

MOTORCARAVANNERS' CLUB CHILTERN GROUP
59TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
St Peters Middle School, Crimp Hill, Old Windsor SL4 2QY

16th OCTOBER 2021 at 11am

MINUTES

1) WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman declared the meeting open, introduced the current committee and explained that voting would be carried out by a show of hands.

2) APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE RECEIVED

Carole Ward	Paul Prebble	Sue Prebble
Pat Carter	Jan Carter	Bob Yates
Sandra Yates	David Moth	

3) MINUTES SILENCE FOR ABSENT FRIENDS

The Secretary reported that during the pandemic, the group had been very fortunate not to lose any members as a result, although some had been (and remain) unwell. A Minutes silence was held to reflect this.

4) MINUTES OF THE 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Again, due to the pandemic, there had been no full AGM meeting in 2020. However, a committee meeting was held via Zoom to formally agree the co-option of members to committee which had taken place since the 2019 AGM, and members had been informed by email note of the agreement of the standing committee to continue in office until such a time as the next full AGM could be held (at the time, it was hoped that this would be in October 2021). It was proposed that this note be regarded as the only extant record of the 2020 arrangement. Paul McGuire proposed, and Peter Lee seconded the proposal. A unanimous vote accepted the proposal. A copy of this note is provided in the Addendum to this document.

5) MATTERS ARISING

As there had been no meeting held in 2020, there were no matters arising.

6) REPORTS

a) CHAIRPERSON

It certainly seems a long time since we had our last AGM!

The Covid Pandemic caused us to lose a good deal of our 2020 rallies due to the restrictions, and, even when did get some freedom it was strange having to follow the social distancing measures and rallies weren't quite the same.

Another challenge was the requirement for all events to be bookable, with every attendee having to receive Covid joining instructions prior to the event.

In addition, we had to complete the MCC Covid Risk Assessment for each venue we visited. The findings of that assessment were incorporated into the joining instruction sent to members, along with Government regulations

In most cases our members simply complied with the rules and their cooperation was very welcome.

The most important thing is that we stayed safe.

Since the last AGM we experienced some changes to our committee which for a day or so left us without a full Committee. However, within that very short time members volunteered to step into the vacant positions. A great example of Chiltern spirit.

A number of members migrated their membership to another group, and I'm sure we all wish them happiness with their new group. Meanwhile some members from other groups transferred into Chiltern group and were extended a warm welcome.

In the absence of an AGM in 2020 the Committee co-opted Sharon as our Rally Officer, and Paul, Shirley and Peter as Committee members, thus boosting our team.

The attendance at most rallies was very good.

When the Government Covid restrictions eased a little, CoM empowered each group Committee to decide which rules they would retain. Chiltern decided to retain, for the time being, the following rules:

- The need for every rally to be bookable
- Rally fees to be cash in an envelope, marked with member details.
- No door-to-door parking.

These requirements will remain in place until further notice and it's important that members are fully in acceptance of these, along with any other rules that may be deemed necessary, before attending a rally.

I must thank those members who volunteered to Steward rallies. Also, I thank all those members who helped in any way on rallies. Much appreciated.

So, without stealing Sharon's report, let's look forward to 2022!

- by very kind agreement of West Wessex group, we will make a return visit to South Lychett Manor for Easter for 5 nights. As a follow on - and we must thank West Wessex again - we will have a further 5 nights at Weymouth and Portland Rugby Club.
- Our Chiltern 60th Anniversary weekend will take place in June by kind agreement of East Wessex group.
- We are reinstating the French Holiday Rally in September

Additionally, we have the rest of the great program of rallies that our Sharon has put together - something for all tastes.

Following a members show of hands we will be introducing a rule that should not pose any problems to members. The requirement would simply be that if a member thinks they will arrive at a rally before 9am, or after 8pm they must ring the Stewards to make them aware and to ensure an efficient reception on arrival. This in no way changes the specified start time for any rally.

I will not be standing for Committee at the next AGM, but I will continue to do all that I can to make our group a success.

Chiltern is a great group - let's all support it and keep it going!

b) SECRETARY

Unfortunately, we were unable to hold a full AGM in 2020, but at a 'virtual' equivalent thereof, I was appointed Honorary Secretary of the Chiltern Group as well as continuing the role of WebMaster, resulting in a more formal arrangement than that which resulted from the 2019 re-shuffle.

As in previous years, member numbers have been variable due to the conditions imposed on us by the Covid pandemic, but our membership numbers remain healthy with a current membership as of the time of this year's AGM of 230 paid-up members and 9 'lapsed' members for a total of 239, against the 2019/20 total of 238. During the period, we had 47 cancellations of memberships, but an almost equal number of new members and transfers.

