

## A7CA MEETING: 11 January 2009 – at Gaydon

### Minutes – including corrections up to 31 March 2009

#### Welcome

**Phil** opened the Meeting by welcoming the attendees on turning out in such good numbers on a wintery January day.

He explained that **Bernie** was unable to chair the meeting as his wife Jacquie had booked a holiday without consulting his diary! As Vice Chairman Phil therefore had the honour for this meeting.

He also explained that attempts to contact Hayden had proved unsuccessful and so Bernie had asked **Ian Mason-Smith** (DA7C) if he would 'volunteer' to take minutes for this meeting.

**1. Attendees:** 23 Members were present and 9 apologies noted (**See Attachment 1**)

#### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (12 October 2008)**

One correction was noted regarding Item 3 concerning 'Possible Public Liability':

Change 'Cambridge' to 'Essex' and 'child in a pram' to 'mother with a child in a pram'

With these corrections, the Minutes were approved:

**Proposed by: John Williams and Seconded by: Michael Aplin.**

#### **3. Matters Arising**

##### **Quarterly meetings:**

- Two issues - Can we reduce meetings from quarterly to three-times per year?
- Can we shift from the second to the third Sunday in the month to facilitate Magazine distribution?

In view of the number of activities and issues dealt with by the Association in the year:

**The Meeting agreed:** to keep to quarterly meetings but move to the third Sunday (except when it conflicted with Easter)

**2009: Jan 11 Apr 19 (AGM) July 12 Oct 11** – all already booked with Gaydon

**2010: Jan 17 Apr 18 (AGM) July 18 Oct 17**

**ACTION: ALL to note these dates**

**4. Chairman:** neither **Bernie** nor **Phil** had anything to report.

**5. Secretary:** as noted earlier, it had not been possible to contact Hayden and the meeting agreed to nominate Ian as the Association Secretary at the forthcoming AGM.

**Proposed by: Howard Annett Seconded by: Nick Beck**

## 6. Treasurer

**Eric's Report is at Attachment 2** (including a breakdown of Magazine distribution costs)

In this, Eric raised the issue of overseas payment for Magazine distribution suggesting either we increase the cost per issue to overseas Members or insist on Sterling payment.

**The Meeting Agreed: that overseas Members should be invoiced once per year and that the direct cost of receiving that payment be included in the invoice.**

## 7. Magazine

**Robin** reported that he was catching up now after his eye operation – the Meeting wished him a speedy and complete recovery.

He raised the question of the **Ken Warren Trophy** presented by Editor for notable contributions: Robin had chosen **Ian Moorcraft** of the Bristol A7 Club for this award.

**ACTION: Nick Beck to present the Award to Ian on behalf of the Association – and send Robin a photo/article on the event!**

**Jim Blacklock:** proposed, and the Meeting wholeheartedly agreed, a vote of thanks to **Alan and Lorna** for all their hard work in undertaking the Magazine distribution so efficiently and cost-effectively.

**Robin** urgently needs more input for the next edition of the magazine.

**ACTION: ALL**

**8. Webmaster:** No Report from **Malcolm**. It was noted that the Association Site had not been updated since 25 March 2008.

**The Meeting agreed: that contact should be made with Malcolm to see where we are.**

**ACTION: David Cochrane**

## 9. Advertising

**Hazel** reported that there was not much activity at the moment.

## 10. Archives

**Phil** updated the meeting on progress with the Association Archive Room at the Triumph Sports Six Club, Lubenham, nr. Market Harborough:

- One room in place and archives moved
- Annual Rental is £470
- Expenditure to date £1700 out of £6000 approved
- Security and insurance aspects agreed with the Triumph Club

His vision is for:

- Year 1: Settle in as a 'pilot'
- Year 2: Consider a second room (possibly with other Clubs)
- Year 3: Consider more space on the First Floor

He agreed to contact the Society of Archivists to see if we could engage a retired member (rather than a student – not recommended) to assist the formal establishment of the Archive for about 6 months.

A suitable candidate might be known to our members, so advert to be placed in Magazine 2009A

**ACTION: Phil and report back.**

The Meeting noted that the funding for the Project would initially be helped by sale of A7 Reproduction Booklets but the Meeting considered that this initiative was so central to the aims of the Association that it should be funded as a core activity.

**Note:** details of the Project are in the 2008D A7CA Magazine.

**The Meeting: expressed its appreciation to Phil for initiating undertaking this vital work with such expertise and vigour.**

**Phil** reported that he had received valuable early motoring archive material originating from **Doug Skerritt**, and currently owned by the Essex A7 C, from their Chairman Michael Aplin; Doug was initially of the Southend-on-sea MC, and later of the Essex A7C.

