

## Eastern Centre ACU

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at Stanway Village Hall in the presence of

President	Mr A Penny
Chairman	Mr R G (Jack) Hearn
Vice Chairman	Mr A Foskew
Vice Chairman	Mr G Brace
Treasurer	Mr A Hay
Centre Secretary	Ms L Berwick

C Ralph	Woodbridge	P Tomlin	TOMCC
A R Chaplin	Sudbury/VP	K Doherty	ECMC
J Read	Woodbridge	Y Smith	ESSA
P Nash	Southend	R Sayer	Triangle
J Nash	Southend	R Greengrass	Lowestoft Invaders
E Hood	Triangle	E Wass	Braintree
A Brace	Chelmsford/VP	A Kenny	Harwich
V Hearn	Stowmarket	K Weavers	Halstead
R Drane	Braintree	D Blyth	Woodbridge
J Blyth	Woodbridge	M Mellish	VP
P Armes	Watton	C Cook	Braintree

1. Mr Hearn opened the meeting and welcomed all present. A minute's silence was observed for Derek Clampin, Remembrance Day and all those we have lost this year.

Apologies were accepted from Mr A Adams; P Sewter; G Garrod; A Waters; D Slaughter; Mrs M Armes.

At this point, The Chairman invited Mr A Kenny to give a tribute to Derek Clampin. Mr Kenny gave a brief history of Mr Clampin's achievements and distributed some photographs. D Clampin born in November 1926 and passed away in October living in the same house he was born in. He had been an ACU and Castle Club member for 70 years. Ist attended the Eastern Board in 1954 and in 1958 was appointed team manager for Centre Trials. When he ended his riding career, he moved into administration and served as President and later was made a Life Vice President.

2. The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting were confirmed as a true record. Proposed R Chaplin 2<sup>nd</sup> P Armes.
3. **Matters Arising** – there were no matters arising.

#### 4. Election of Centre Officials:

President      Nominee      A Penny      elected unopposed.

There was no election necessary for the following officers. Mr E Hood proposed all were accepted en bloc.      2<sup>nd</sup> A Kenny.

Unanimous approval from delegates.

Vice Presidents: Nominees; Mr A Foskew; Mr A Brace, Mr A R Chaplin, Mrs V Hearn; Mrs M Mellish: Mr G Brace;

Chairman                      Nominee Mr R G Hearn      elected unopposed.

Vice Chairman (2)	Nominees Mr G Brace, Mr A Foskew – elected unopposed.
Treasurer	Nominee Mr A Hay – elected unopposed.
Honorary Auditor	Nominee Mr D Slaughter elected unopposed.
General Secretary	Nominee Ms L Berwick elected unopposed.

Mrs Mellish advised the floor that she had sent a nomination form to Mr Kenny nominating him as a Vice President. Mr Kenny had not received the form. Mrs Mellish proposed that Mr Kenny's name to be added to the VP list – 2<sup>nd</sup> R Chaplin. Delegates vote was unanimous in support

## 5. Chairman's report:

Mr Hearn started his report by saying that we will all miss Derek Clampin in several ways and as a past President and Life Vice President he will be sadly missed. Mr Hearn thanked all officers and officials for their time and effort in helping the Centre to run smoothly. Mr Hearn acknowledged that it is good to see clubs helping each other to run events.

Centre MX's new format is now established and is running well and entries appear to be full. Luke Benstead is Expert Champion and Rheis Morter is Junior and MX2 Junior Champion. Dylan Woodcock is Expert MX2 Champion and Paul Wally Hubbard, a centre stalwart lifted the Over 40's title. Woodbridge & DMCC retained the Maxxis Best Organising Club for the second year – Mr Hearn proposed a vote of congratulations to them. Mr Hearn thanked Andrew and Val Hay for running the timing with Lyn and Charlie's help.

Grasstrack – Mr Hearn reported that there have been several good events with GW Racing running the one-day Eastern Championship Round at Iken in July where there were some new names challenging for the title.

Southend had run the Donut meeting at Latchingdon and drawn a good crowd.

500cc Club ran some good events during the season and the final of the 500 cc Super series had been such close racing that the final was one by less than a few inches between the two sidecar outfits.

There had been good entries in both solo and two-man enduro events where most classes were decided at the last round.

Jason Morland retained the Enduro solo championship.

Trials – had another good year with entries holding their own. Jack Sheppard had a very good year in the British Championship finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> place. This was decided on the last day in Scotland.

Mr Hearn thanked Lyn Berwick for all her hard work as Centre and Comps secretary and for organising the Centre Awards evening with Vera and Charlie's help. The new venue of The Cedars Hotel in Stowmarket was a great success.

