



THE AUSTIN SEVEN CLUBS' ASSOCIATION



President: Bob Wyatt
Past Presidents: Donald Doughty, Stanley Edge, Bert Hadley and Freddie Henry

COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD IN THE W.I. HALL

Mill House, Mill Yard, Southam Rd, Dunchurch, Rugby CV22 6NW

SUNDAY 8th April to follow AGM

Present

Bob Wyatt
Chris Garner
Nick Turley
John Williams
Howard Annett

Stewart Robinson
Chris Charles

Andy Lowe
Phil Baidon
Nick Beck
Roger Brown
David Cochrane
Chris Heeley
Arthur Davies
Gill Davis
Ian Mason-Smith
Charlie Plain-Jones
Steve Hodgson
Hugh Barnes
Gerald Mullord
John Ward
John Fromont
Geoff Roe
Robin Taylor
Terry Bonner
Roy Goodrum

President
Chairman; PWA7C
Vice Chairman, PWA7C
SWA7C
Grey Mag Distribution and Back Issues;
A7OC
PWA7C
Webmaster A7CA Cornwall A7C; Norfolk
A7C
MA7C
A7CA Archivist
Bristol A7C and Scottish A7C
A7CA Registrar; A7OC; 750 MC
Pram Hood Register 1922 - 26
Treasurer A7CA; PWA7C
MA7C
750 MC; Cambridge A7 & VCC
Dorset A7C
PWA7C and Jack French Garage Project
Worthing A7C
Secretary, Cambridge A7 & VCC
PWA7C

EA7C
PWA7C
Big Seven Register
EA7C
EA7C

1. Apologies for Absence

David Aylmore
Brem Bremner Smith
Paul Maulden
Malcolm Watts

Devon A7C
Midlands A7C
Norfolk Austin 7 Club
Cornwall A7C

John Cox
Mike Tebbet
David Charles
Janet Edroff
Ruairidh Dunford
Lorna Mountford
David Rock Evans

Online A7C
Mulliner Register
A7 Special Register
750 MC
Advertising A7CA
Swallow Register
VAR

2. Minutes of last Meeting

The minutes of the meeting dated January 14th 2018 were deemed correct. Proposed Phil Baildon, seconded Gill Davis

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. Officer's Reports (where not covered in AGM report)

There were no further Officer reports after the AGM. The Chairman repeated some of his comments from the AGM in that under the terms of the Constitution, 3 officers positions would fall vacant – Editor, Registrar, Secretary. The Editors position is currently vacant and production of the Magazine continues with the Editorial Team that was set up last year. The Registrar's position was to be filled by a willing candidate who has recently developed some health issues that they need to concentrate on. It is hoped they will take over in the next few months. In the interim, Roger Brown has kindly offered to continue in post for the time being. No candidates have come forward for the post of Secretary which is now vacant. The Chairman made the point that this is a vital position to fill and is seen as one of the pillars of the Association. Potential Candidates are asked to get in touch.

5. Charitable Trust status

The Chairman stated that despite a couple of requests, no suitably qualified person had come forward to help the Association in this research. Further research is continuing though the (ex)Secretary commented that he had received feedback from several sources – some suggesting this was the right thing to do, some suggesting that in other areas they knew of, it had been found very difficult and the topic had been dropped. David Cochrane had very kindly been following the topic up with the Lagonda Club and further information from them is awaited. Another contact who is involved in the Traction Engine world is also helping. The Chairman stated that he will be visiting the Association of Rootes Car Clubs soon and will be asking them of their experiences. The matter continues.

6. Public Liability Insurance

The (ex) Secretary reported his discussions with the Brokers that provide our PLI insurance are ongoing and that he hopes that the policy for the coming year will include cover for driving tests. This will involve a Risk Assessment to be carried out and he is working with the Brokers on a 'generic' form that can be used based on a form supplied by the Bristol A7C. He expressed his thanks for their help. The Jack French Garage also requires Insuring and he is working with the Insurers to include the required cover in the current PLI as well. Our current PLI policy is still in force and Clubs are covered.

7. Motor for the Million Update

The Chairman reported on progress with this Project. The bound volumes of Press Cutting from 1923 onwards, originally saved by Bob Wyatt and handed to the VAR have now been handed on to

the A7CA for their use. These have been collected. As far as the book is concerned, the Team is looking at the book, chapter by chapter, enhancing it where need be and excluding text where it is now covered more comprehensively by other books. The group will meet again in early May.

8. Jack French Garage Update

Charlie Plain-Jones updated the group on progress with the Jack French Garage (JFG) Project. The refurbished building has now been moved to the Atwell Wilson Museum and erected. A new roof has been constructed (paid for from a donation), the doors are hung but the windows are still in need of glazing. Funds granted by the Association will cover the cost of the base, work which is in progress. The building has been discovered to have been made from Red Sequoia and is likely to have started life as a sectional military building something like a canteen. A quote for the electrical installation is to hand and again, it is hoped that that cost will be covered by a donation. The whole project is being run on the ethos of Jack French himself which was very much 'make do and mend'. CPJ pointed out that 2019 was the 80th anniversary of the last Austin 7 made, the 80th anniversary of the 750 MC, the 70th Anniversary of the 750 racing formula (making it the longest contested racing formula of all time). It is hoped for a grand re-opening of the JFG in 2019 and also to celebrate with a parade lap of Austins at Silverstone at the 750 MC event.

John Ward commented that a Trials car, 'Simply Still' might be used as part of the celebrations.

9. AOB

- a. Geoff Roe addressed the meeting regarding the Bert Hadley memorabilia that he owned that had been on display at Donington for the past 10 years. Geoff has made a very generous gesture and donated the two pairs of overalls, helmet, goggles, sashes etc to the Association Archive. Geoff is still researching some of the peripheral characters in the Bert Hadley story and is attempting to track down the last 2 members of the team, Bob Simpson and Bill Rogers. The Chairman thanks Geoff and Mrs. Hadley for this most generous donation.
- b. Phil Baidon mentioned that Bob Wyatt had also kindly contributed more of his collection to the Archive.
- c. Ian Mason Smith asked if the Constitution could be amended for Officers to stay in post for a limited term. It was explained that the Constitution allowed for Officers coming into post to serve for a term of three years and a further three years if they wished. At that point they must stand down and not hold a post for at least a year. Current Officers are all deemed to be coming to the end of their term and will stand down to a timetable stated in the Appendix to the Constitution.
- d. Gill Davis made mention of the 750MC Summer Festival at Donington over the 1st weekend in September. There will be a parade lap of Austins behind the Course car and cars and owners are sought for this event.
- e. John Ward ran through a list of names of the original people involved in setting up the Association.

10. Date of next Meeting – Sunday 8th July 2018