each meeting will comprise "Business Issues" that need the approval of the National Committee. The National Committee agreed that the National Committee meeting and the President's Conference should be merged into one meeting.	
14	<u>DISCUSSION ITEMS</u> The President took the chair.	
	1. National Rally trophies from Molly Levett Various former national rally trophies, 2 cups and 2 winners' shields, have turned up. It was agreed that the shields should go into the Club archives, and Malcolm agreed to take the 2 cups, to consider how they can be re-used. It was also agreed that a schedule was needed for the AGM trophies, so that a closer account can be kept of where they are. Various boards of rally plaques have also been given to the southeast region. Roger Needle will take one to see if of interest to the Oxford Bus Museum.	JP MD RN
	2. National Rally Ben Gadsby gave a summary of the arrangements now in place for Thorsby. Volunteers are needed to help out on the day. The issued of charging for entry was discussed at length, particularly the concerns expressed by the North West Region committee. The treasurer pointed out that his accounts show the need for Thoresby to be partially self-funding, to reduce the financial pressure on the membership as a whole. He also pointed out that it seems to be normal practice amongst clubs to charge. His budget calculations show that even with charging there will still be a net cost to the club of about £4,000. The charge has been set at £5 per adult for the whole weekend. This was thought to be the fairest way to do it. A narrative explaining this will be put in the next Morris Monthly. It was pointed out that one of the volunteer marshals, Edward Horners is not actually a member. It was agreed that he should be elected as an honorary member, no magazine, so that he will be covered by the MSA marshal insurance.	JF BG/JN

	<p>3. Role of regions in decision making The secretary presented his paper on the role of regional secretary and regional committee. He explained the importance of enabling an input by the regions into the decision making of the National Committee, to avoid the problems of the past when it was claimed that decisions were made “behind closed doors”. The regional secretaries are already ex-officio members of the National Committee, but it is thought desirable that they have time to seek the view of their committee on significant items of business. The implications of this paper are that the secretary should wherever possible circulate agendas in draft form up to a month before the meeting, and where major items of policy are considered, discussions should be spread over at least 2 meetings, so that the regions can be more tightly involved in the decision making process. This was agreed. It is for the National Committee itself to decide what constitutes a “major” decision.</p>	<p>TB</p>
	<p>4. Club Chaplain A proposal had been received that the club should have a chaplain. With little discussion a view was expressed that this was not necessary</p>	
	<p>5. Plan for 2015 The secretary presented the plan for the year, which had been agreed at the October 2014 meeting. The majority of the items were complete or in hand. There was then a discussion on events for the remainder of the year. It was agreed that the Beaulieu Autojumble, Bristol Classic Car Show, Beaulieu “Mogifest” and the November NEC should all be recognised as “National” Events. A decision on the 2016 Restoration Show can be made at the October meeting. Agreed that when considering “National” events for next year, there should be a “person responsible” for each, who will make a case for the event. For 2016 National events, these were agreed to be NEC (Spring and Autumn), Bristol Classic Car Show, Trafford Park and the autumn Beaulieu Autojumble.</p>	<p>JR</p>
	<p>6. <u>Officer Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chairman – pleased to see increased use of the Forum, Bob Williams’ column in MoMo, and the NEC gets better every year. b. Secretary – thanked all committee members for their support. Pleased to see increases in membership, we are only just short of the “2,013 members by 2013” target we set in 2012. c. Editor – good supply of material, and thanks to the regions for their input d. Webmaster – 60% of members have a web account. Need to find a way to block off time-wasting spurious applications. e. FBHVC Representative – mentioned the end of the tax disc, ethanol in petrol, CoE, and Drive it Day as examples of recent topics. f. MSA Officer – going well, several applications supported already g. Spares – plans for web shop are progressing very slowly. A number of ex-military engines and spares have turned up in Australia h. DVLA – surprised at how many Morrisies are still turning up needing V765 input i. Shopkeeper – no report j. Archivist – now has the collection of slides from Ken Martin. Management team has agreed to purchase a slide scanner. k. Vehicle Registrar – see annex 1 l. Overseas Secretary – it was agreed that the magazines from Australian and New Zealand Morris clubs should be circulated to the National Committee <p><u>Regional Reports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Chilterns – going well b. Midlands – send bi-monthly emails to members with events update and news. Weekend event needs more support c. West - new committee. West Sussex event planned 	<p>TB</p> <p>TT</p>

	<p>d. East Anglia – noggins well supported, new one planned north of Cambridge. Will experiment moving AGM to a Sunday.</p> <p>e. South East – also update members by email. Noggins well attended, 2 new members on committee, but Tim & Caroline want to stand down.</p> <p>f. North East – active committee, 30 at annual dinner. Trip to France arranged. Awarded best stand at Otley Show</p> <p>g. North West – this weekend is their weekend away in the Lakes</p> <p>h. Wales - some new events planned, but had to be pulled due to lack of support. Will be taking over the club van.</p>	
15	<u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Late arrival of magazine – should we lower expectations by giving the 10th as due delivery date? • Key fobs with MVA badge for Thoresby instead of plaques/mugs etc • Fund raising for MVA – to be put on agenda for next meeting • We need to get younger members interested – a topic for next year’s plan. 	<p>RS</p> <p>JR</p>
16	<p><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></p> <p>The AGM and National Committee Meeting will be on Saturday 3 October at Coventry Transport Museum.</p> <p>Suggested we have an event of some sort in the afternoon of the AGM, e.g. a speaker.</p> <p>The meeting closed at 4.20</p>	MD

ANNEX 1

Vehicle Registrar’s Report **April 2015**

Since August 2013 there have been four editions of the Vehicle Database published on the Website.

The first edition was based on Member’s vehicles in alphabetical registration number order and by model. While providing the required detail the two pdf files totalled over 137 pages of text. There were also a number of significant errors which is believed to have resulted from the formatting and sorting of the original data.

The second edition was revised so that the model and chassis number became the two most important factors to the layout. The effect of these revisions has reduced the size of the file on the website to some 79 pages but with an increased amount of information displayed. This layout is current today.

Preparation of the fifth edition is underway and should be ready for publication on the website sometime during the middle of May.

In order to fill in the considerable number of gaps in the information held on each vehicle a system of “Request for Information” has been instigated. To date 120 RFI’s have been issued to members, the response rate currently stands at a poor 56%! Nevertheless the process will continue.