Since the virtual AGM last year, I have been able to set up the promised quarterly newsletter, as well as a mailing list system that can reach all those members for whom we have email addresses – this is 170+ of our current members.

Further to last year's request for photos, I have received some from members, but would still appreciate more if you have them - they can be sent to:

Chiltern@themotorcaravannersclub.co.uk

when I shall try to include them in the rally reports/gallery section of the website.

c) TREASURER

The opening Balance at 1st August 2020 was [REDACTED] and the closing balance at year end 31 July 2021 was [REDACTED] an increase of [REDACTED]

We have priced our events, now called TC's, at £[REDACTED] per unit per night (no extra rally fee) a small 50p update from last year which appears to be a good balance, while still having funds to replenish and update our inventory as required.

We have also purchased assets to the value of [REDACTED] (a new Laptop) in the financial year and paid rally deposits at year end for future events amounting to [REDACTED]

Most transactions are now done by bank transfer wherever possible. We now have in place a second level of security with Julie Noakes countersigning transactions.

While we have not been able to run many events through the period, there has been quite a lot of banking work with refunds for cancelled events.

Ray Barrett and Roy Ward are now set up as second signatories on cheques but we have not had need to issue any cheques in the year.

Despite the fact that we have not been able to run our normal programme of events due to Covid the bank accounts still show a solid base to benefit us when we can get back to

some form of normal where we hope to continue our policy of giving value for money to our Membership.

Acceptance of the Treasurers End of Year report was proposed by Paul McGuire, seconded by Tina Stockall and unanimously agreed by the members.

e) RALLY OFFICER

Living in Kettering, we just can't afford the diesel to do any scouting missions, so I want to say Thank You to the people who have answered my call to go and check potential sites for me.

I didn't realise how difficult this job is, and I would assume this is why we've had a turnover in rally officers.

I was asked for longer rallies, I was asked for closer rallies, and I was asked for different further away rallies.

I've tried my best to make everybody happy, but I'm under no illusions that you can't please all the people all of the time, so I am open to suggestions for how to make things better.

If any of you rally with other clubs in our area, I'd appreciate the details and info to look into it.

Previous sites are now saying no, as they can fill their sites to capacity with full paying guests, they don't need our money!

I can honestly say, I have sent over a hundred emails to museums, village halls, airfields, garden centres, Cricket Clubs, Rugby Clubs, schools, and colleges. I drove myself crazy trying to find new, and interesting venues.

We do have some new places to rally next year. And I've negotiated to keep prices down.

In our area I can say that Bagmere Barn is a favourite of ours, and we've stayed there quite a few times, it's a pretty little village, just a hundred meters or so from the campsite.

Cottesloe School is a new venue with hard standing. On the edge of the village of Wing.

Also, there are two that we have rallied at quite a while ago, being Fir Tree Farm in Banbury and Aylesbury Rugby Club

Hoare Park Farm, near Nuneaton, another place with a bit of interest, a little craft courtyard, a garden center, and cafe. With a car boot the other side of the main road.

The British Sugar sports and social club should be a fun rally, there is usually entertainment on in the club, (which we have use of) and buses into Bury St Edmunds, are right outside.

My intention was to take this job on, and maybe stick at it for a few years, then hand it over with all the info I have gathered, but IF the 2 sites out of area rule stays, then I will stand down next year. To be honest, if they had announced this change of rules earlier, then I would have not stood again this year.

Just to put things into context.

All of these sites, although in Oxfordshire, are NOT in our area:

Fir Tree Farm OX17

Bridge Meadow, Cropredy, OX17

Barnstones, OX17

Anita's OX17

The Pig Place, OX17

The Old Dairy, OX17

Others were non-starters:

Peachcroft Farm, £16 pupn

Grove Marina wanted £20+ per night

Hardwick Park £20+ per night

Green Hill Leisure, no rallies

Apps Court, no rallies for now.

Top End Farm. No Rallies.

I do have a small bit of good news, there is now an elsan in the rally field at Clanfield!

f) EQUIPMENT OFFICER

All equipment is currently accounted for, and I am grateful to those members who store and/or transport items such as the shelters to meets as required. I would like to thank Phil Bosher who carried out the PAT testing on our electrical equipment this year to ensure that we stayed legal in that respect.

7) **ELECTION OF THE 2021-2022 COMMITTEE**

The outgoing committee all stood down, whereupon Jane Turnbull offered a vote of thanks to them for their work in the preceding year, and Paul McGuire took over the chair for election of the new committee.

