

Minutes of Committee meeting Saturday 22nd October 2005 – held at Gaydon

Present: Simon Lacey, Tony Vile, Carol Folkard, Ralph Dodds, Pietro Abate, Chris & Jeremy Blandford, Georgina Baker, Richard Sails, Grant Crouch, Alison Brown, Derek Smith & Bernie Hartnett, Alison Brown

Also Present guests: Justin Hughes, Nigel Childs & Karl Dyson.

1. Introduction of guests by Simon Lacey.
2. Read & approve minutes of previous meeting, acceptance proposed by Jeremy Blandford seconded by Richard Sails. Voted unan.

Matters arising

Simon Lacey reported that TVR had agreed on a 9 month cooling off period concerning discussions re. Trademark registration.

Alison Brown reported “Helpliners” still being dealt with.

Ralph Dodds reported that the Monster Meet DVD was still being considered, he would report when he had seen a copy.

Tony Vile had agreed £200 expenditure on Bristol Classic Car Show, but no sponsorship for the Le Mans charity cycle ride.

Simon Lacey will need to find a co-ordinator for Le Mans Coaches if that service is to be offered to members next year.

Chairman’s Report

Trademark registration – A cooling off period of 9 months had been agreed with TVR Engineering Ltd, while negotiations continue for the club’s use of the TVR logo. Simon reported on a meeting with the new TVR MD, David Oxley. David Oxley requested the removal from Sprint of any advertisements that are carrying the logo without authorisation. Simon Lacey had requested of David Oxley a date for Back Home, there has been no response to this. Howard Bryan has been supplied with copy for Sprint from the factory; lines of communication with the factory to be kept open as much as possible.

Succession Planning

Simon Lacey & Bernie Hartnett are standing down at the AGM in March '06 Simon asked that committee members provide details of their respective roles, these details to be published in Sprint. It is important to achieve a smooth hand over from those standing down to new committee members. Tony Vile is to stand down June'06 and will need 5/6 months hand over period.

Derek Smith to stay until 2007, Howard Bryan has now been appointed deputy editor.

Bernie Hartnett there are 3 candidates for Track day co-ordinator, a team may be formed.

Ralph Dodds prepared to stand for a further year.

Carol Folkard prepared to stand for a further year.

Georgina Baker prepared to stand for a further year.

Chris Blandford prepared to stand for a further year.

Grant Crouch prepared to stand for a further year.

Richard Sails prepared to stand for a further year.

Jeremy Blandford prepared to stand as Chairman.

A.G.M- Notification to be in December Sprint for A.G.M March, committee members to provide ‘job specs’ to Ralph or Carol for inclusion with notification.

Tony Vile reported that accounts would be available by the end of December.

Treasurers Report

The clubs accounts are now in a positive capital situation – it is clear now that reserves of £20,000 would be achieved by the end of September and approx. £30,000 by the end of December.

Tony reported that there was now enough flexibility to be able to budget for events in 2006. Budgets are to be based on 6500 members.

Advertising budget was still under discussion by Tony Vile & Ralph Dodds.

Tony thanked committee members for all their efforts in turning the financial situation around in a short space of time.

Simon Lacey explained that the accounts are now showing that repayment of all fees to members would be possible in the unlikely event that the club is dissolved. Expenditure is now needed on advertising of the club to increase the number of new members.

Advertising Report

At the request of TVR Engineering Ltd – Speed 6 Engine Tech were asked to alter the wording on their advert, Speed 6 Engine Tech (Adrian Doman) refused – but the advert advertisement has now been dropped as a result of non-payment.

The advertisers with a record of non-payment are to be put on monthly invoicing with removal after one unpaid invoice.

Toyo's advertising agent is proving difficult to work with, advert is to be dropped after November as Toyo tyres no longer relevant to TVR.

Adverts are still 30% of Sprint – price increase in line with inflation 3.5 % notification will be given in April for September increase.

Advertising role – Georgina reported that it is large & time consuming. Commercial tasks to be carried out in the future at the club office. Ann to be offered extra paid hours to deal with this.

Editors report

The new team members Howard Bryan and Andy Hills are proving to be invaluable. Clive Westmacott contributions continue to be excellent and the new women's section by Di Cowmeadow is proving very popular.

A revamp of the graphics is being planned for January 2006.

Capping the number of words in the regional reports has proved helpful in planning future issues.

The progress of a novice in the Challenge Cup is to be a new regular feature and technical tip articles by Fernhursts.

Derek would like to increase the page number to cover new models more thoroughly this will be considered in the future. The balance of articles on old and new cars to be constantly reviewed. Sprint delivery is now consistently on time. Ralph Dodds suggested we should target new car owners to help increase membership.

P.R Report

Ralph reported an 18% increase in forum use on the website (however hits had dropped by 21%)

Expenditure was agreed for upgrading Ralph's software.

Ralph suggested that Chairman's Chat appear in Sprint 2 or 3 times a year with pieces by other committee members covering the remaining months. Further work needed to be done on benefits for members, which can be advertised in Sprint.

NEC Classic Car Show. Club being advertised on TV during the show. 3000 A3 posters (Sagaris/Timeline) to be given away (sponsored by David Gerald's & A Manning)

Membership falling in line with decrease in new car sales, dealers to be approached about offering discounted membership to new car buyers.

Club to advertise on P.H (80 per month).

R. O Report

Pietro reported that the RO registration forms had gone out to all RO's.

Two RO's had recently resigned (Jack Acres & John Morgan) Colin Logan has been persuaded to stay on.

Generally now Sprint deadlines being adhered to.

Track Day Report

Bernie reported a successful 2005 season with no financial loss. Bookings for 2006 being considered now as circuits are in great demand.

The club has been invited to a circuit day in the south of France to be further investigated.

Model Registrars Report

Grant reported successful installation of the new database, which will be in total use by the end of the year.

A.O.B

Bernie officially thanked the club office staff for all their help with track day bookings during his time as track day co-ordinator.

Jeremy Blandford asked that IT at the club office be considered for further funds for upgrading.

Ralph Dodds – Consideration is now needed for candidates for the various club awards in time for March AGM.

Next meeting to be held in January 2006 date to be agreed.