



# MORRIS REGISTER

The Club for Morris vehicles designed before 1940

## MINUTES OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Held Saturday 26 April 2014 at the Heritage Motor Centre, Banbury Road, Gaydon,  
Warwickshire, CV35 0BJ

### The meeting opened at 11.50, following subgroup meetings

#### 1. Those Present & Apologies for Absence:

**President:** Bob Beaumont **Vice President:** Malcolm Dixon

**Committee members Present:** John Ford, Tom Bourne, Steve Gant, Jane Nathan, Rob Symonds, Ben Gadsby, Pat Farmer, Richard Hankinson, Jim Riglar, Julian Jankowski, Roger Needle, Mike Brears, John Powell, Tony Nathan, Roy Pidgeon, Neil Truslove, John Howells

**Other members Attending:** Trevor Willsden, Anne Riglar, Christine Truslove, Roger Clitheroe, Barbara Farmer, Pam Lee, Val Brears

**Apologies for absence received from:** Geoff Whitehouse, Gideon Booth, Tom Taylor, Harry Good, Chris Lambert, Ken Johnson, Hilda Johnson, Caroline Harris, John Nagle, Jo Nagle

#### 2. Approval of the Minutes of the National Committee of 18 January 2014. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

#### 3. Matters Arising

ITEM	MINUTE	ACTION
4	<b><u>SPARES – REPORT OF SUBGROUP.</u></b>	
	<p>a. The Chairman thanked Richard for his hard work over the last few months to ensure a smooth handover of the Spares service. Also for his work on the import of tank engines from Sweden.</p> <p>b. The Spares subgroup discussions had covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How to make the mail order service as efficient as possible</li><li>• Re-stocking &amp; stock control</li><li>• How we see the role of the Spares Secretary developing</li><li>• The role of a sub group</li></ul> <p>There was some discussion on other web sites that purport to supply Morris spares. JR to add suitable words to our web site confirming that our's is the "official" web site.</p>	JR
5	<b><u>TREASURER'S REPORT</u></b>	
	<p>a. The treasurer presented draft accounts for 2013/14. Admin expenses are up due to postage following the database crash. PayPal costs were £400, but this is less than credit card costs. The inter-company loan is listed as "Spares Renewal Fund" to ensure it continues to be recognised.</p> <p>b. The proposal to close down MoClub Ltd was discussed, and it was agreed that we should investigate the costs of keeping it dormant rather than closing it.</p>	SG/TB
6	<b><u>REGIONAL FUNDING</u></b>	
	<p>The treasurer summarised the returns he had received from the regions, which were in a variety of formats. He stressed the need for them to follow a consistent format. If a region needs funding from the national funds for an event of national importance, this has to be approved in advance by the national committee. The chairman stressed that regional levy funds are intended to fund the administration of the region, and activities to promote the club.</p>	

	<b>The National Committee agreed to the formation of a subgroup to examine this and prepare some guidance notes to harmonise practice across the regions.</b> Neil Truslove volunteer to lead this, and Pat Farmer, Trevor Willsden, Louise Carter, and a Chilterns member either volunteered or were nominated.	<b>NT</b>
7	<b><u>GOVERNANCE</u></b>	
	<p>a. <b>“National Committee Handbook”.</b> See ANNEX 1. The secretary summarised this. It is the final link in the Governance Subgroup review, describing the roles and responsibilities of the National Committee &amp; Management Team, giving guidance for the conduct of meetings, the recruitment and dismissal of officers, and basic financial guidelines. This has taken account of recent difficulties, and aims to create a common understanding of how the Committee should work. Suggested it should be called “Manual” not “handbook”. Subject to some minor revisions to be made,</p> <p><b>the National committee agreed that the draft “National Committee Handbook” be adopted as the guiding document for the National Committee and the Management Team.</b></p> <p>b. <b>Meeting frequency.</b> The Governance Subgroup recommended that the National Committee could reduce its meeting frequency to a minimum of twice a year. It is now proposed that we experiment with reducing the frequency of National Committee meetings to 2 per year, in April and October, starting this year by omitting the July meeting.</p> <p><b>The National Committee agreed that we experiment with reducing the frequency of National Committee meetings to 2 per year, to be in April and October, starting this year by omitting the July meeting</b></p> <p>c. <b>Procedure for suspending or terminating a membership.</b> Rule 2(c) states: “Any action to suspend or terminate a membership shall follow a procedure approved by the National Committee, which shall include a right of appeal.” This procedure has now been drafted, see ANNEX 2.</p> <p><b>The National Committee agreed that the draft “Procedure for Suspending or Terminating a Membership” be adopted.</b></p> <p>d. <b>Transactions of Management Team.</b> The Chairman summarised the transactions of the Management team for the past 3 months. Arising from this, there was a discussion on the Franking Machine. All efforts to find a user have failed, and it was agreed that we should surrender the contract. There was a brief discussion on car valuations, agreed that the club is not qualified to do valuations, but that we could look to develop a simple valuation guide. The Chairman reported that legal advice is being sought on the issue of Professional Indemnity, and whether or not we should take out insurance for this.</p>	<b>TB</b>
8	<b><u>INSURANCE UPDATE</u></b>	
	<p>The secretary reported that as agreed by the last meeting, we have now extended our insurance cover to include legal defence and tax protection. Following a detailed risk assessment we now consider that our policies now give us good coverage, with the exception of Professional Indemnity.</p> <p>The Chairman reported that legal advice is being sought on the issue of Professional Indemnity, and whether or not we should take out insurance for this, and on the need for and wording of “disclaimers”. A report will be brought to the next meeting.</p>	<b>TB</b>
9	<b><u>EVENTS CHECKLIST</u></b>	
	<p>This checklist is intended to help ascertain the needs for Certificates of Exemption for events. It is important that those organising events are familiar with this.</p> <p><b>The National Committee agreed to this checklist and that it should be included with the events guidance on the web.</b></p>	<b>JR</b>
10	<b><u>MORRIS CLUBS AFFILIATION</u></b>	

