

Austin Seven Clubs Association Meeting

Gaydon, 14 October 2012

Minutes

In Attendance

Andy Lowe (Chairman), John Wyett (Treasurer), Hayden Morgan (Sec), Hazel Gore (Advertising), John Williams (SWA7C), Stuart Phillips (SWA7C), Rex Grogan (Online A7C), Howard Annett (A7OC, Back Issues & Distribution), Steve Hodgson (Worthing), Graham Baldock (Dorset A7C, Hereford A7C), Gill Davies (Cambridge A7&VCC, 750 MC), R .Bremner-Smith (MA7C), David Charles (Special Registrar), Graham Smith (SolentA7C), Chris Garner (PWA7C), Bernard Cowley (DA7C), Ian Mason-Smith (DA7C), Roger Spearman, (EA7C), Brian Eckersley (EA7C), Tim Griffiths(Online A7C)

Apologies

Bob Wyatt, Gordon Phillips, Phil Baildon, Nick Beck, Robin Boyce, David & Ilke Cochrane, Alan & Lorna Martin, Mick Ward, Jim Blacklock, Bernard Griffiths, Andy Storer, also the Cornwall club as I did not contact them in time (Hayden).

Welcome

Andy Lowe welcomed all to the meeting as this was his first as the new Chairman of the Association

Approval of July Minutes

Howard Annett asked for him to be added as A7OC rep as well as his other position
Proposed John Williams, seconded Gill Davies

Chairman's Report

Andy stated one of his first jobs as Chairman was to present the Awards at the Scottish Austin Seven Rally at Guildtown in what was a very wet event.
Andy then went on to say that he had been talking to Chris Garner with regards to the position of Vice Chairman of the Association; after discussion it was proposed by Andy Lowe and seconded by Howard Annett that Chris Garner be the new Vice Chairman. It was put to the vote and all voted in favour for Chris to be new Vice Chairman.

Secretary Report

Hayden stated that he did not have a lot to report; but that the On Line Club wants to be a full Member club of the Association, but will bring this up in AOB.
Also Robin Boyce will be standing down as Editor as from the last Grey mag of 2013. If anyone wants to take this position on please contact Robin for more information on this post.

Treasurer's Report

John gave a full run-down on the cost of the Warwick Event and a full Financial Report. John also said that Hazel had done well in getting the prizes for the raffle. We also had 4 cases of beer left over; clubs might like to buy for their Regalia.

Financial Report October 2012

	£	£
Balance 1 January 2012		44,282.82
<u>Receipts Jan-Sept 2012</u>		
Magazine sales 2012	13,529.00	
Magazine sales for 2011 in arrears	247.00	
Magazine distribution	623.12	
Subscriptions received for 2012	405.00	
Subscriptions received for 2011 in arrears	10.00	
Advertising	1,698.37	
Archive sales	1,383.60	
Binder sales	332.00	
Interest received	214.36	
Back number sales	61.85	
2012 rally income	<u>18,378.59</u>	
Total receipts		36,882.89
<u>Payments Jan-Sept 2012</u>		
Room hire & meetings	275.08	
Printing magazine (2012A/B/C)	6,881.40	
Magazine distribution	891.66	
Purchase of binders	-	
Insurance	1882.32	
Archive purchases	-	
Archive costs	325.94	
Officers expenses	616.59	
FHVBC subscription	25.00	
Speedy entry to Le Mans	4,196.65	
Repro Brochures	4,654.15	
Website costs	175.00	
Rally expenses	29,602.86	
Sundry	<u>475.46</u>	
Total payments		<u>50,002.11</u>
Balance Sept 2012:		<u>31,163.60</u>
Accounts:		
Lloyds		3685.97
Santander		0
Scottish Widows		<u>27,477.63</u>
		<u>31,163.60</u>

Notes:

1. My contact details are:

John Wyatt, Pangle Cottage, Church Path, Wretton, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE33 9QR.

Tel: 01366 500165 or email: jwyett@tiscali.co.uk

These contact details should be used for all contacts regarding A7CA financial affairs.

2. See next sheet for Warwick analysis

3. All UK clubs have now paid subscriptions and magazine costs, overseas clubs will be invoiced after 2012D has been sent.

A7CA 90th birthday of the Austin Seven,
Warwick, 20-22 July 2012.

Financial summary

	2011 Accounts £	2012 Accounts £	Total £
Receipts			
Entry fees (net of refunds)	710.00	4,750.00	5,460.00
Food/Accommodation bookings	940.00	10,643.00	11,583.00
Sponsorship		750.00	750.00
Autojumble		845.00	845.00
Beer sales(incl sales by school)		1,230.00	1,230.00
Misc sales/commissions		160.59	160.59
Total receipts	1,650.00	18,378.59	20,028.59
Payments			
School facilities (below)		15,170.58	15,170.58
Programme cost(net of sales)		1,942.50	1,942.50
Goody bags (below)		5,655.17	5,655.17
Ceilidh & jazz bands		1,050.00	1,050.00
Security		907.20	907.20
Fire extinguishers ~ rental		120.00	120.00
Post and stationery	812.87	330.59	1,143.46
Display of historic cars		1,034.00	1,034.00
Site preparation and signs		233.48	233.48
Cost of beer		2,244.00	2,244.00
Cinema		33.50	33.50
First aid		556.20	556.20
Banner/flag		175.80	175.80
Misc		149.84	149.84
Total payments	812.87	29,602.86	30,415.73
Receipts/payments	837.13	- 11,224.27	- 10,387.14
less stock of beer		720.00	720.00
Net cost of event		- 10,504.27	- 9,667.14