**ACTION PHIL: letter of thanks to Doug's widow Evelyn.**

**Phil** raised the issue of the status of electronic scanning of the A7 Handbook and Parts Book being undertaken by **Ruairidh (SA7C)** and **Malcolm (CA7C)**

**ACTION Ian: make contact and report back**

**Phil** noted he had copies available of:

- Longbridge Poster
- Specials Poster
- Chummy in the Lane
- A7 Booklets

In addition, he had received for the Archives:

- a *foolscap* Longbridge List of recommended spares to be held for A7s by garages of different sizes from small to large
- from **Hazel**, the 1996 *original* of the Lickey Grange painting

**David Cochrane** informed the Meeting that the former PA lady to Arthur Waite had made known, via **Nigel Coulter** (Surrey), the availability of some Arthur Waite Trophies.

**ACTION: David Cochrane to follow up and report back**

**Phil** raised an issue of A7 Oiling Charts that, though sent by **Wayne Styles** in Australia had not arrived with him via Parcel Force.

**The Meeting agreed that Wayne should be reimbursed approx. £200 owing directly even if no recovery could be made by Parcel Force and a UK-based copying source be might be found through following up an NEC contact.**

**ACTION: Phil and Eric**

**Howard** said he had a large (550) supply of A7 Garage Charts *without* the green component – available to Clubs at £2.50 each in packs of ten – about 60 left.

**ACTION: ALL to notify Members**

## 11. Films

**Phil** reported that all the available 16mm films had been copied to DVD/VHS-tape, passed to **Rob Foxon** of Leicester Transport Film Shows and listed (**See Attachment 3**).

**The Meeting noted:** that the 750MC might have further 16mm film of Arthur Waite at the Silverstone A7 1972 Golden Jubilee.

**ACTIONS: Phil to follow up; ALL to look out for Archive footage and inform Phil.**

## 12. Membership

The Online A7 Club(OA7C) has requested their A7CA be upgraded from 'Associate' to 'Full'.

Phillip Afford (OA7C) clarified that their application did not relate to insurance (already covered) but more to promoting on-line membership especially for young people.

Members views were sought in advance of the next AGM: the Essex A7C, Midlands A7C, Solent A7Club and the PW A7C were all of the view that current OA7C Membership category was appropriate. The remaining Clubs had yet to consult.

**ACTION: All Clubs to confirm/provide their position at the AGM.**

Phil requested that *all* Clubs confirm/update their representative/contact details (especially e-mail addresses) to ensure that we have full and effective communication in place – some Club's e-mails are 'bouncing' (see Attachment 1).

**ACTION: ALL**

## 13. Spares

David Cochrane reported he now had available:

- crown-wheels and pinions
- half-shafts

But he was still trying to source reliable brake levers and spring-shackles

Howard reported that he was out of his Taiwan tyres (*sic* 'Tyrwans' – even at 'inflated prices'!) but had the wedges, cups and springs for the A7 Control Levers at £10 a set (6 items).

**ACTION: ALL to pass on these products and report back on other useful sources.**

**15. Breakdown Register:** Gordon reported that he was actively trying to re-create the Association Breakdown Register. He underlined that *all* what was needed was a good coverage across the Country of folk who would be able to lend a hand, provide the odd small spare-part or point the way to a suitable local source/garage in the event of a typically small breakdown.

For the Register, he just needed:

- name of a willing helper/facility
- his/her phone number(s)
- locality: town, county

**The Meeting thanked Gordon for undertaking this important service to Members**

**ACTION: ALL to encourage Club Members to pass volunteers for the Register to Gordon.**  
**SUGGESTION: put this request on your club Membership Form.**

## 14. Events Calendar

<b>A70C:</b>	London-Brighton	5 April 2009
<b>PWA7C:</b>	Autokarna Nottingham	31 May
<b>750MC:</b>	Coast-Coast Lowestoft-Lands End	12 April 2009 (Easter)
<b>750MC:</b>	National A7 Rally Beaulieu	27 – 28 June
<b>MA7C:</b>	Stanford Hall Rally	6 September

Ian presented an idea for a new-style event where collectively Clubs would prepare a route for A7's to traverse to UK Coastline (along the lines of the *BBC Coast*) – see Attachment 4.

**ACTION: ALL to indicate support for this idea and identify a Point-of-Contact**

## 16.AOB

**Geoff:** has copies of the publication 'Longbridge' at £14.99 ea.

**Nick:** advised of an A7 1000-piece jigsaw puzzle 'Ride in the Country' from Falcon Puzzles (available on Amazon) at £10ea.

