

## **Minutes of Committee Meeting held @ Gaydon on Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> March 2006, 10am.**

Present Simon Lacey – Chairman  
Tony Vile – Treasurer  
Carol Folkard – Secretary  
Jeremy & Christine Blandford – Events Team  
Ralph Dodds – Publicity Manager  
Warren Foster – Deputy Treasurer  
Pietro Abate – RO Co-ordinator  
Howard Bryan – Deputy Editor  
Richard Sails – Archivist  
Georgina Baker – Advertising Manager  
Grant Crouch – Model Registrar  
Alison Brown – Club Administrator  
Andy Race – Dep. Track Day Co-ordinator

Guests Nick Kay  
Corin Denton

Apologies Derek Smith & Bernie Hartnett

Simon welcomed the guests and introduced the committee members to them.

Minutes of the meeting of Jan 14<sup>th</sup> 2006 were read and approved.

Acceptance of the minutes Proposed by Jeremy Blandford, seconded by Georgina Baker, Vote Unan.

### **Matters arising from previous minutes**

- i. Insurance details on the website found not to be in breach of FSA regulations
- ii. Club Office staff bonuses had been agreed by the Directors/Committee.
- iii. No confirmation yet of proposed Swiss TVR event – Bonne Route to continue investigations
- iv. Andy Holden had not made further contact about race sponsorship
- v. Helplines – work still ongoing
- vi. Day membership forms – to be actioned by Jeremy
- vii. Club database being backed up daily at club office – disc stored in fireproof safe

### **Chairman's Report**

Simon reported that he had received no further communication from the factory with regard to the Trademark Registration issue. Jeremy Blandford had met with David Oxley on 10/3/06 to discuss another matter and had raised the trademark mark issue. David Oxley stated that TVR Eng. Ltd would vigorously defend their objection to the club's application should that become necessary. However he also stated that he would prefer to apply on behalf of the factory and then licence the club usage of the TVR logo. This course of action is also the committee's preferred choice providing that the club's requirements are adequately addressed. Simon to contact the club's trademark lawyers for further advice. The matter of the trademark needs to be addressed before the club enters into contractual arrangements with TVR for future events.

Simon also reported on his investigations re: insurance of speed 6 engined cars. It had been felt by some members that the club scheme with A.Manning UK Ltd did not best serve these particular cars.

Simon's investigations proved that the scheme with Mannings is still the best option for *most* members regardless of the model. Ann Manning is offering to answer any members queries on the website and also to further involve her company in sponsorship of club events. Andy Race is to

investigate the possibility of sponsorship for track events. Simon requested that any negotiations of this type be directed through one committee member only to save confusion.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Tony reported that the club's financial position is now much more positive. Cash flow is good and figures are showing a net profit of £12,000 at this stage ( ½ way through financial year ).

Le Mans bookings have been lower than in previous years therefore some of the club's ticket allocation had been returned to the ACO. This will have the effect of reducing our allocation in subsequent years but the club cannot risk potentially large financial losses with unsold tickets.

Membership numbers have levelled out , the Direct debit scheme is proving to be instrumental in the retention of members, as was hoped. The new database is proving invaluable in providing statistics that can help the committee to better focus their recruiting efforts. For example the database is showing is that the uptake of direct debiting is 66% of membership.

Tony asked for committee approval for new bank mandates, which would be required after the AGM

This was proposed by Georgina Baker and seconded by Ralph Dodds. Vote. Unan.

### **Editor's Report**

In Derek Smith's absence the report was given by Howard Bryan – Deputy Editor.

Howard has been assisting Derek to a greater extent in recent weeks. He has been able to provide more factory news, as his visits to the factory are very regular. Adherence to editorial deadlines are felt to be improving gradually. Howard stated that he would be willing to deputise for Derek in the future, as necessary . He also thanked Clive Westmacott for all his invaluable assistance with Sprint contributions.

