



THE AUSTIN SEVEN CLUBS' ASSOCIATION



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

GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETING

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

1pm am Sunday 20th 14th April 2019

Present

Chris Garner	Chairman; PWA7C
Nick Turley	Vice Chairman, PWA7C
Phil Baildon	Historian / Archivist
Paul Lawrence	Secretary, CA7VCC
Chris Heeley	Treasurer / PWA7C
Chris Charles	Webmaster / Norfolk/ Cornwall / Special Register
Mike Costigan	Editor
Roger Brown	Registrar
Howard Annette	Magazine Distribution / A7OC
Hugh Barnes	Archive Project / Cambridge Austin 7&VCC
Fenella Leigh	Cambridge Austin 7 & Vintage Car Club
Roly Alcock	Hereford A7 Club
Nick Beck	Bristol A7 Club / Scottish A7 Club
Arthur Davies	Midlands Austin 7 Club
John Ward	Midlands Austin 7 Club President
Chris Blower	Bongtree Austin 7 Club
Gerald Mullord	PWA7C
Gill Davis	750 MC / Cambridge A7&VCC
Roger Price	On-Line A7 Club
David Cochran	Pram Hood Register
David Aylmore	Devon Austin 7 Club
Stewart Robinson	PWA7C
Steve Hodgson	Worthing Austin Seven Club
Bren Bremner- Smith	Midlands Austin 7 Club

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Treasurer: Chris Heeley
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1. Apologies for Absence

Ruairidh Dunford
Charlie Plain Jones
David Charles
Janet Edroff
David Rock Evans
Roy Goodrum
Richard Bohannan
Robin Taylor
Angie Smith
Andy Lowe

Advertising A7CA
Jack French Garage / 750MC
A7 Special Register
750 MC
VAR
Essex Austin 7 Club
Essex Austin 7Club
Austin Big 7 Register
Solent Austin 7 Club
Midlands Austin 7 Club

2. Introductions

Everybody introduced themselves to the meeting

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

Paul Lawrence explained that in the original Minutes Roly Alcock's name had been misspelt in the 'Present' section and a mistake had been made in the Archivist report where it had been recorded that David Aylemore of Devon had donated the book entitled 'The Mechanism' that had been awarded to Herbert Austin when in fact the book had been donated by John Davey of Teignmouth. These corrections have now been made to the published Minutes.

Proposed by Roger Price and seconded by David Cochrane

4. Matters Arising

No Matters were arising

5. Officer Reports

Most Officers had nothing further to add that hadn't already been covered in the AGM.

Registrar Report – Roger Brown

Activity in the last three months is summarised in tables to be attached to the minutes (Appendix 1). The stream of information from members, clubs and model registers, keeps on but seems to have slowed when compared to last year. If anyone has a car not yet on the

Register, please inform the Registrar, and to correct or add details for existing entries. Also if a car is scrapped.

Now some figures:

Since last meeting, three months, new entries - 33, changes – 84

Totals A7 11049, B7 642, Ba 17, Di 369, Ro 26 – includes 12 scrapped cars

The hand-over of the Registrar function is in hand. Documentation has been prepared and I have met our new Registrar to answer questions and explain things and assist a smooth transition, which should be completed at the AGM.

Treasure's Report – Chris Heeley

Period January to March 2019

The main function since the last report has been in chasing up funds from member clubs. My thanks to those that paid promptly.

The NEW invoicing for 2019 will be at the NEW rate of £1.50 per copy.

I will endeavour to get this done soon. I suspect that there will be clubs that have not read the previous AGM minutes carefully and will be surprised by the rise. By invoicing early, I will allow them time to make any adjustments necessary.

Cash in Current Account (Lloyds) at 31st March 2019 is £17,955.55.

As we look towards 2022, there needs to be a real focus on how the centenary event will be funded. There is not sufficient cash in the accounts to cope with an event of this size currently.

Please can make sure that any cheques are addressed to **The Austin 7 Clubs Association**. Lloyds have lovely new systems in place whereby they reject any payments that are not correctly addressed.

The Accounts for this period can be seen at Appendix 2

6. Centenary Celebrations

Venue

Chris Garner explained that he and Nick Turley had visited Warwick school where the 2012 Rally had been held. Since then there has been a change of Groundsman who is not very keen to have a large number of cars on the school fields, particularly if wet. Chris and Nick both felt that if the weather was not favourable the school may refuse to host the event at short notice, making this venue no longer suitable.

