

TVR Car Club

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (ADOPTED) 30th NOVEMBER 2003 HERITAGE MOTOR MUSEUM GAYDON, WARWICKS

PRESENT

Simon Lacey (Chairman)
Laura Hadley (Secretary)
Laurence Sayer (Treasurer)
Pietro Abate (Advertising)
Jane Payne (National Events)
Colin Last (Deputy Events)
Ralph Dodds (Marketing & PR)
Bernie Hartnett (Track Day Co-ordinator)
Carol Folkard (Club Office)
Alison Folkard (Club Office)
Derek Smith (Editor)

APOLOGIES

Paul Shrimpton (RO Co-ordinator)
Stewart McQuillan (Competition Sec)
Bruce Smith (Deputy Track day)

GUESTS

Paul Calland
Jon Lowey
Steve Lewis

MEETING

START: 10.00am
FINISH: 5.25pm

ACTION

SIMON welcomed and thanked everyone for attending today's meeting.

LAURA read out apologies for those not able to attend today.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Simon commented that the Deputy Chairman position was still vacant. He asked whether anybody would be interested in the post. Ralph Dodds said he would be interested in the role. Simon also asked the committee if there were any objections to this. There were no objections. Pietro proposed Ralph to be Deputy Chairman. This was seconded by Colin. Ralph Dodds voted in as Deputy Chairman.

SPRINT EDITOR: Simon proposed for the new Editor of Sprint Derek Smith to be co-opted onto the committee and asked if there were any objections. There were no objections. Derek was co-opted onto the committee.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS: After discussion the following persons have been proposed for honorary life members and to be voted at the EGM. They are Debbie & Chris Rogers, Lynn Raeside and Andy Barrett.

Laura
for EGM

ACTION

It was also agreed that Mervyn Lerner should be rewarded for his services to the club. It was pointed out that he already has life membership. The committee then agreed that there would be a trophy award in his name instead.

Simon
Ralph

A further nomination also went to Tony Connor for his contribution to the managing of Sprint magazine.

Laura
for EGM

MODEL REGISTRAR: It was agreed by the committee that a review of this position was necessary. After discussions it was agreed that that this position should remain a committee position rather than a non committee role as requested by Mervyn. It was agreed that the club should seek for other volunteers who may wish to take on the role. It was pointed out that consideration should be given to the 'skill capability' of the future post holder. Discussions and consideration were given to the following persons: Richard Sales, Andy Hills, and Grant Crouch. No final decision was reached at this stage.

Simon

LEGAL UPDATE: Simon drew the committee's attention to the copy of the legal report from the club Solicitors and that it highlighted a number of areas of concern. These include Inland Revenue issues with respect to payment of committee members; breaching our club rules which also impact on the Companies Act; and having no appointed Auditors put us in breach.

Simon further advised the committee that the club is in good health at the grass roots level, however we have been creaking at the seams at committee level.

He stated that we should have a clear aim for the club. All agreed.

Simon went on to say that he and Laurence had visited the TVRCC Office and Online Design. He also confirmed the management structure of the club. Directors (Simon and Laura) can delegate to the committee following through to sub committee and then members.

OFFICE: Simon also made proposals for the TVRCC 'Office' to be relocated and that the current Office staff become paid employees. A proper contract of employment drawn up, operating within and in accordance with the Inland Revenue structure.

Potential Offices for the club have been found in Newport. This is 20 minutes away from the M6. It has a 3 year lease and costs £3000 per annum. Details handed out to the committee by Carol. The offices

ACTION

to all intents and purposes are appropriate to the needs of the club at this time.

After much discussion it was agreed by the committee that the TVRCC Office be relocated and the office staff become paid employees of the club. A contract to be drawn up by Solicitors.

Simon
to
progress

The Office will report directly to the Chairman who in turn will report to the committee.

It was further agreed by the committee that the positions of Carol, Alison, and Linda will not be committee positions.

Both Carol and Alison were in agreement to these proposals which the committee will progress in 2004.

