

# ACU EASTERN

(AFILIATED TO THE Auto Cycle Union)

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Board 2018 held Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at Gt Blakenham Parish Rooms

in the presence of

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

C Ralph	Woodbridge	P Tomlin	TOMCC
A R Chaplin	Sudbury/VP	K Doherty	ECMC
J Read	Woodbridge	D Blyth	Woodbridge
A Brace	Chelmsford/VP	A Wright	Halstead
Mrs V Hearn	Stowmarket	E Wass	Braintree
A Kenny	Harwich	D Cordle	Ipswich
P Fenn	Essex & Suffolk	K Weavers	Halstead
		M Mellish	TOMCC/ VP

- Mr Hearn opened the meeting and welcomed all present. A minute's silence was observed in memory of Dominic Feaks, a Centre Trials rider who had succumbed to cancer at the age of 21 years. Also remembered were Jenny Crawford, wife of the late Andy, Jeff Burrell and Betty Jones.

Apologies were accepted from: A Hay; P Armes; Mrs M Armes; Mr and Mrs P Nash; E Hood; J Blyth;

Mrs Y Smith;

R Drane; A Waters; R Greengrass.

- The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018 were proposed for approval by R Chaplin  
2<sup>nd</sup>  
J Read.

- Matters Arising:

Received from P Armes: GDPR – all Centre contacts had been sent emails from Paul Sewter and P Armes. 90% positive returns. Anyone not contacted are asked to contact Paul Sewter or Phil Armes.

First Aid Training – P Armes has costed the running of a training seminar at approx. £600 for 12 participants and would like to arrange a date for October/November. Following discussion, it was agreed that as this was aimed mostly at the Trials section, they would like to discuss this further before deciding if it would be necessary. Mr Fenn suggested that most clubs already had someone who was first aid trained from other means such as a work-related course. Ms Berwick commented that this training is very specific in its aim at the motor cycling fraternity. Cost was discussed with those present preferring 50/50 cost between clubs and ACU Eastern. Ms Berwick will update Mr Armes on this discussion, C Ralph proposed that seminar be deferred and that this item is discussed at the next available meeting. The competitions committee meet in September where an update from the Trials Committee will be sought. D Cordle suggests that an item on the subject is placed on the website and in the Gazette to gauge interest. Ms Berwick to contact Mr Sewter and Mr Armes.

- Correspondence/Secretary's Report.

Ms Berwick advised the Board that she had copies of various ACU minutes available if anyone would like to see them and reminded those present that club secretaries also have these available. Copies of ACU and ACU Events annual accounts were also available.

An email had been received from Essex and Suffolk borders proposing that Mr A Penny should be nominated as an Honorary Member of AUC Ltd. Mr Fenn stated that the club felt that Mr Penny had put a tremendous amount into our sport via both ACU Eastern and to the ACU generally. Mr Hearn asked for the Board's support in this and the result was unanimous. Ms Berwick will write to Rugby proposing that Mr Penny be considered as an Honorary Member of the ACU.

There had also been three requests to be proposed as members of the Panel of Adjudicators: Mr A Penny; Mr A Foskew; Mr J Sayer. The Board voted unanimously that all three names should be put forward. Ms Berwick to deal.

5. Treasurers report:

Mr Hay was not present and had provided a written report:

A statement of both the general and motocross accounts and income and expenditure for the financial year 2018 to date was detailed.

There were no questions. Mr Ralph noted that the documents referred to the land fund and that this should be changed to Facilities Fund. Ms Berwick to advise Mr Hay.

Mr Hay made the following recommendations:

That the Board notes the current levels income and expenditure for 2018.

That the Board approves the payment of the Centre Function loss of £412 from Gazette Funds as previously agreed.

Approved unanimously.

Ms Berwick commented that previous discussion regarding a set budget for the annual Centre Function is to still be decided. This to be placed on the next Board agenda.

6. Competitions Committee Report:

Mr Armes was not present therefore Mr Penny proposed adoption on the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> competitions meeting held on March 21<sup>st</sup>. 2<sup>nd</sup> P Fenn.

J Read commented that the Corton Trial had been a very good event with one section having been made specifically for youngsters on electric bikes.

Mr Penny proposed adoption of the minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> competitions meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2<sup>nd</sup> A Foskew.

Mr G Brace commented that the comments made by Mr P Grantham, Steward at the Wakes Colne meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> April were incorrect and that the track had been inspected by J Blyth 2 weeks prior to the event. The Club had a current track certificate displayed in the race control. It appears that Rugby had sent Mr Grantham the previous track certificate and when advised had them sent out a current certificate but to an incorrect email. Mr Brace had contacted Rugby as soon as he had seen the Stewards Report. Rugby had not responded to either Ms Berwick or Mr Armes. This will be discussed at the next competitions committee. Ms Berwick commented that there seemed to have been a lack of communication.

