

Minutes of the 3rd Session of the Eastern Centre ACU Board 2013 held on Wednesday 24th July 2013 at The Parish Rooms Gt Blakenham in the presence of:

President	A Penny
Chairman	J Hearn
Vice Chairman	A Foskew
Vice Presidents	Mrs M Mellish Mr R Bannister
	A Chaplin Mr A Brace
	Mrs V Hearn Mr M Deeks
Treasurer	A Hay
General Secretary	Mrs L Berwick

Name	Club	Name	Club
P Tomlin	TOMCC (Epping Forest)	R Greengrass	Lowestoft Invaders
T Smith	Essex and Suffolk	Mr A Deeks	Castle Colchester
E Collins	Red Lodge	D Mills	ECMC
J Erskine	ECMC	J Blyth	Woodbridge
D Blyth	Woodbridge	G Garrod	Woodbridge
J Read	Woodbridge	K Weavers	Halstead
P Armes	Watton and DMCC	P Sewter	Norwich Vikings
G Brace	Chelmsford	E Wass	Braintree
G Bannister	Southend		

1. Mr Hearn, Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

Apologies were received from Mrs Y Smith; Mr A Adams; Mr C Dopson; Mr C Ralph; Mr B Howlett; Mr A Kenny; Mr A Crawford; Mr and Mrs Douglas.

Prior to any business being conducted, Mr A Penny asked the Board to hold a minute's silence in memory of Paul Thomas who had sadly lost his life in the Isle of Man 500 race. Mr Thomas was a respected member of the Castle Colchester Club.

2. Previous Minutes:
Mr Hearn sought approval for the previous minutes. Proposed for acceptance by R Chaplin, 2nd M Deeks and approved. Minor adjustments made. Item 6 last paragraph. Noted that it was an additional date, not an amendment.
3. Matters Arising.
Item 7 – Blue Lamp M/C Club – re illegal riding. To be discussed in Mr Wass' report.
Item 9- Add the words 'in the centre' re online entries.
4. Correspondence:
A proposal had been received from Roy Bannister:
'That the distribution agent should be booked to distribute them on the last working day of each month, and ALL other dates are adjusted to work to that date WITHOUT alterations.'
Phil Armes responded by saying that he had been trying to accommodate clubs entries but realises that the need is there to close acceptance a week earlier, which he will do. He also commented that a phone call would have been appreciated if there were a problem. Lines of communication should be kept open, both ways. Mr Armes did comment that he has difficulty obtaining information from Rugby, especially track racing info.
Stop list – this is being distributed to clubs by Rugby.
Ms Berwick read out appropriate passages from the recent ACU Board minutes.
5. Financial Report:
Mr Hay presented the current financial report up to and including 22nd July 2013.
Current Account stands at £6428.29
Investment Accounts £13600.65
Land Fund Account £108431.10
Mr Hay sought approval of the accounts, a donation of £1500 from reserved numbers scheme to Essex Air Ambulance to be presented at Wakes Colne in September). Approved by a show of hands.

Mr Chaplin proposed that £200 donation was made to the ACU Benevolent fund, 2nd M Deeks and approved.

Mr Hay briefly spoke regarding the title sponsorship for the Eastern Centre MX Solo Championship. Hoping that sponsorship deal with Bickers Lifting and MC Comps will continue in 2014.

6. Competitions Committee Report.

Report given by Mr A Penny.

Mr Penny sought adoption of the minutes of the 3rd Competitions Committee, 2nd A Foskew. One amendment – date should read 8th not 6th.

Mr Weavers asked if there had been any advance on the purchasing of a timing clock. Not as yet but this will be discussed at the next MX S/cttee meeting.

Item 7 – High Viz tops – this is in the ACU Handbook and they should be worn. Officials should be encouraged to be visible.

Mr Penny sought approval of the minutes of the 4th Competitions Committee meeting, 2nd J Hearn.

Mr Weavers commented on the fact that the sidecars would be running at Lyng.

Mr Penny then sought adoption of the minutes of the 5th Competitions Committee Meeting, 2nd M Deeks.

Mr Chaplin sought clarification on the Devolution issue. Mr Penny explained that this was in the early stages of discussion. Mr Hay and Mr Dopson have sent a document to Mr D Smith for Trials and MX. This will be discussed at the next Competitions Committee meeting in September.