**Bob:** advised that he still had a number of the 'Red Cross Spares and Service Directory' available (free to Clubs).

**Howard:** advised he had a number of Association Magazine Binders (£3 to Clubs to sell at £3.50).

**Howard:** raised the issue of the A7CA Public Liability Insurance provided via the FBHV. Due to a succession of Insurance Company takeovers, our cover due for renewal on 1 February 2009 has not been correctly transferred to the new Insurers Aston Scott Ltd. (Bramley).

He is currently trying to correct this on behalf of the Association and urgently requires answers to the following questions:

1. Number of Members – best estimate (total): 3000 (approx.) + PWA7C & 750MC
2. Number of Employees – estimate nil; and volunteers – estimate nil  
Suggestion: enroll volunteers as 'Associate Club Members' for Events
3. Product Liability (for things *made or commissioned* by Members) – estimate nil
4. Exports to N. America – estimate nil
5. Clubs' Property – unknown
6. Club's cash in hand (during events etc.) – estimate £200 per Club
7. Regalia cover (not its stock value) only consequent damages eg. Dye running – estimate nil

Full text at **Attachment 5**.

**URGENT ACTION: Contact Howard Annett on E-mail: [howardannett@btinternet.com](mailto:howardannett@btinternet.com)  
Tel: 014203 790530**

**Note:** attendees were requested to take this Action back to Clubs as a matter of urgency.

**The Meeting thanked Howard for picking up this discrepancy and taking action.**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING (AGM): Sunday 19th April 2009 at 10.30 for 11 am at Gaydon**

**Ian Mason-Smith**

**E-mail: [hollybushcottage1@btinternet.com](mailto:hollybushcottage1@btinternet.com)**

**Tel: 01425 473949**

## **ATTACHMENT 1: Attendees and Apologies**

**A7CA Meeting 11 January 2009**

### **ATTENDEES**

A7 Owners Club – Red Cross Directory	Bob Cross
A7 Owners Club	Howard Annett
Bristol A7 Club	Nick Beck
Bristol A7 Club – GE Register	Damian Gardner-Thorpe
Essex A7 Club	Michael Aplin
Essex A7 Club	Penny Aplin
Pram Hood Register	David Cochrane
Pre warA7 Club	Geoff Roe
Pre warA7 Club	John Skeavington
Pre warA7 Club	Dave Wilcox
Norfolk A7 Club	Jim Blacklock
Norfolk A7 Club	Susan Martin
Midlands A7 Club – Magazine Editor	Robin Boyce
Midlands A7 Club	Arthur Davies
Midlands A7 Club	Andy Lowe
Online A7 Club	Phillip Afford
Online A7 Club	Rex Grogan
Solent A7 Club	Graham Smith
South Wales A7 Club	John Williams
South Wales A7 Club	Arthur White
750 Motor Club – Breakdown Register	Gordon Phillips
Archivist – Acting Chairman	Phil Baidon
Minute Secretary – Dorset A7 Club	Ian Mason-Smith

### **APOLOGIES**

Bernie Cowley – Chairman  
Eric Jones – Treasurer  
Hazel Gore – Advertising  
Alan & Lorna Martin – Mag. Distribution  
Bernard Griffiths  
Dan Cole  
Steve Hodgson  
Den Huke

### **E-mail Updates:**

**ALL please confirm their e-mail addresses for Minutes Distribution to:**  
**Ian Mason-Smith    [hollybushcottage1@btinternet.com](mailto:hollybushcottage1@btinternet.com)**

**ESPECIALLY:**    Austin 10 Drivers Club  
                          Bongtree Austin Seven Club  
                          Cornwall Vintage Vehicle Society  
                          Swallow Register  
                          Worthing Austin Seven Club

**(these 'bounce'!)**

## ATTACHMENT 2:

### TREASURER'S REPORT – Eric with Magazine Distribution Costs - Lorna

#### 1. Accounts - 12 Months to 31st December 2008

The Accounts for the 12 Months of 2008 are attached and show a Deficit of Payments over Receipts of £992.

#### 2. Income

- Magazine Sales have not been able to be invoiced for 2008D due to late production and <sup>no</sup> Distribution list has yet been received. Assuming normal timing, this Income would have been about £3,000 higher.
- Deposit Interest has decreased by 50% for November due, so we are told, to the Credit Crunch. It is expected to decrease further for December.

#### 3. Expenditure

- Distribution and Postage Costs for 2008D are expected to be in the region of £500 and will be paid in 2009.