School:	£	Goody bags £	
Licence	250.00	notepads	924.90
Offices/rooms hired	370.00	mugs	1,872.72
Lighting/PA	220.00	tea towels	1,460.60
Food	6,388.44	bottle openers	288.00
Accommodation	4,227.15	plaques	650.40
Site fees	1,186.56	stickers	296.55
	12,642.15	bags	162.00
VAT	2,528.43		
	15,170.58		5,655.17

Dear All:

Attached, you will find a summary of the various elements of income and expenditure for staging the Warwick event in July.

I believe I have now paid all bills relating to the event, unless anyone is sitting on other items.

I think that the aim of the event was a celebration of the A7 not a profit making exercise, we have ended up with a net cost to the Association of £9,667 (subject to selling the remaining stock of beer).

Major contributors to the net cost:

- Charging an entry fee of £10/car at an affordable rather than a realistic rate (which would have been in the region of £28 to break even on the event for around 530 entrants).
- Charging per car rather than per person, I reckon there were around 1000 people on site on Sunday?
- VAT effects on costs (eg school invoice included £2,528). Also, the rate of VAT increased from 17.5% to 20% during the period running up to the event from initial planning and costing.
- The decision not to charge for public admission due to health and safety issues at the entrance, the resulting loss of revenue is impossible to quantify, but I think this was the correct decision. (conceivably if had had been taken earlier we could have saved almost £1000 on a security presence??)
- A decision to give away beer to member clubs taken at the July meeting, there is also an unsold stock of beer to dispose of (with a "best by" date of January 2013).
- The estimated sponsorship income (cash) was limited to £750 from RH Insurance, all other sponsorships were in the form of items which were given away as raffle prizes. There was no charge for the raffle.
- The costs of transporting historic cars to the event.

There was, of course, no charge for the rally display field which was a major plus point. Without the generosity of the School in that respect, the deficit would have been much higher.

The school facilities and the weather "made" the event I think.

Anyway, I will leave it to you all to decide how you want to present this financial report to the A7CA meeting in October - presumably as part of some overall event report? I will, of course, present my usual overall A7CA financial report as well.

If you have any queries please get back to me, if you are happy with the summary I would appreciate if you would let me know. I hope you find it useful, I've tried to present it in the most straight-forward way I can.

Magazine

Robin still wants any items from you to help him fill the Grey Mag. Howard asked for all clubs to let him know what amount of mags each club wants, 10 days before the meeting.

Archives Report

New purchases or donations; Two of the older duplicate Schedules of Charges were exchanged for "new" ones via John Ward at Warwick event. We are hoping to get an early AMCo oiling chart from Eddie Loader.

A "find" of mine on display in room 17 was a 1929 crankshaft drawing, by AMCo, with all the required machining notes and tolerances.

Next (AND FINAL) print run of the Chummy in the Lane (Fosse Way) and the Longbridge Bodies posters.

Chris Garner, of Pre War, has taken over as second key holder for the archive rooms at Lubenham. Dave Martin (ex RN and Fabric Registrar) has offered to help in the archive room.

Next open day at the Triumph Club is on Sunday 9 December 11am till 3pm

Registrar Report

David Charles asked could the Registrar be put on to the A7CA Web site. David to ask Ilke to add to website.

Advertising

Hazel said that adverts had raised £1830.37 for the year. Hazel was thanked for all her work in getting in the money from the advertisers

Breakdown Register

Nothing to report

A O B

Warwick Event

Ian Mason-Smith stated that the event went well on the weekend and thanked all those who had helped to make it a wonderful event. Ian went on to say that Ed Waugh with Tim Griffiths, have been working together to try and sort out the Official photo of the 500 cars and owners that can be sold as prints one large one of 800x207mm and one of 600x155 more details in the Jan grey mag.

We then had a discussion on what to do with the 7 hrs of film that Tim Griffiths had taken of the Warwick Event. Tim then went on to tell us what we can do with the archive of the Association.

What follows is from Tim to help us plan for the future:

A Digital Archive

Part of the organisation of the Warwick Rally involved gathering together and editing archive films that could be shown in the Austin Cinema tent.

The club of which I am a member tends to film and photograph all of the events that it takes part in. With the emergence of digital video and photography, and the fact that every phone now comes with a built in camera, (you probably have to pay more to get one that hasn't!) recording events involves practically no cost. However, in years gone by, the cost implications and technical limitations meant that less was recorded, so images of Austin Seven events 30, 40 and 50 years ago are sadly rare - but they do exist.