	<p>The chairman reported on the recent meeting of Morris Clubs. The name "Morris Vehicles Affiliation" had been agreed. He had offered that our Thoresby Rally for 2015 could be the first event of the Affiliation. In discussion, this should be self-funding, and a ceiling on numbers may be needed.</p> <p><b>The National Committee agreed that the 2015 Thoresby Rally should include the first rally of the Morris Clubs Affiliation.</b></p>	
11	<b><u>NATIONAL RALLY FUTURES</u></b>	
	<p>The subgroup reported that the National Rally has agreed a rate of £1,000 for 2014 and 2015, and a provisional rate not exceeding £1,200 for 2016. Any potential changes in the event will therefore start in 2016 or 2017. The discussions had focused mainly on future ways to fund the event, and there was a short discussion on ways to transfer some of the costs to attendees so that only part of the cost needs to be core-funded. The group proposes to put a survey form in the magazine seeking members' views. The subgroup will then report to the October meeting.</p>	<b>Sub group</b>
12	<b><u>ISSUES FOR AGM</u></b>	
	<p>a. The secretary outlined the agenda for the AGM; this would differ from previous years in view of the new rules adopted last year.</p> <p>b. <b>Proposed rule change.</b> The secretary explained the reasons for the proposed rule change.</p> <p><b>The National Committee agreed that the proposed rule change: <i>Insert the words "and any other directors that have been appointed under rule 3(i)" after "membership secretary"</i> should be put as a resolution to the AGM.</b></p>	<b>TB</b>
13	<b><u>OFFICER REPORTS</u></b>	
	<p>The secretary – reported that with his work on governance agreed today, this brings to a conclusion the work to change the legal status of the club, and to modernize its governance. This has been a long process, started by Dave Harris and Mike Brears almost 10 years ago, and puts the club into a fit state to face the future. With this now in place he wishes to step down as secretary in October, and is actively seeking a volunteer to take over.</p> <p>The Editor – reported a healthy increase in contributions</p> <p>The Membership Secretary – some members say they didn't get their renewal form; if this is the case it is the fault of the printers. She stressed the need to peg subscriptions as low as possible, and spoke against loading the costs of the National Rally onto subscriptions.</p> <p>The Webmaster – reported that Dave Lawton has volunteered to build the on-line spares e-shop, and that he will build the club e-shop. Over 800 members have now registered for the web.</p> <p>Federation – Pat reported that the annual subscription is 41.8 pence for member, but is essential in view of the Federation's role in protecting the interests of the old car movement as a whole.</p> <p>Shopkeeper – Julian reported success of the new shop stand at the NEC, and that some of the clothes are selling slowly.</p> <p>Archivist – John reported that 17 boxes of photos have now been scanned, more to do currently held by Ken Martin, Tom Bourne and Ian Harris</p>	
14	<b><u>AOB</u></b>	
	<p>The Chairman reported that the MG Live event at Silverstone has been cancelled as not viable. Ann Riglar reported that 44 people with 23 cars were entered for the Black Country Break.</p>	
17	<b><u>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</u></b>	
	<p>Saturday 4 October 2014 at the Blunsdon House Hotel, near Swindon</p> <p>The meeting closed at 4.28</p>	



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### ACTIONS

<b>Minute</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>By</b>
4	Spares subgroup	Subgroup
4	Message on our web site re "official" web site.	JR
5	Investigate MoClub close down	TB/SG
6	Sub group on regional funding	Neil Truslove
7 & 8	Governance topics and insurance	TB
9	Events checklist on web	JR
11	National Rally Futures	JF & subgroup
12	AGM issues	TB