

Minutes of the committee meeting of the EACC

Felixstowe Ferry Boat Innl

10 September 2017

Opening

The meeting opened at 12:03pm

Apologies for Absence

Guy Bolton, Alan Course, David Watson

Present

Mark Daniels, David Evans, Andrew Pattle, Sharon Wikner (committee members). Martin Wikner (Editor).

Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting of 23 April 2017 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Nem con

Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Martin Wikner has been added to the FBHVC list

Officers' reports

Treasurer

The bank balance is about £3,700.

Secretary

Membership is currently around 750 members. Dating & V765 requests are at record levels, averaging 35 a month.

Publicity

No report

Events

No report

Spares

I am very sorry but I will not be able to attend the meeting on 10th September because we will be away in the motorhome. Life is very hectic and I appreciate that I have not been around for a long while. I will of course be remaining as a member & keeping my various machines gathered over many years (when they were cheap of course!) I still get spares queries on a steady basis; in fact probably more this year than last; there were two occasions that I had two calls in one day. I am more than happy to keep that on unless the club thinks that someone else who is more active and visible than myself should do it.

PS: I like the Club's Newsletter & I think it right that people should be able to say what they think. It can be done in what most people would regard as a non-offensive way then if someone still takes offence well, that's their problem if they are that delicate and sensitive.

Alan Course.

Merchandise

I am planning to stand down as Regalia Officer at the AGM. I have given notice of this several months ago in the hope that a replacement can be sought prior to the AGM.

Guy Bolton

Martin will put a piece in The MAC asking for a volunteer to take Guy's place.

MW

Editor

Since taking over as editor of the MAC newsletter it has gone to six editions a year and that I regularly fail to keep the content down to 10 sides of paper. This has made Andrew's work load increase considerably to get the posted copies printed and despatched. When the figure of 450 - 500 is reached it then becomes too much work for one person and professional help is needed, I fully understand the problems.

Obviously it would be all too easy if all club members were to opt for the e-mail copy, these problems would instantly vanish. This however is not the case. What we have got to look at here is the way forward and indeed look to the future, we can't see into the future but we have got to do our very best to guess the membership needs in future years, maybe into the years that will be beyond the time that we can even think straight!

The world is moving on and as we know the digital age is with us, the fact that most of the younger generation seem only to view and read things on line these days must be noted, the sales of newspapers and magazines is declining and this is unlikely to change. The modern person does not seem to want to sit and read stuff from cover to cover as it were, they just want to read snippets of information from time to time on their pads or smart phones.

So what do we do? Do we have the MAC printed and despatched professionally to all club members like the VMCC and all the other clubs including the V-CC?

Do we still opt for a two tier membership with email and postal membership?

How will all this be financed?

Is the MAC strong enough on its own, with sufficient content to warrant professional printing in its current form?

Should consideration be given to amalgamate the IcenicAM magazine into the MAC, given that as you said that

subscriptions are down to as low as 30 and very few hard copies sold at events?

How can we justify a large jump in membership subscriptions?

What would be the costs of membership to cover the cost of the printed magazine?

Martin Wikner

Andrew has had a quotation for printing the newsletter which works out slightly cheaper than the cost of printing it ourselves. However, a professionally printed newsletter would be in booklet form; if we stay with A4 format this would mean an increase in postage costs: Large Letter instead of Letter rate. Alternatively, we could change to an A5 booklet. The quotation included the outer cover in colour; Mark suggested the alternative of a colour centre spread with the cover printed in black on coloured card. The printers could also do the mailing to UK members. **Andrew will get a revised quotation.**

ATP

Martin will have to contact the printers to discuss formats, etc.

ATP/MW

Any other business

None.

Close of meeting.

The meeting closed at 12:39pm.