Unfortunately the media that have been used, up to and including DVDs are all obsolete and, as time goes by, will become increasingly difficult to view as the machines that play them wear out without replacements being readily available. It is important that we preserve this historical material before it is too late and, to this end, we are proposing to set up a Austin Seven Association Digital Archive.

We compiled a film show that lasted over 7 hours to show at Warwick, edited down from the VHS tapes, 8mm and 16mm cine films and DVDs that we were kindly sent to copy. The result is that there are now the beginnings of a digital archive, a resource that we would like to make available to the Member Clubs via the Association whilst preserving copyright.

The films broadly fall into three categories.

1. Company promotional films for which the copyright has effectively expired.
2. Commercially produced films copyright of which is held by the company, club or individual that compiled it.
3. Films prepared by clubs and individuals who are happy to share.
(Photographs fall into similar categories.)

Hopefully the vast majority of the films sent to us fall into the last category, certainly all of our club films will. But where copyright is exercised and distribution is restricted this can be managed by the appointed archivist.

The archive will be housed on the internet using a service called Dropbox. The Association will have a Dropbox account storing copies of the films and photographs held in the archive. This will achieve two things; an automatic backup of the archive at a remote location and the facility to post secure links to specific films and images quickly and easily by email. Gone are the days when the only way to send a film was to burn a DVD, package it and post it with all the cost and hassle that involved. This will make it easy to see what other Clubs have done and are now doing with the option of burning to DVD only if absolutely necessary.

Whilst making the films that fall into categories two and three more readily available is straightforward, there is the issue of those in category two. Some of these have been sold commercially purely to cover the cost of production and will hopefully be given a 'general release' by the copyright owners. Other films can actually be sold from the archive, with the owner's consent, using PayPal or Google Wallet for payment and download links from the Dropbox on the Association or club websites for low-cost distribution. This is one of the ways that we hope to distribute the Warwick Rally film generating income for the Association some of which would be used to finance the Digital Archive.

So what do you do?

We want you to let your members know what we are doing.

We want your films, videos and photographs, the older the better, to be included in the archive. If you have already converted them into digital form so much the better, it saves us time and money, but we want to get hold of archival material before it is lost forever. We want the owners of the material donated to give us permission to make it available to the clubs. It is not intended to make it more widely available, it is a resource for member clubs of the Association.

We would like volunteers with the expertise and equipment to make the transfers to digital to offer assistance.

Who do I contact?

Tim Griffiths, Online Austin Seven Club
26 Beech Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B23 5QN
T: 0121 244 6178, M: 07850 799791, E: tim@timgriffiths.com

Please give us feed back on what you think of Tim's plans

It was proposed that we take on the Dropbox for a year and then look at it again also Tim was asked to do a DVD of the event with David Charles to look at DVD cases.

Insurance

John informed the room that we were under-insured with the present limits that were on the current policy and it looked like there was a limited cover for officials under the current one. Hayden had been in contact with another Insurance company. John had had a quotation for the extra cover. It was put to the meeting, and was then passed, that we would pass on part of the extra cost of the insurance on to the member clubs.

Following the meeting on 14 October the Treasurer:

1. Advised amended valuations of archive items to our present insurers Zurich (via Aston Scott brokers) following a receipt of a valuation from Tim Thornton (Jeweller)*
2. Received a quote from Routen Chapman (Brokers acting for Willis insurance) regarding Directors and Officers insurance for £1million cover at an annual premium of £350.

Following consultation with A7CA Secretary and Chairman I have emailed the company saying that this quote for D&O cover is acceptable and we await a detailed proposal.

Chris Garner went on to thank the Association for the support it had given this year to the two Austins that had competed in France (Speedy at Le Mans) and Italy (Ulster in the Mille Miglia).

Help for Heros £201 was raised for them with the sale from Warwick of the Austin street name plaques.

On Line Application

The above club wishes to receive full member status within the Association The reasons are:

- 1 The club holds regular monthly meetings in Burntwood at which members view videos of the clubs recent activities, listen to presentations by visiting speakers, discuss technical problems. These meetings are always well supported by between 30 and 60 members.
- 2 At the request of the organising committee of the Warwick 90 Anniversary Celebration at Warwick we supplied and manned the Austin Seven Cinema.
- 3 At this cinema there was a continuous screening throughout the two days of various events and activities of other groups spanning many years.
- 4 The screening was only made possible by making DVDs of films and videos supplied in several formats by other groups. These were all copied onto the common DVD format a task involving many hours work all undertaken by the On line Club.
- 5 In addition the Online Club was asked to make a video of the Warwick event. Various members took several hours of video and these will be edited for general showing in due course.

As a preview there is available on-line a time-lapse video of the early morning on the event field. This may be viewed at www.ao7c.com.

- 6 The group also took the formal still photographs of the Warwick proceedings

We would appreciate it if our application for full status would be placed before the next meeting of the Association.

Rex Grogan, Online Club

Member Clubs are asked to discuss at Committee and e-mail Accept, Reject or Abstain to Hayden Morgan (Secretary) and Andy Lowe (Chairman) so the result can be announced at the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING: JANUARY 13th 2013