Mr Armes had provided comments on the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting read by Ms Berwick which explained the issue of the ACU Eastern Championship Round 3 at Lyng where due to a glitch with the ACU online system crashing, the club had been allowed, as a one off, to take an extra group of riders. Norwich Vikings had split the extra income with the other organising club as agreed in the minutes.

Mr Armes is aware that there is considerable debate over the 2019 ACU Eastern MX Championship as to how many riders should be accepted. This was discussed at a recent competitions committee meeting and will be revisited following the last round on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

7. Report from National Council Meeting given by Mrs V Hearn:

The age limit for ACU committees had been raised to 73 years. There had been a proposal that the age be raised to 80, but this had been rejected. The feeling was that as the retirement age had been raised, that 73 years was more appropriate.

Benevolent Fund: Mrs Hearn had raised the issue of the profile of the Fund as many riders still seemed to be unaware of its existence and purpose. It appears that the Benevolent Fund committee has consisted of the same members for quite some time and have become complacent in Mrs Hearn's opinion. The Directors had also discussion this issue at their meeting in the morning and had discussed promotion of the Fund.

International Licence costs to increase to reflect higher costs and are to include insurance.

VNUK – it had been reported that France and Finland appear not to be affected by the ongoing proposals- not understood why this should be. VNUK ruling ongoing.

Milton Malsor – it appears that ACU will not be renewing the lease.

It was announced that ACU Events are handing over the running of the British Maxxis MX Championship to the ACU Motocross Committee in 2019. This had occurred because Maxxis have

one-year sponsorship left and the Race Director one year of his contract and it was sensible to take over while this was the case.

8. Nomination of National Management Council Delegate for 2019.

One nomination had been received from Mrs Vera Hearn. The Board unanimously approved her nomination. Ms Berwick will advise Rugby.

9. Rights of Way report:

Mr Wass reported that Rights of Way officers would be sought for Essex, Norfolk and Suffolk. He stated that Mr Drane was finding it difficult now and that the Board should be aware.

New Rights of Way paperwork is expected from the NFU.

Mr Drane had sent a report read by Ms Berwick which stated that:

Byeway Update: A working party is now set up and have had their first meeting. The main decision was around the seasonal orders and future management of Byeways that had be brought to the table for discussion. These were the ones that were felt to be the most critical to be decided on for that year.

There were 6 routes closed to axled vehicles over the winter, all of which the TRO's were lifted on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018. All other byeways in Essex have remained open to motorcycles.

10. ACU Eastern Gazette:

Editors Report

Mr Armes had provided a written report read by Ms Berwick. Most clubs sending in their paperwork in a timely fashion – with the usual suspects being tardy.

GDPR – a new version of the gazette/permit application form has been devised which incorporates a signature from the applicant alleviating any doubt regarding permission to publish their details.

Mr Armes asked that all Clubs remind their secretaries to use the new form.

Mr Armes apologised to the Halstead Club whose notes were missed for two months as they went into Mr Armes junk box and he did not see them.

Gazette Finance: As Mr Greengrass was not present, Mr Hearn read through the financial report 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Deficit of period of £744.83. This was accounted for by the £725 for upkeep and maintenance of the website. Current account in credit by £21,538.72. Rate Reward Account in credit by £36,812.84.

Mrs Blyth commented that in her opinion, the Gazette Funds should pay for the Centre Function in total as the monies had been accrued by the riders.

11. Benevolent Fund report:

Ms Berwick reported that income in March was £3,128.32 and April was £8,611.86; No figure for May. June £413.00 to date.

One centre resident had received an exgratia payment of £1400.

TT Badges 2018 available at £3 each.

12. Centre Function Report:

The date for the next Awards Evening is 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Intending to use at the Cedars Hotel Stowmarket. Hotel has been sold so a visit will be made to discuss options with the new management. Providing a competitive rate is agreed, we will go ahead. Should the outcome be not viable, the Board gave permission for Mrs Hearn and Ms Berwick to pursue other options. They will report back in November.

13. Any Other Business:

Mr Hearn reported that he and Mrs Hearn had attended the 2-day enduro event on the Ise of Mann and had been most impressed with the facilities provided by Southern MCC who had purchased 160 acres of land. Club House with Bar, toilets and showers, kitchen etc. Very impressive.

K Weavers reported that there is concern within the Halstead Club as they have been told the farmer who owns the land used for carparking is selling up. Mr Weavers will update as further information comes to light.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.22pm.

**The next meeting will be Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup> at 1pm**