BOOKKEEPER: After discussions with Laurence, Simon informed the committee of a proposal to have day to day bookkeeping in the hands of a bookkeeper and for that person to work from the TVRCC Office. Laurence would step down as Treasurer and oversee and manage the bookkeeper. He would then become the Finance Director. Laurence explained his current role to the committee and that he was happy to manage the bookkeeper. Bernie expressed concern about having the bookkeeper at the Office. In principle the committee were happy with this proposal however this issue should be put over to a later date.

Simon

SPRINT MAGAZINE COVER: Simon introduced Jon Lowey (Online Design) to the committee. Jon went on to explain that he has been looking at the front cover design of SPRINT, and believes there is an opportunity to revitalise this. He explained that it is out dated and has little attraction and proposes to have new text added and the word SPRINT enlarged. The TVR logo to be different. He showed the committee various examples for comment.

Ralph commented why should we change the cover. The response was that it is old fashioned and needs a change. After discussions it was agreed by the committee that the style should change.

Concern was expressed that to have the stand alone word SPRINT could be contentious and subject to copyright laws. This will need investigation as to whether we can use the SPRINT name or not and whether there is likely to be any infringements of copyright law. Jon to be informed of outcome by the 12th December 2003, in order that the new cover can appear for the January 2004 issue of Sprint.

Laura
to
investigate

ACTION

Carol thanked Jon for the work he has done on the designs.

EVENT SCHEDULE SHEET: Jane handed out to the committee a sheet for RO's to use, and forward to the Events team, so that they can co-ordinate and manage the club events calendar. RO's to complete and return as appropriate

Jane
Colin
& Paul
Shrimpton

BUDGETS: Simon discussed the principle of budgets and allocation of funds to various areas of the club. These include funds for PR and Marketing, Events, website, TVR Motor Sport, and to the regions.

All were given a copy of a budget sheet and Simon explained line by line how to interpret the figures. He further explained that we should not be making any sizeable profit and for the past two years we have been making a profit. This has implications for taxation of the club should this continue. All the committee agreed that we should avoid a situation whereby the club is taxed, and for 2004 the club should return a loss without undermining the positive financial position of the club.

All to
note

Simon went on to explain that the accounting year should change to the end of September. The accounts would be audited at a time which is generally less busy on the club Treasurer. To extend the committee term of office to January so that the AGM and a xmas party for the members can occur at the same time. There were no objections to these proposals. To ratify at EGM.

Simon
Laura

SPARE PARTS: Pietro raised a point on whether the club can purchase spare parts for Tvr's. Ralph advised caution in particular with S models. Pietro to investigate the feasibility of this.

Pietro

TRUCK / TRAILER: The suitability and usage of the trailer was raised and whether there is value to the TVRCC against what is being paid and how it is being used. There were mixed comments as to whether it was being utilised at events. After discussions it was agreed that the trailer afforded a meeting place at events in order for members to congregate and obtain free refreshments. It also provided cover during inclement weather. It is also safe and lockable. It also acts as advertisement for the TVR club. There appeared to be no proper management of the trailer and its use at meetings. The committee suggested that the trailer be properly tasked and managed, and evaluated for its use and success. Castle Coombe to be used as the testing venue. Outcome to be referred back to the committee.

Ralph

ACTION

WEBSITE: Paul Calland was introduced to the committee and invited to discuss proposals for the TVRCC website. Paul provided all present with a comprehensive handout of his proposals and explained each item in detail. The fundamental differences to the existing site include the following:

Paul
overseen
by Ralph

- Fresh design, layout and navigation.
- Easier navigational process
- Most of the site will be database driven
- Site updateable by volunteers / password driven
- Site would become more dynamic
- Future and past Events can be added
- Regional sites available for all to see.
- To drop the current Gallery section and include photos of competition winners for example.
- Archive information e.g. minutes of meetings etc.
- Include a voting poll section.
- Add own classified adverts with photo.
- Website entry password to be regularly changed

Paul went on to say that we have one and a half million hits on the website a month, and some 50000 per day. This is based on graphic downloads. There are some 3000 registered users on the discussion board, with very few actually using it. The discussion forum is important, smaller and not in a public area.