Mr Hearn will send an up to date Enduro Championship table to Mr Sewter to be displayed on the website.

NGR. Mr Watson had advised Mr P Armes that he would not be running the NGR Championship in 2014.

This had been discussed at comps and it is hoped that someone will be found to continue the championship.

7. Nominations for Board of Directors and Sporting Committees:

Discussion took place regarding the nominees. Question asked re Mr Higgins legal position of Chairman of the Board of the ACU and his eligibility to stand for Sporting Committee. Answer was that if he is elected to the MX Sports Committee, he is still eligible to remain as a director.

Mr M Deeks was willing to stand for the Trials and Enduro Sports Committee and Mr A Deeks for MX Sports Committee. Both gained the support of those present. Ms Berwick to send necessary paperwork to Rugby.

8. National Council Delegate Election.

Two candidates. Mr J Hearn and Mr M Deeks. After a private vote, Mr Hearn was duly elected by a vote of 17 to 8.

9. Access, Environmental and Right of Way Report

Mr Wass had a meeting with MSA last week. There has been a change in the local officers. Next meeting 16th September.

Mr Wass has applied for membership to LARA, which will enable up to date information on offroad matters to be shared.

Mention made of Blue Lamp who are an undercover police unit. Mr Wass to furnish them with ACU Handbook and will be liaising with them over local matters.

Mr Wass talked about a Farmers event that was held a few years ago. MSA interested in running another one. Mr Wass has expressed to them that the Eastern Centre would like to be involved.

Co-operation of the Centre would be required anyway. Mr Penny asked if a budget would be required for such an event. Mr Wass stated that the event would not be held until next year so he could not answer that question.

Mr A Deeks asked to be kept informed as he has several contacts that may be beneficial.

Mr Drane not in attendance, therefore no Rights of Way report.

10. Eastern Centre Gazette/Website

Mr P Armes stated that clubs had not been receiving the necessary event paperwork when Basic permits are being issued from Rugby. He will endeavour to get the relevant documents on the website. He had brought some to the meeting for those who wished to have them.

Mr Armes reported that he had reduced the Gazette print run by 100.

At this point Mr Hearn addressed the meeting and informed those present that Phil Armes would be taking part at the Isle of Man celebrations by riding a lap of the island circuit. Mr Armes will be the first paraplegic to attempt this feat. There is a 3-minute film on Mustard TV for those who wish

to access the story. Mr Hearn expressed the feeling all present in wishing Mr Armes the best of luck. Mr Deeks proposed that the Centre made a donation to Mr Armes of £200 to help with the expenses. This was wholeheartedly agreed upon.

Mr R Greengrass presented a report on the finances of the Gazette from 1st April 2013 to 30th June 2013.

Income	£2369.60
Expenditure	£2796.30
Loss for period	£426.70

Barclays Current Account £27847.99

Barclays Tracker Account £1166.71

£25,00 invested in Barclays Short Term Bond, which will yield interest of £243.08

Mr Greengrass proposed that £10,000 be transferred from current account to holding account and £35,000 be invested in the next available Short term Bond – both approved.

Mr Greengrass pointed out that at present there were only two signatories – it was agreed that Phil Armes would be the third.

Mr Greengrass reported that two clubs had recently increased their gazette orders. Mr Deeks asked if it was known how far afield the readership of the Gazette went. Mr Armes to try to ascertain this information.

Mr Greengrass reported that the print run is now reduced to 850 per month.

11. Any Other Business

Mr D Mills asked why two people are being appointed to the majority of Steward jobs and suggested that this should be made fairer. Mr Blyth stated that he had filled in the form that Mr Wass had sent him only to find that two of the appointments were already issued and published in the Gazette. Mr Wass described how he went about the allocation of appointments. After a vigorous discussion, Mrs Hearn proposed that this item be discussed at the next competitions committee meeting. Ms Berwick requested a letter from Mr Mills and Mr Blyth detailing their concerns, which she would take to comps. Mrs Hearn asked if anyone had any suggestions as to how the stewards should be chosen.

Mr Mellish stated that as Mr Smith had agreed to take responsibility for all Norfolk and Suffolk's meetings as Steward, he should not be allocated any others

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.05pm.

Next Meeting. Sunday 10th November 13 at Stanway Village Hall commencing directly after the AGM