The following offered themselves for election, and all were elected unanimously:

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Chairman	Mick Mead	Robert Hopper	Peter Lee
Rally Officer	Sharon Heritage	Paul Walker	Julie Noakes
Treasurer	Emlyn Evans	Mick Mead	Julie Noakes
Hon.Sec and WebMaster	Stephen Wynn	Rita Hopper	Avril Evans
General	Roy Ward	Stephen Wynn	David Moth
General	Carole Ward	David Moth	Stephen Wynn
General	Marion Wynn	Rita Hopper	Emlyn Evans
General	Julie Noakes	Robert Hopper	Peter Lee
General	Peter Ingham	Martin Borrill	Noreen Borrill
General	Shirley Ingham	Martin Borrill	Noreen Borrill
General	Paul Walker	Sharon Heritage	Julie Noakes

The newly elected committee then returned to the table for the continuation of the meeting.

8) **ELECTION OF PERSON TO EXAMINE THE ACCOUNTS**

Geoff Judges was proposed as accounts examiner by Paul McGuire, seconded by Tina Stockall, and unanimously accepted.

The 59th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WAS CLOSED at 11.55 am

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	0/1/00	To Whom	Details	Amount			
2							
3		Year 2018-19					
4							
5		Stationery for year	£66.21				
6							
7	20/9/18	R Spence	Shelter Lights	£196.60			
8	18/10/18	R Spence	Shelters (2) new	£499.90			
9	11/12/18	W Jefferson	Hard Disk Drive	£67.99			
10	11/2/19	R Hopper	Bags for Lights	£45.00			
11	1/4/19	R Spence	Awning Lights	£47.86			
12							
13			Total	£857.35			
14							
15		Year 2019 -20					
16							
17	15/8/19	R Spence	Pegs for Shelters	£25.20			
18	3/9/19	M Mead	PA System	£168.98			
19							
20		Year 2020 -21					
21							
22	22/8/20	S Wynne	Asus laptop	£229.00			
23							
24							
25							
26							
27							
28							
29							

Income and expenditure Account Year ending 31st July 2020

Opening Balances

Cash in Hand
Current Account
Total opening Balances

Income

Surplus from Rallies
Surplus on Insignia
Donations received ..
Bank Building society Interest ..
Other ..
Equipment ..
Rally Books ..

Total Income

TOTALS

Expenditure

Printing & Distribution Rally Programmes
Postage & Telephone
Stationery
Social Expenditure
Subscriptions & Donations
Other
Equipment

Total Expenditure

Closing Balances

Cash in hand
Cash at Bank
Total Closing Balances

TOTALS

Of which profit

- Other income
- Club hosting

Income and expenditure Account Year ending 31st July 2020

Opening Balances		
Cash in Hand		
Current Account		
Total opening Balances		
Income		
Surplus from Rallies		
Surplus on Insignia		
Donations received	..	
Bank Building society Interest	..	
Other	..	
Equipment	..	
Rally Books	..	
Total Income		
TOTALS		
Expenditure		
Printing & Distribution Rally Programmes		
Postage & Telephone		
Stationery		
Social Expenditure		
Subscriptions & Donations		
Other		
Equipment		
Total Expenditure		
Closing Balances		
Cash in hand	6,000	..
Cash at Bank		
Total Closing Balances		
TOTALS		
Of which prote		
• Other in		web hosting

EQUIPMENT

Whilst all of the equipment is accounted for some of it, including shelters and feather pot stands were held by the late Ray Barratt. When the time is appropriate I will collect these items.

Concerning the shelters two were re-proofed by the Pete and Shirley, thank you to them. One of the shelters now has a tear and will require replacement.

I would also like to express my thanks to Phil Boshier who has had Pat tested our electrical equipment.

Lastly I would like to thank all members who have helped store and transport equipment over the last year. This benefits all members of the club so thank you on behalf of the membership.

MEMBERS MEETING

The meeting was opened at 12:20 pm by the incoming Chairman who then addressed the members. He stressed that comments around the matters discussed would not be binding as we had a new committee, but that they would be canvassed at this afternoon's Committee Meeting.

Members were asked to identify themselves when asking questions for the benefit of both other members and for the record of the meeting.

Matters discussed:

New CoM rule regarding meets in other areas.

The Chairman explained the new Club ruling around groups being limited to 2 standard rallies and 1 Holiday rally outside of their own geographical area. Although CoM had reached agreement in favour of this rule, they had invited comment from members and intend to hold a meeting on November 18th 2021 in order to further discuss the situation.

Paul McGuire reminded members that whatever the outcome of this meeting, members were still able to attend rallies being staged by any group/area.

