TVR Car Club Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 7 July 2026
Time: 19:00
Location: MS Teams
Chair: Steve Thomsit

Present

Martin Blackwell, Tyler Harrop, Mervyn Larner, Matthew Maneely, Mark Mendoza, Steve Thomsit and Nick Warner.

Apologies

Mark Hickery, Chris Mitchell and Bob Young

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1. Previous Minutes – Adoption & Matters Arising

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 9 June 2026 were accepted.

Promotional Vehicle (PV)

The Committee reviewed the Club's current promotional vehicle and transport arrangements. Following discussions with the office, it was considered likely that hiring a van for major events would be more cost-effective and provide greater flexibility than maintaining a dedicated vehicle arrangement. The Committee also discussed whether additional storage or handling equipment could make transportation and event preparation easier for office staff.

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3. Financial & Membership Update (MM)

Matt advised that he had reviewed the format of previous Treasurer's reports and believed they contained more detail than was necessary for Committee decision-making. He proposed moving to a simpler reporting format focused on financial performance, significant variances against budget and any emerging trends or issues requiring Committee attention. The Committee supported this approach.

Membership reporting was also discussed. It was noted that membership levels appear relatively stable and that future reporting should focus on significant changes, trends and retention issues rather than detailed monthly statistics.

Office Lease

Matt reported that the Council had offered a five-year lease on the office premises on the same terms as the current arrangement, with a break clause available after three

years. The Committee discussed the advantages of securing longer-term certainty while retaining flexibility should future operational changes be required.

Decision:

- Approved acceptance of the five-year lease with a three-year Club break clause.

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4. Events Calendar & Updates (KT/NW)

Steve presented the draft 2027 national events programme. Stamford Hall is expected to become the season opener, with a broad calendar already taking shape including Drive It Day, Beaulieu, Peaks to the Beach, Nürburgring, NEC and several overseas and regional events.

The proposed track day programme of Oulton Park, Anglesey and Cadwell Park was discussed and broadly supported. The Committee considered participation levels, event timing and the benefits of spreading events throughout the season. Particular discussion took place regarding the Oulton Park event, which is proposed to be shared with the MG and Lotus Clubs.

The Committee also discussed options for celebrating the Club's 80th Anniversary, including the possibility of a formal dinner or special weekend event and opportunities to involve international TVR clubs.

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5. Strategic Planning / Sponsorship (MB/ST/MM/CM)

Martin reported on the recent Strategic Planning meeting and outlined several workstreams that are currently being developed. These include a member survey, completion of the RO Handbook, a review of office and business systems, exploration of future technology opportunities and longer-term Club development initiatives.

Matt agreed to join the Strategic Planning Group. It was noted that Chris Mitchell had requested to step away from the group and this request would be respected.

Sponsorship

Mark updated the Committee on discussions with a potential new sponsor, Fundment, and outlined the possibility of securing a significant sponsorship arrangement. Further discussions are planned.

Sprint Advertising Rates

The Committee reviewed current Sprint advertising rates and noted that they had not been increased for a number of years.

Decision:

- Approved a 4.6% increase in Sprint advertising rates, subject to appropriate advance notice being given to advertisers. This does not affect membership subscriptions.

Heritage Certificates

The Committee noted that the first Heritage Certificate had been sold and discussed opportunities to raise awareness of the scheme through Sprint and other Club communications.

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6. AOB / Members Reports

Regional Flags and Banners

The Committee reviewed draft concepts for new regional flags and banners. There was broad agreement that any final design should align with the Club's wider branding, particularly the NEC stand and associated promotional materials. While Committee members expressed differing views on the design options presented, it was agreed that it was more important to achieve a consistent and durable solution than to rush implementation for upcoming events.

Merchandise and Membership Promotion

The Committee discussed opportunities to increase visibility at major events through the use of flyers, QR codes, banners, display materials and limited merchandise. It was recognised that large events present valuable opportunities to recruit new members and improve engagement with prospective owners.

The Committee agreed that membership flyers incorporating QR codes represented a low-cost and practical first step before considering wider merchandise initiatives.

Steve Finnerty

The Committee confirmed its support for Steve Finnerty's ongoing involvement in Club sales and marketing activities and agreed that his role should be formally confirmed.

Action Summary

Ref	Action	Owner
A1	Discuss proposed van hire arrangements with the office and report back.	Matt Maneely

A2	Consider storage and handling equipment to support transport and event logistics.	Matt Maneely / Office
A3	Introduce a revised exception-based Treasurer's reporting format.	Matt Maneely
A4	Progress the five-year office lease with three-year break clause.	Matt Maneely
A5	Clarify capacity arrangements if demand exceeds allocated places at Oulton Park.	Matt Maneely
A6	Circulate the draft 2027 national events calendar.	Steve Thomsit
A7	Continue development of 80th Anniversary event proposals.	Events Team
A8	Review feedback regarding Peaks to the Beach route planning and member communications.	Events Team
A9	Progress development of the member survey.	Martin Blackwell / Strategic Planning Group
A10	Complete and publish the RO Handbook.	Steve Thomsit
A11	Review office processes, workloads and future systems opportunities.	Matt Maneely / Steve Thomsit
A12	Continue discussions with Fundment regarding potential sponsorship opportunities.	Mark Mendoza
A13	Implement and communicate the approved 4.6% increase to Sprint advertising rates.	Martin Blackwell
A14	Promote Heritage Certificates through Sprint and related channels.	Martin Blackwell
A15	Develop a membership flyer incorporating a QR code for recruitment purposes.	Steve Thomsit
A16	Review event display materials, banners and promotional options for forthcoming events.	Steve Thomsit / Mark Mendoza

A17	Formally confirm Steve Finnerty's involvement in sales and marketing activities and invite him to future meetings.	Steve Thomsit

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8. Dates of Future Meetings

19:00, 4 August 2026 (MS Teams)

Meeting closed: 20:24 (approx.)