Mr Hearn also thanked Charlie Ralph and Roger Chaplin, who spend a considerable amount of their time promoting Centre events through local media, TMX and various websites.

## Secretary's Report:

Mrs Berwick reported that she had attended all the mx events, working with Val and Andy Hay as part of the timing team. The riders mostly seem to appreciate what we do and we even get a few thank yous – sometimes. The enduros and trials attended have all been super events with a great atmosphere.

Woodbridge ran their first trial on Forestry Commission land for some years and had worked hard to get this venue back.

85 riders really enjoyed their day. Mrs Berwick reported that she was most impressed with the politeness to the observers. The good news is that FC staff came along and were most impressed with the professionalism of the organisation so this looks good for the future. It is good to see that the core of helpers remains steady.

There had been sad times again this year with the loss of some officials and competitors and especially on Remembrance Day, we remember them. The motor cycling family comes together when something happens at an event and everyone pulls together at the time and after, giving each other support.

The subcommittees have embraced their roles and have met and worked hard this year to move their disciplines forward and I would like to thank them.

There have still been some issues with illegal riding, but it is good to see that Diss Club are working with FC and Police to try to minimise this.

The dates meeting is coming up on Wednesday and Phil Armes will have prepared the basis for negotiation which will ensure that all organising clubs get a fair share of dates and hopefully with a bit of manoeuvring will go away happy.

Mrs Berwick asked that if a club has changed their officials, to let her know asap as she has to advise Rugby of the ACU Handbook updates for 2018.

Some clubs are yet to affiliate. Mrs Berwick reminded them that their unique codes will not be forthcoming until they do.

There is a MX Seminar on 27<sup>th</sup> January at Gt Blakenham – 9.30am for C of C and 1.30pm for technical.

Trials Seminar on 16<sup>th</sup> December 11.30am also at Gt Blakenham

Mrs Berwick thanked Mr Hearn for his chairmanship and Mrs Hearn for her role as NMC delegate. Andrew Hay and Ron Greengrass, Treasurers of the Centre and Gazette acknowledged for their roles, which are time consuming. Thanks to Paul Sewter for maintaining the website so well and to Phil Armes for his editorship of the Gazette and his role as Comps Chair. Reducing the comps meetings to six has worked well but the only downside is that there are vacancies and no-one coming forward to fill them.

Lastly Mrs Berwick thanked all present for continuing to support the Centre and the giving of their time as delegates, organisers and committee members, without whom ACU Eastern would not be so strong.

## **6.Treasurers Report:**

My Hay provided a written report the purpose of which was to propose adoption of the audited accounts for 2016.

The accounts show that the total income to the Centre in 2016 was £41,401.71 and total expenditure was £40,821.56 providing a surplus of £580.56, slightly less than predicted. This was achieved despite a drop of income as there were fewer basic permits, meaning a £550 less than budgeted return. Riders levies were also £14 less than the original budget. The surplus has been achieved by savings and underspending from the expenditure budget.

The Motocross account produced a surplus of £3115.37. During 2016 the daily hire of transponders was less than predicted, £720 under the budget estimate. The reserved number scheme became compulsory in 2015 and in 2016 brought in an income of £,3510 which enable donations of £1,170 to EAAA, Essex Air Ambulance and ACU Benevolent Fund.

Mr Hay sought approval of the presented audited accounts, 2<sup>nd</sup> C Ralph and unanimously approved by the delegates present.

## **6. Land Fund**

Mr Armes presented an updated document to the Board proposing changes from the Land Fund to ACU Eastern Centre Facilities Fund. Mr Armes answered questions from the floor.

Mr Armes sought agreement to adopt the proposal which included the election of three nominated persons to serve on the Centre Facilities Administration Committee. The Committee would consist of the Centre Chairman, Centre Treasurer. Competitions Committee Chairman and the three elected members.

Proposed by P Armes 2<sup>nd</sup> C Cook and unanimously agreed by delegates.

The three persons chosen were as follows: A Hay proposed C Dopson – agreed.

A Kenny proposed R Chaplin agreed

C Ralph proposed A Kenny – agreed.

The above persons will serve for a period of three years. The Centre Facilities Fund will meet as and when required. An item is to be placed on the agenda for future November Board meetings 'A Review of the Centre Facilities Fund'.

Mr Hearn thanks Mr P Armes for his efforts in producing the updated document.

## **7. Any Other Business:**

Mr Kenny commented on the photograph on the front of the latest Gazette (Mr D Clampin) and commended Mr Armes on the way that the Gazette is presented.

**There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.55pm.**