### **Publicity Report**

Ralph reported on a number of issues:-

- i. Website useage had increased by 50% in the last 6 months and 28% of members are now registered on the forum
- ii. A member had requested that committee meeting minutes be distributed more quickly. The committee felt that the present system is satisfactory.
- iii. John Reid has requested that the club offer sponsorship to the Dunlop Tuscan Challenge Series 2006. The club details would appear in a number of places on the cars, the roundels being the most obvious. There would also be involvement in the sale of race T-shirts to club members. The cost to the club is estimated at a maximum of £2,000. This would be allocated from the publicity budget.
- iv. Ralph has suggested that a new Easi-Up marquee be purchased by the club. This would be used by the club office and the old one used for hospitality at Tuscan events.
- v. Ralph has received an offer from member Graham Walden to fill the Competition Secretary's post – this will be dealt with at the post AGM committee meeting.

### **Advertising Report**

Georgina reported on the ongoing problems of 'bad debts'. A number of the smaller companies advertising in Sprint are experiencing cash flow difficulties. This necessitates Georgina spending a considerable amount of time 'chasing' outstanding payments. The task of collection of debts may

have to be moved to the club office. Georgina , Alison and Tony to investigate and bring a proposal to the next meeting.

### **Event Manager's Report**

Jeremy reported that two further single model events had been suggested – Tamora and Chimaera. Details would be available by the next meeting.

BNG – plans are going well. Simon is liaising with Richard Abbott regarding the Croft trackday in conjunction with Drivestyle Harrogate. Andy Race to lend technical help to this event.

2006 visit to the Guards Polo Club is still in the planning stages.

A Mini Thunder event at Rockingham will not take place this year as a suitable date is not available.

Jeremy reported on a meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> March with David Oxley and Ian Law at TVR where discussions continued about the planning of a Back Home event for 2006. The club and factory are both very keen to create a successful event for this year, particularly as it may be the last opportunity for club members to visit the current factory premises at Bristol Avenue.

The plan will consist of three elements.

- i. Traders and TVRs parked on the promenade
- ii. Evening event –Saturday - possible buffet at the Hilton Hotel
- iii. Factory visit - Sunday

Negotiations and planning to be continued by Jeremy Blandford, Nick Kay and Corin Denton.

### **Track Day Report**

Andy Race deputised for Bernie Hartnett and reported that plans for 2006 season are well in hand with relevant deposits now paid to the circuits. It may still be possible to hold a track day at Oulton Park in conjunction with Easy Track- to be further investigated. Castle Combe is not available as the planned date had been offered to another organisation.

### **Archivist's Report**

Richard's article has now appeared in Sprint, raising the profile of the archive material. Richard's dealings with the DVLA have been proceeding smoothly. The re-instatement of the club's valuation service is now almost in place.

### **Model Registrar's Report**

Grant reported that the new database is now running successfully and providing the club with invaluable information.

### **Club Office Report**

Alison detailed the success of the Direct Debit system which has now been in place for one year. It is proving helpful in retention of members, as was hoped.

### **AOB**

Ralph is looking into the production of cards detailing the club (leaving them on windscreens of prospective new members) There could be an incentive scheme to reward members for successful recruitment.

Jeremy has received an invitation for the committee to visit the factory as soon as possible

Grant requested that consideration be given to the provision of funds for a picture archive on the club's website – to be discussed at the next meeting

Meeting closed at 12 noon

### **Minutes of Post AGM Committee Meeting Sat 11/3/2006 @ Gaydon**

Present Jeremy Blandford, Tony Vile, Ralph Dodds, Carol Folkard, Warren Foster, Andy Race, Alison Brown, Grant Crouch, Richard Sails, Pietro Abate, Graham Walden, Nick Kay, Corin Denton, Georgina Baker, Howard Bryan.

Apologies Derek Smith

#### **Co-option of new committee members**

Co-option of Nick Kay as Northern Events Manager – Proposed by Richard Sails, Seconded by Howard Bryan, Vote Unan

Co-option of Graham Walden as Competition Secretary – Proposed by Ralph Dodds, Seconded by Richard Sails, Vote Unan.

Co-option of Warren Foster as Assistant Treasurer – Proposed by Andy Race, Seconded by Corin Denton,

Vote Unan.

Ralph Dodds has volunteered to carry on as Vice Chairman. This will be officially put to the vote at the next committee meeting.

Next meeting date to be decided.