#### 4. Forecast for 2008

Although we now know that the Receipts and Payments Deficit will be) list below:

£1,000, without the Production delay of 2008D I would have anticipated a Surplus of £1,500, calculated as follows:-

Actual Deficit. say	£(1. 000)
Income from 2008D	3,000
Distribution and Postage Costs for 2008D	<u>(500)</u>
Revised Surplus	<u>£1, 500</u>

This compares with my forecast of £1.000 three months ago.

**Receipts and Payments Accounts - 12 Months to 31st December 2008 (£s)**

		<u>12 Mths to</u> <u>31,12,07</u>	<u>12 Mths</u> <u>31,12.08</u>
<b>INCOME</b>			
Magazine Sales	1.	14,770	11,436
Advertising		748	1,818
Subscriptions	1.	385	385
Archivist Sales, Brochures, etc		198	1,700
Binder Sales		87	101
Interest		1,199	942
		<u>17,387</u>	<u>16,382</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Printing Magazines	2.	9,480	8,280
- "Free-Issue" Posters		-	640
Red Cross Directory		1,950	-
Distribution & Postage Costs	2.	1,783	1,277
Brochures, etc. for Resale	3.	-	4,492
Management Expenses:			
Archivist			75
Editor	189		62
Treasurer (4Years)	284		-
Advertising		473	73
Meeting Costs		300	357
Insurance	4.	1,462	750
Archivist's Purchases		1,070	106
Archive Storage, inc. Computer		-	792
Herbert Austin's Grave Maintenance			100
Engraving		37	
Subscriptions and Donations		25	
Advertising – "Automobile"		-	194
Webb Fees			176
Magazine Binders		635	
		<u>17,215</u>	<u>17,374</u>
<b>SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT)</b>		<b>£ 172</b>	<b>£ (992)</b>
Balances at Bank - Opening		36,315	36,487
- Closing		36,487	35,495
<b>INCREASE/ (DECREASE)</b>		<u>£172</u>	<u>£(992)</u>

- Notes:** 1. Due to late production, no Magazine invoices for 2008D have yet been raised.  
2. Printing Costs for 2008D are included in P-8,280 but no Distribution Costs.  
3. This £4,492 is for the "A7 Comes of Age" and the "St. Ives" brochures.  
4. The payment of £750 is for 10 months only.

## **Magazine and Subscription Debtors**

Foreign debtors have become the problem we feared ever since we succumbed to pressure to allow payments to be made direct to our Bank Accounts Firstly we are having to carry substantial Bank Charges and, secondly, due to insufficient information, we now have money credited to us but we do not know who has paid it.

Can I suggest that we advise our foreign Associates that we need to revert to our former practice of requiring payments by Sterling cheques without having to carry charges. Some already have an arrangement with somebody's Auntie whereby we receive a U. K cheque and they settle with Auntie It does work' . . . to mutual advantage Assuming this Meeting does not refuse this suggestion, I will apply it with immediate effect. . and risk any consequences. Alternativeiy, shall we put the price up to E1.50 per *magazine* for foreign Associates to avoid their being subsidised by our U K Members?

**Kind Regards and Best Wishes to all Austin Seven fans everywhere  
for A Happy and Healthy 2009**

**Ann & Eric Jones**

[A&CAR408]

## Details of Magazine Postage Costs 2008

	<b>Westpoint Print Cost</b>	<b>Westpoint Transit Costs</b>	<b>Distribution Postage - basic</b>	<b>Total Distr. Cost</b>
<b>2008A</b>	£2200	£150	£193	<b>£343</b>
<b>2008B</b>	£2020	nil	£312	<b>£312</b>
<b>2008C</b>	£1991	nil	£287	<b>£287</b>
<b>2008D</b>	£2069	£339	£172	<b>£512</b>

### Notes:

2008A - Westpoint delivered the large boxes, A7OC Bristol Midlands & 750MC, the smaller ones came to us with the overseas to save cost.

2008D - All UK clubs dispatched by Westpoint, overseas by us as usual.

