

**Minutes of the 2nd Session of the Eastern Centre ACU Board 2014 held on
Wednesday 16th April 2014 at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms in the presence of:**

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

Name	Club	Name	Club
P Tomlin	TOMCC (Epping Forest)	Mr R Greengrass	Lowestoft
T Smith	Essex and Suffolk	Mrs E Collins	Red Lodge
Mr E Hood	Triangle	D Mills	ECMC
J Erskine	ECMC	J Blyth	Woodbridge
Mrs D Blyth	Woodbridge	G Garrod	Woodbridge
Mr J Douglas	Norwich Vikings	K Weavers	Halstead
P Armes	Watton and DMCC	C Ralph	Woodbridge
Mrs B Douglas	Norwich Vikings	Mr D Cordle	Ipswich MCC
Mrs J Nash	Southend	Mr P Fenn	Essex and Suffolk
		Mrs G Bannister	Southend

1. Mr Hearn, Chair, was unwell so asked Vice Chairman Mr G Brace to take the meeting. Mr Brace opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

Apologies were received from: D Smith; Mrs Y Smith; D Clampin; A Adams; A Kenny; Mrs M Armes; Mr J Read; C Dopson; A Foskew; E Wass; B Howlett; M Cross; D Slaughter; R Drane; A Deeks; R Sayer.

A minute's silence was held in honour of the late Mr Andrew Crawford and Mr Graham Hambleton.

2. **Previous Minutes:**

Mr Brace sought approval of the minutes of the 1st Meeting held 19th January 2014 which were approved as a true record with one amendment – date in item 2 should read 4th session held 10th November 2013. Proposed P Fenn, 2nd G Garrod.

3. **Matters Arising.**

Item 8 – seminar has been organised for 25th October at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms – Date to be published in the E C Gazette.

Item 7 – low entry events – A Hay supplied a spreadsheet to D Smith, Competitions Committee Chair, and to Clive Dopson, Chair Trials Committee. It confirmed that the numbers were correct and the agreement was not being abused.

4. **Correspondence:**

Lyn Berwick had received the following:

Guidance notes on the role of Benevolent Fund Officers.

MSA – Mr Greengrass will pursue the issues raised regarding the role of the MSA and it's powers. Discussions had taken place between D Smith, A Kenny, C Dopson and Mr Greengrass. No prosecutions have ever been made since the inception in 1969. A Penny stated that there had been a recent change of hierarchy within MSA and the new chief had spoken to John Collins – it is an ongoing consultation.

Mr Greengrass reported that cycle clubs (who do time trials) have to obtain permission but do not have to pay for the use of public roads.

5. **To receive a report on National Management Council Meeting – J Hearn**

Mr Hearn had attended the meeting on 15th February 2014 and Lyn Berwick reported on the following on his behalf:

There will not be an increase of insurance premiums, staying steady at 2013 prices.

Reported that event paperwork for adults should be retained for 7 years, youth paperwork to be retained from as young as 4 years of age until the rider is 18, plus 3 years.

Updated on MSA process.

Club representative open day at Rugby to be held on 25th March.

One event licences – 12,500 had been despatched in 2013 but only half had been returned. Stressed how important it is to return them quickly.

Stewards at ACU events – Mr Collins felt that the ACU should look at the principle of Stewards and how they are appointed and used. The Chairman suggested that each discipline should look at this and report their findings at the next Board meeting with a proposal at National Council to follow.

6. Treasurers Report:

Mr Hay produced a spreadsheet detailing income and expenditure.

Production of Centre Handbooks had generated a small loss of £21.

Centre Function generated a small loss of £36 but was well within the budget of £120 agreed at the January Board.

The moto cross reserved number scheme had just passed the £2000 mark, the highest since its introduction.

The Treasurers recommendations were as follows:

The Centre Board notes the current levels of income and expenditure for 2014.

The Centre Board considers options for reimbursement of travel expenses. After discussion it was proposed by M Deeks 2nd E Hood that the reimbursement figures remains the same for one more year. – all agreed.

7. Competitions Committee Report

Mr Penny, Vice Chair of the Competitions Committee sought adoption of the minutes of the 1st Competitions Committee meeting held 9th January 2014. – 2nd M Deeks and agreed.

The T -Bec date issue has now been resolved and will now run on 7th December 2014.

Mr Penny sought the adoption of the minutes of the 2nd Competitions Committee meeting held on 19th February 2014, 2nd M Deeks and agreed.

Mr Cordle asked which discipline Norwich New Stars would be running – it is Grass Track.

Vacancy on MX Sporting Committee:

Two applications had been received by the Centre Secretary. – J Blyth and A Deeks. A vote was taken to determine the Centres vote by the NMC delegate with the result of 17 to J Blyth and 9 to A Deeks with 2 abstentions. The Board decided to endorse both applicants and wished both the best of luck.

8 To discuss the possibility of changing the first meeting of 2015 to an evening meeting:

After discussion it appeared that the delegates felt that a Sunday afternoon meeting was no longer the preferred option, one suggestion was to change to 10am start, but this was not a popular choice.

The suggestion was that the meeting should be held on a Wednesday or Thursday evening – Lyn Berwick will check out availability of venues and report back at next Board meeting.

9. Access, Environmental and Rights of Way:

Mr Wass not present so no report.

Mr Drane had sent a report, which Lyn Berwick read out:

There had been a Highways Commissioning Board Meeting on 4th February which Mr Drane attended where the following decision was made by the Cabinet Member for Highways; to trial a blanket seasonal temporary closure order in Braintree District closing all Byeways in the district to motorised traffic (inclusive of 4x4 and motorcycles from 1st October to 1st April, (would have been 68 in total). This had caused great consternation but following a great deal of effort by supporters of motor sport, another meeting was held in March where the position changed significantly and was reduced to five byeways only.

10. Eastern Centre Gazette

Mr Armes apologised for the delay in distributing the February Gazette and reported that the production date has now been brought forward. Mr Armes requested that clubs provide more reports on their events and asked for photographs suitable for the front cover to be sent to him.

Mrs D Blyth commented that there is a requirement for riders to enter a date of birth for online entries and asked if there was space to add this to the Gazette entry form.

Mr Greengrass reported on the gazette finances for the period 1st January to 31st March 2014.

Income £2939.60

Expenditure £2661.97

Surplus £277.63.

Barclays Current Account £29,980.71

Barclays Tracker Account £26,415.90 (interest accrued in three month period £3.29)

11. ACU Benevolent Fund

No report

12. Centre Function

Lyn Berwick reported that the function was a good evening enjoyed by all who attended. Small loss. Thanks to Alan Foskew and his son Logan who stepped in and did the raffle which raised £156.

G Brace proposed a vote of thanks to all that organised the event and to Lyn and Vera for the catering. Date for 2015 will be announced at the next Board.

13. Any Other Business.

R Greengrass- reported that Mrs Y Smith (EFA) has rope and post thumpers available.

A Hay – sought approval to make a donation for A Crawford's chosen charity of £100, 2nd K Weavers and agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at.9.05pm

Next Meeting. Wednesday 23rd July 2014 at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms commencing at 7.45pm.