Peter Lee questioned why CoM had made such a decision when a meeting of Rally Officers had been almost unanimously against the idea – Paul McGuire explained the rationale behind it, including claimed over-use of venues/areas and a desire to attract new (mainly working) members to weekend meets as opposed to longer mid-week events.

Peter Lee claimed that these points were irrelevant, and that the previous rule had been workable for years and was still so.

Tina Stockall also questioned the potential effect of the new ruling on venues in financial terms if the groups local to the venues did not hold meets of their own at these locations, while others were happy to do so.

The Chairman 'parked' the topic at this point and advised members to await the outcome of the Nov 18th meeting before further discussion took place.

Former Group President

During 2021, our President Peter Randall resigned his position. Christine Bedwell asked whether his letter of resignation could be read out to the assembled members. After some searching, the relevant letter was read out by Paul McGuire (content attached as addendum). The Chairman explained the events leading up to the resignation and apologized for any consequences or ill-feeling arising from this.

Stewarding of meets

Christine Bedwell raised two questions around the stewarding and booking of meets:

- 1) Where a venue allows stewards to be on site the day before the meet is due to start, is there the possibility for the meet to start earlier than the advertised time assuming that the stewards have been able to do their preparatory work (signage etc)?

The Chairman explained that doing so at short notice (by way of email/Whatsapp etc) was not an option, as the start time of meets has to be notified to the Club office in advance for legal reasons.

- 2) Would it possible/preferable for stewards to take bookings for their meets themselves, rather than via the existing method?

The Chairman explained that this was not really feasible, as there would then be no central point of information

Further to these points, Tina Stockall asked whether it would be possible for stewards to have prior-day access to all meets, and Val Clarke asked if more and better information could be provided to stewards regarding permission for dogs, advance parking for attendees etc.?

The Rally Officer responded to these points by stating that many venues (particularly schools) would not be able to allow stewards to attend a day early because of academic activities etc. However, going forward, there will be better information provided to stewards with regard to location of water/elsan points/provision for dogs/local facilities etc. With specific reference to the question around advance parking, this would not be desirable or possible as it would mean that the group could find itself suggesting that members park somewhere out of the group's control or remit and find themselves open to problems caused by this.

Election of new president

Further to earlier questions around the presidency, Val Clarke asked whether there would be a new president, and if so how will he/she be chosen?

The Chairman explained that there is every intention of electing a new president, and that the potential person would normally be one who has been of lasting service to the group. The committee would begin the discussion at their meeting today, and prospective appointees and members would be updated in due course.

Potential new Group rule regarding late arrivals at meets

There has been a number of meets where members have either been held up on their way to meets, or indeed have failed to show at all. It has been proposed that where a member is aware that they will be late (or not attending at all), they should be requested to call or text the stewards or a committee member to say so.

The suggested situations would be if a member is arriving on a day OTHER THAN the first day of the meet, or before 9am on any given day, or is liable to arrive after 8pm on any given day. This would enable the stewards to avoid having to get up unexpectedly early in the first instance or to wait around for members to arrive at an indeterminate time. This latter can be particularly problematic if the stewards are also organizing evening events as part of the meet.

Whilst some members were a little uncertain as to whether these specific times would be desirable, there were generally no objections to the idea.

Martin Borrill asked whether this was not already a rule? – the Chairman advised that officially it is not at present.

The matter will be discussed further in committee, and advice issued to members accordingly.

Further topics

The Chairman emphasized the fact that we currently have a full committee, which is not necessarily the case with all groups (this was greeted with applause).

Despite problems in the latter part of the 2019-2020 season with departures from both committee and the group at very short notice, the committee places were quickly filled removing the risk of closure of the group.

Going forward into 2022, we have a full rally program for the year with (at the time of this meeting) only 2 events requiring stewards. The Chairman appealed for members to come forward to fill these gaps, as it would mean cancelling the proposed meets if stewards could not be found.

The two meets in question are at St Peters Campsite, Didcot and Firtree Farm at Banbury

Help is available to anyone new to stewarding if required.

There being no further questions, the Members Meeting was closed at 12.50pm

ADDENDUM

In the absence of a full AGM in 2020, the following email was sent to members to outline the result of a virtual meeting of the Committee.

Please regard this as the only 'minutes' of the 2020 season.

Dear Chiltern member,

As we have been unable to run an AGM this year, the committee has decided to send out the reports that would have been presented at the 2020 AGM in email form, so that members may have the opportunity to participate.

All current committee members have volunteered to remain in post until the next AGM (hopefully to take place in October 2021 at St Peters School, Old Windsor), and the committee has co-opted four members to fill places on the committee resulting from recent resignations. These co-options will become effective from Saturday 17th October 2020, when the AGM was scheduled to take place.