**Kind regards to all,  
hope the meeting goes well**

**Lorna.**

### **ATTACHMENT 3: Archive Film List 2008 - 16mm Films:**

**Assembly Line** 1931/2 1RL B/W Silent.

**Assembly Line** 1931/2 1RL B/W Silent

**Old Cars** 1RL. Edited sequence of archive footage for TV.

**As Time Goes By** 1RL B/W. 2 prints.

**Tests Such As These** 1RL B/W.

**When the Solder Sets** 1RL B/W. 2 x prints.

**Jubilee A7 Rally** 1972 1RL Colour Silent. Original Kodachrome camera footage.

**Men Who Work** 1RL B/W.

**Cornwall Calling** 2 x 1RL B/W Silent.

**Cornwall Calling** 2RL B/W.

**Non Stop Utility** 1 RL B/W.

**The Mighty Atom** 1RL B/W Silent.

**The Mighty Atom** 1RL B/W. 2 x prints.

**Here's To Power** 2 x 1RL B/W Silent.

**All That Is England** 1RL B/W Silent. Reel 2 only.

**Here's To Comfort** 1RL B/W.

**The Pace That Thrills** 1RL B/W. 4 x prints. Some damaged.

**Precision Makes Perfect** 1RL B/W. 3 x prints.

**Photocopies** of Austin Film Library catalogue.

Rewind arms, splicer and various film accessories.

**Additions received:** from Mr Roe at the Palace Theatre Newark on 16th October 2008:

**Men Who Work** 1RL B/W.

**Today In Morocco** 1RL B/W.

**Within The White Line** 1RL B/W.

**The Mighty Atom** 1RL B/W.

**All That Is England** 2RL B/W.

Elf auto take-up spool.

**Rob Foxon 8 November 2008**

## **ATTACHMENT 4: 'A7 Coast' Proposal**

**Background:** Over the years, Austin 7s have explored nearly every part of the UK either in groups large and small or as solo efforts. We have done JOGGLES and Le JOG and East to West and West to East but no one as far as I know has done the entire UK coastline in a Seven. Now this is a quite daunting challenge unless you have lots of time, masses of information and a load of dosh. But here's an idea of how we might overcome these obstacles.

**The Idea:** Inspired by the excellent BBC Programme 'Coast', the notion is to develop a 'package' that sets out a route for Austin 7s, with useful supporting information, that runs as closely as possible to the coastline that can be used by our Clubs and Members in any way they choose. An extension of the idea is to offer a challenge over the years for Clubs to complete the entire route building up their accomplishments as a form of 'geographical jigsaw' until the whole map is filled in.

**The Proposal:** is to invite our Member Clubs (and ideally our 750MC Centres) that have a coastline to develop their part of the route showing:

- The details of nearest practical route to the coastline
- Suitable B&Bs, hotel, campsites that could be used
- Places and topics of interest along the way
- Support services and petrol stations
- Points of contact

For those Clubs/Centre not blessed with a coastline it is suggested that they could:

- fill in any nearby gaps in the route, or
- support a nearby Club/Centre with their part, or
- assist with coordination, compilation, publicity

Note: where there are interesting roads/tracks leading to/from the coast, these could be included in each section with items of interest as 'optional extras'.

**Implementation:** it is suggested that we might start with just England and Wales (less any offshore islands) as a pilot to iron out any teething problems with a reasonable target date for a 'first draft'; from what I hear a number of our members would be prepared to assist in coordinating the start up of Project and assess the level of interest in it if supported by the A7CA; one couple from our Club (Glyn & Pat Llewellyn) are having a shot this summer at completing part of such a coastal route.

**Question:** Would the A7CA support this initiative? – all thoughts and ideas welcome!

## **ATTACHMENT 5: A7CA Public Liability Insurance**

**From:** "Ed McDarmaid" <edmcdarmaid@astonscott.com>

**To:** <howardanneft@btinternet.com>

**Sent:** 12 November 2008 11:45

**Subject: The Austin Seven Clubs Association**

Morning Mr Annett,

Sorry I missed you yesterday.

Thank you for advising us of the Clubs that are members of the Association and the numbers of members each have. I had written to the Association for this information did they ask you to provide it to us?

Before I can calculate a renewal premium for the Association there is some more information I'll need which I've listed below. There's no immediate rush for this as I know your next meeting isn't until mid-January, but the sooner the better really. If you are unable to assist please let me know and simply provide the necessary information for your Club and I'll endeavour to contact the Association directly:-

- 1) The exact number of members the Association have. |
- 2) Confirmation that none of the clubs or Association have any employees, or use volunteer that aren't club members (If they do have / use either of these things I will need the numbers involved for each club)
- 3) Confirmation that none of the clubs / Association need Products Liability cover, if so I'll need to know their sales turnover.
- 4) Confirmation that none of the clubs / Association need cover for exporting goods to North America, if so I'll need to know their sales turnover to North America.
- 5) A break down of how much club property each club / the Association wants to insure (if any)
- 6) A break down of how much club money cover each club / the Association wants (if any)
- 7) Do any of the clubs / the Association need regalia cover

If you have any queries please let me know. Regards

**Ed McDarmaid**  
**Manager**  
**Schemes Division**  
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