

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Venue: The Hollies, Pattishall, Towcester, NN12 8NB

Date: Saturday 19th January 2019 at 2.30pm

Present:

Mick Mead - Chairman
Robin Spence - Vice Chairman and Equipment Officer
Wendy Jefferson - Secretary
Martin Borrill - Rally Officer
Ian Jefferson – Web Master
Caroline Blackwell – Bookings Secretary
Julie Noakes
Andy Blackwell

Apologies for absence

Emlyn Evans – Treasurer

Actions required in bold

Minutes of the last Committee Meeting dated 13th October 2018

These were circulated and approved as drawn. There were no matters arising from the last Minutes, save that Caroline reported that she had received a lovely letter from one member saying how much she had enjoyed the Christmas rally, and in particular liked the idea of a seating plan.

Matters to be discussed

(a) Burford School – 1st to 3rd March.

Caroline reported that there were 6 bookings to date. A £50 non refundable deposit had been paid and a further £100 to be paid if we were going ahead. After discussion it was decided to publicise the rally and make a decision at Diamond Park on the 8th Feb. Three more bookings were taken during the meeting. **Robin and Pearl to take rally box with them and get there a little early to help Shirley and Pete the hosts.**

(b) Easter Rally – 18th to 23rd April.

Mick said he had provisionally booked an extra 10 pitches making a total of 35 pitches. Caroline said that she had 20 vans booked (15 Chiltern and 5 Essex) with a further 9 Essex on the reserve list. **Caroline will now email them to confirm their booking.** This will total 29 bookings. It was agreed **Caroline should ask for a £25 deposit in advance per van.**

Mick said he would enquire about the use of a clubhouse/room after which we would be able to agree on any indoor activities. Outdoor activities suggested were a beach walk to Hemsby, bike rides, kite building competition, a Boules match (possibly seeing who could represent Chiltern at the forthcoming Nationals) and asking Essex members to host an activity.

(c) The Nationals – 23rd to 28th May

The theme “the best you can be”. After some discussion it was agreed that we should go with the theme “The Best of British”, and have Union Jack

plates, and cups, use Union Jack flags for tablecloths, etc. We could have a stand at the table saying "The Best of British." **Martin agreed to list various ideas on the Whats App Committee Group for discussion, ie Rolls Royce, The Beatles, Winston Churchill etc and have a list ready for the Diamond Park rally notice board.**

It was agreed by all that organisation of the Nationals be kept under committee control. Mick and Julie and Martin and Noreen agreed to be rally marshals.

The committee agreed that they were happy for the newly formed motorcycle group to join us if there were only a few members there. **Ian agreed to contact Tina Bottrill to see if the motorcycle group could be parked next to the Chiltern group.**

The Boules team to represent Chiltern would be decided at the Easter Rally.

- (d) Mini Extravaganza at Peach Croft Farm 23rd to 26th August.

Mick said that up to 40 vans could be accommodated at this site. There was a barn for hire at a cost of £100 which could seat up to 100 people. Trestle tables could be made available. We were not permitted to play music in the evenings (it upset the resident geese!) This is not a bookable rally but it was agreed that **Mick should ask at forthcoming rallies for people to indicate whether it was their intention to be going.** A discussion regarding entertainment/activities followed and a fete or games afternoon was suggested, together with a Chinese raffle. It was agreed there should be some sort of professional entertainment and **Mick said he would ask Emlyn for contacts.** No budget was set but the committee felt that if it ran at a small loss it would not be a problem as it was advertised as a mini extravaganza.

- (e) Brixham Holiday rally. 18th to 25th September.

Thirty pitches are available for this rally. Caroline reported that 13 bookings had been taken to date. It was agreed that entertainment and activities could be kept to a minimum as there were plenty of places to visit there, but Mick suggested the possibility of a group meal. The committee felt that this rally could be discussed in more detail nearer the time.

- (f) AGM – 11th to 13th October

After some discussion it was agreed that we should keep the AGM at Padworth this year. We could not be certain that the work caravans would still be there taking up parking space.

Entertainment was discussed and it was agreed that **Mick should ask Emlyn for any contacts he has to do a disco.**

- (g) Christmas Rally – 6th to 8th December

It was agreed by all that there was not enough room at Padworth to have the Christmas Rally, and that parking on grass was a problem. Edward Peake School which was another possibility may have limited access due to building work). Two further venues suggested were Oaklands in St Albans and St Nicholas Breakspere. **Martin agreed to investigate the venues.**

Mick raised the question of a buffet or a hot meal again. There was a discussion but no decision made. Entertainment was discussed but it was agreed to wait until the venue was decided upon before making a decision. Caroline requested that Grace be said at this year's meal.