The committee will therefore comprise the following going into the coming year:

Chairman:	Mick Mead
Treasurer:	Emlyn Evans
Secretary and Webmaster:	Steve Wynn
Rally Officer:	Sharon Heritage
Equipment Officer:	Roy Ward
Committee members:	Julie Noakes
	Marion Wynn
	Carole Ward
	Paul Walker
	Peter Ingham
	Shirley Ingham

-Please do not hesitate to contact us via this email address if you have any queries on the content of this email.

-

Kind regards,

Steve Wynn

Hon. Secretary,
Chiltern Group of MCC

Committee Meeting 16/10/21
St Peters School, Old Windsor

Present:

Mick Mead, Emlyn Evans, Steve Wynn, Sharon Heritage, Marion Wynn, Julie Noakes, Pete Ingham, Shirley Ingham, Paul Walker

Apologies:

Roy Ward, Carole Ward

1. Forthcoming meets in 2022

There has been concern around the offer by Craig and Tara to steward the meet to be held at Cottesloe School, Wing next year. In the current season, they have either failed to attend, or arrived late at, several meets with little or no notice. This has cast doubt on the likelihood of their being reliable enough for the meet in question, especially as the venue is not only new to the group, but have offered us their facilities as a first-ever venture into rallies themselves.

In order to avoid any potential problems, it was suggested that a 'shadow' be provided for them at the Wing rally – Pete & Shirley Ingham have agreed to do this on behalf of the committee.

Going forward, can we organize a system to avoid the late arrival/no-show situations arising?

MW asked whether it would be possible to state a date by which bookings should be made?

A CaMC-style system of placing 'offenders' on a warning was discussed for repeat occurrences, and it was suggested that placing people on a 'provisional' booking list after 3 such events be employed. This was agreed to be a workable idea, and a note to this effect will be emailed to members, as well as added to the banner line on the group website.

A separate note specific to Craig & Tara would also be sent.

2. Group President

Following the resignation of our President Peter Randall, a selection of potential replacements was discussed – these included several members with long membership.

The question of 'qualifications' for the role was discussed, and it was stated that the person chosen should be a long-time member that had given extended service to the group.

The matter was shelved until the New Year, with the intention of announcing a replacement at the 60th anniversary meet in June.

3. Xmas 2021 meet

- Bookings are to close on October 31st
- Reception drinks – Bucks Fizz was suggested – SH & PW will source this and flutes
- Parking is no problem, but booking in will need arranging
- Paper Roll for tables has been sourced by RW & CW
- There will be a 'sit where you like' policy rather than set placings

- Members will be encouraged to set up and decorate their tables on Sat PM (8 to a table)
- The hall is available to us Fri evening, all day Sat, and Sun PM at a cost of 600 all-in
- Fri evening entertainments suggested include Motorhome Racing, Beetle Drive etc
- Sat AM – Coffee and mince pies will be provided (at group cost) – PI & SI to source
- Sat PM early – tables to be set up and decorated – members to do this.
- Wine for tables – based on numbers, at least 36 bottles will be needed – MM & JN to source
- Soft drinks – to be decided
- Crackers and serviettes – CW to source
- Raffle and game prizes – 100 expenditure agreed – MM & JN to source

4. 60th Anniversary meet – June 2022

This is scheduled for 2nd-5th June 2022 at Hurst College, with a midday start.

It may be possible for committee members to arrive the day before, but this is TBC

MM will ask for the hall to be available to us as follows:

Thurs evening	7:30-11:00 pm
Friday	all day
Saturday	all day
Sunday	until noon

EE will check whether the Disco is available.

MW & SW have sourced a supplier of acrylic plaques as a possible memento of the anniversary, and MW showed the committee a mock-up of a possible design.

This was agreed to be suitable, and an approach will be made to the potential supplier – there was discussion around probable quantities, with breaks of 100 and 250 being mentioned. This would depend on whether we were wanting to offer a plaque to all members or just those attending the meet – no decision was made on this.

There was also discussion as to whether it would be possible/preferable to produce a diamond-shaped plaque as the meet is our Diamond Anniversary (this would be asked of the supplier, as it may affect pricing) – colouring of Diamond White on blue was agreed to be suitable as per the mock-up.

5. General matters

SH undertook to canvass potential stewards on the idea of starting meets at earlier times than we have previously done (say, 10AM) unless otherwise stated in the Rally Program. There was some concern that this time might be too early, but there was no objection to the general idea.

(Post-meeting, SH reported that all stewards were OK with the idea, so would look at possible timings based on the individual meets and venues as some may not be available early enough for morning starts)