Ralph suggested that the general section in the private area can be put into the public area as a 'read' only.

Paul also advised that no one is moderating the sub TVR Regional Sites and its contents. This could be open to misuse. Paul will continue to be the webmaster for the TVR website.

Paul asked the committee for approval to improve the tvr website and give it the facelift that is needed. The committee agreed and budget was allocated.

MARKETING / PR: Ralph requested from the committee to allow him to update his ailing computer in order that he can carry out his TVR duties. There were no objections.

Ralph informed the committee that the TVRCC have been allocated a section of the stand at the Motor Show, courtesy of TVR. It was suggested at this stage that manning of the stand

All to
note

ACTION

be given to Office staff, then committee members and then RO's and Tvr members of the region (West Midlands).

Ralph commented that promotion and further exposure of the TVRCC can be obtained in other magazines such as Motor Sport, Classic Cars, Autosport, Classics and Practical Classics, Classic and Sport Car, and Motorsport News. To utilise the website more exploring and extending links such as the Tasmin Challenge to other sports websites.

Ralph suggested that trophies can be improved by awarding Scott Moncrieff sized cups for TVRCC Challenge winner and Tvrcc Sprint champion. Also changing the award name to Colin Parry Trophy for the Sprint champion. Ralph also suggested that the Concours Cup could be named Larner Trophy. There were no objections to these proposals.

Ralph also stated he would be looking for sponsorship in connection with Logo'd EZI Ups and ARDS.

Ralph proposed to support the following major events for 2004, which include the following:

- February. Bristol Classic Car show
- June. NEC Motor Show.
- June. Le Mans
- June / July Bromley Pageant
- October. NEC Classic and Sports Car Show
- Also Goodwood if we could get a Griff/ Tuscan/Grantura entered.

With respect to some of the diary of events for 2004, Ralph acknowledged that he had overlooked communications with the Events team and there was some duplication. Marketing and Events team to liase.

Ralph
Jane
Colin

Carol commented that from her records that no new membership was gained from the NEC Classic event last time around.

Ralph
to note

ANNIVERSARIES: agree with Events Team and include for publication in Sprint.

Ralph
Derek

Ralph proposed that RO's and committee members should be given a sweat shirt and badge and this would cost about £800. The committee agreed to the badges.

Ralph

ACTION

EVENTS: Jane and Colin produced an excellent presentation on what was on offer for the TVR car club members for 2004. They proposed a great location for Mania 2004 and these details will be notified to members in the early part of 2004. At this stage no name had been given and currently the name 'Thingy' has been adopted. The committee approved the location and the proposed itinerary. These details are to be ratified by Events team before circulation to members.

Jane
Colin

BACK HOME: The Events team are proposing to continue with Back Home each year. 2004 will be a mini back Home (day only). Awaiting confirmation of dates. Proposal agreed by committee.

Jane
Colin

TASMIN RACES: After introductions Steve Lewis informed the Committee that he was very happy to be here and to be part of the Tvrc. He stated that he reports in Autosport, motorsport etc. for Tasmin races, and wishes for a greater unity with TVRCC. He wished for members of the TVRCC to know that the series is opening up to 'any TVR' that wants to race. He wants to encourage more to race and proposing to 'shout louder' in order to get the message across. Regulations are being written in order to accommodate 'any tvr' onto the grid. Looking at maximising a full grid of about 32.

Steve is looking to advertise more and to feed Sprint via Editor (Derek). Also to advertise beyond Sprint e.g. Autosport, Evo, Motorsport etc. Furthermore to liaise with the TVRCC website. He will also make himself available at track days from a PR perspective and to use the day as a training day for novices. He will also make himself more known to regions.

Steve commented that he is looking for financial support from the TVRCC in order to support the Tasmin races. There were no objections.

Simon thanked Steve for attending and invited the committee to come up with other ideas to promote the Tasmin Races.

Proposed date for next committee meeting Saturday 24/1/04.
Proposed date for EGM 6/3/04.

Simon gave a short summary before the meeting closed at 5.25pm.

End>