- (h) Printing of Rally book.

Mick said that in actual fact the Rally books had arrived on time. Wendy said that the quality of the print was not very good, but for the 500 books we had

only paid £25.00. Rally books from other groups were handed round for inspection and discussion (the Anglia rally book was liked by all), and it was agreed that **Wendy would email the Secretary of the Anglia Group to ask what the costs etc were.**

(i) Raffle Budget.

Emlyn had requested that this be clarified.

All agreed that this was £25 for a normal rally, £50 for a special rally, and £100 for a very special rally.

(j) Reserve and Emergency Fund

Andy had asked what the appropriate level should be. Mick said that the sum of money which was kept in reserve for an emergency was £2,000. He also suggested that we put small amounts of money on one side in readiness for the Club's 60th Anniversary in 3 years time.

Mick said that he would at the AGM let members know that £2,000 of the Club's funds is ringfenced for any unforeseen emergency.

(k) Website

Ian said that we were currently paying £1.19 a month for the website. He proposed asking Emlyn at the end of the 12 month period (October 2019) for the sum of £14.28 to cover the first years's costs. Next year's costs would be higher.

Ian agreed at Caroline's request to put the prices of the rallies on the website and also to put "text Caroline to book" rather than to publish her telephone number.

Julie suggested that the next rally always be advertised on the home page together with any relevant info regarding that rally. **Ian said he would look into whether he could do this.**

Officers' Reports

Chairman - Mick said that he was very happy with the way things were going.

Secretary – Wendy said that we had 35 ex Surrey members transferred to our group by Head Office. She read out a letter that had been sent to each of them with our Rally book. In addition, since becoming secretary in October we had 5 new/transferred members to Chiltern. We now had approximately 277 members.

Treasurer – Emlyn had sent in a financial report which was handed to the secretary. In addition he confirmed that the bank mandate had now been sorted with himself, Robin and Wendy as signatories. Emlyn had also sent a draft booking in form without a column for the rally fee which was not now being charged.

Rally Officer – Martin said that rally sites for 2019 were now all booked (he said that Edward Peake and Padworth would need checking nearer the time) and that he was looking at sites for the year 2020. He had had various sites suggested to him – Apps Court, Beehive, Swiss Farm, Bicester Caravans, Chequers, Brightwell Vineyard, Princes Risborough School, Northill Farm, Fort Widley Portsmouth, Black Horse Missenden, Brailes, River Oaks, Loves Lane Ashwell, Cookham, St Peters Old Windsor, Oxford Oaks, Henlow Lakes, Wyboston Lakes, Rutland Water, Top End Farm, Emberton, Bourton, Stratford, Towcester Race Course, and also Normandy and Brittany in France. For 2021 Holland was a possibility.

Ian said that as we had had a lot of new members from Surrey, he wondered if it would be possible to hold two rallies at the same time if they were rallies with limited

spaces. Mick said that he understood that the MCC insurance did not allow clubs to hold two rallies at the same time, **but that he would check with head office to see whether that remained the position.**

Equipment Officer

Robin produced a report confirming that £823.93 had been spent on 2 new shelters, new lights and new pegs. Two shelters had been scrapped. We now had 6 shelters in storage. The urn had been PAT tested and passed, but he thought we may need a new one by the AGM.

Bookings Secretary

Caroline reported that rallies were filling up nicely. She was happy to take deposits where necessary.

Any Other Business

Bookings – Mick suggested that for the 2020 rallies they are listed on the notice board at rallies this year in order for members to volunteer to be stewards. He also suggested that they do not go on our website until the rally books are published and distributed. He was concerned that Chiltern members might not get on to bookable rallies. Caroline said that once the MCC handbook had gone out she had been inundated with calls from MCC members from other groups wishing to book on to our rallies. A big discussion took place regarding bookable rallies and whether or not a date should be set when rallies could be booked by members or whether bookings should be able to be made at any time. It was felt by most that Chiltern members had plenty of opportunity to see what rallies were on, and a decision was made that Caroline could take bookings from members of any MCC group at any time.

Date of next meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 6.10pm. We would have a short meeting at Diamond Caravan Park rally in February.