Chris and Nick have been exploring alternative venues which include Newark Showground in Nottingham, Thoresby Hall on North Nottinghamshire and racecourses at Warwick and Stratford.

Any venue would need to be able to cope with wet weather. It would also need to have enough room to display many cars (although the exact number is unknown at this time although estimates range from 500 to 1000 cars) , room for trailers to be parked, catering facilities, camping and other accommodation nearby.

A discussion took place where it was established that a County Showground would be likely to have all the necessary requirements to run a successful rally. Suggestions included Stoneleigh Park, Stafford, Warwick and Malvern.

It was also suggested that it would be helpful if the location wasn't too isolated so people could easily get into a nearby town over the weekend. Walking distance would be ideal.

If people have any suggestions for a suitable location, please can they e-mail them to Nick Turley

Sponsorship

It was suggested that sponsorship would be required for the event to be a success. There were other organisation that were celebrating Centenaries such as the BBC and Walls Ice Cream. Companies such as these may well be interested in providing sponsorship.

Other relevant companies with Austin 7 connections could also be considered such as Jaguar, BMW, Lotus, McLaren and Richard Hoskins.

These were all considered good ideas although the venue and the date are the priority. Once these have been established we will have some firm information with which to approach companies for sponsorship.

7. Jack French Garage Up-date

Charlie Plain Jones had been unable to attend the meeting so had provided the following update on the Jack French Garage Project.

Charlie visited the Garage on Thursday 4th April and secured both the doors with padlocks. One is a combination lock, the other has three keys: One is being held by the Museum in their key safe. There are two further keys and it is probably appropriate for the Association as owner of the Garage to have one of these.

The electrics are all fitted and working well. There are three lighting circuits; central 'period' metal light reflectors and two banks of LED spotlights, one on each wall to illuminate graphics on the opposite wall.

Charlie has also delivered a de-humidifier to the Garage in case it is needed but so far it seems pretty dry despite the recent rain. This unit is on loan from Charlie and is not being donated.

We are still on course for the opening on the 21st July 2019

Comments

Chris Garner said that the remains of an original 'Jack French Chassis' had been located and purchased by the Association. The chassis belonged to the Jack French car named 'Roberta 2' and will go on display in the garage.

Other items that have been donated include a battery charger from Devon and a Drill by Chris Garner.

8. AOB

Gill Davis commented that the creator of Brum (The children's television programme which features a small Austin 7) had died in the last short while. The passing of David Morgan was noted, and positive comments shared about his two books (The History of the 750 Motor Club: The Birthplace of Modern British Motorsport and more recently The Immortal Austin Seven. It was also noted that D Mike Hale from the Isle of Wight had also died recently.

The question was asked whether anyone would be taking over as Co-ordinator of Events now that Bernard Griffiths had died. It was established that nobody would be taking over the role as such, but clubs are encouraged to send the webmaster details of vents they are running so they can be included on the Association Website.

It was mentioned that some people had received varying degrees of service from Richard Hoskin when updating the agreed value of insurance on their Austin Sevens. Some people had been asked to provide photographs of their cars to support their valuation and others had not. Paul Lawrence agreed to contact Emma Airey and report back.

A discussion was had about updating the Source Book. It was established that the Pre-war Austin 7 Club are going to reprint it in its current format. A discussion took place about the practical difficulties of updating the book and the work required. There were many restrictions on publication which would make it a mammoth task, for example if you are just changing the description the new one has to fit into the gap left by the description you have removed.

It was suggested that an Austin Centre would be a good idea to house the Archives for all Austin marques. This would take away any worries about not actually owning the building where the Archive is currently held in Lubenham, although it was pointed out that it wasn't necessary to own the building as a long-term lease would also suffice. The thought was that all Austins could be catered for from Allegros to Maestros and Vintage Austins. This could be a possible project for the Association in the future.

Chris Garner said that he has been in contact with the Royal Mint to explore the possibility of having an Austin 7 coin Minted for the Centenary celebrations. A discussion followed where it was established that there are other ways of getting commemorative coin commissioned if the Royal Mint were not forthcoming.

It was decided that a sub-committee will need to be established to steer the planning for the Centenary celebrations.

9. Date of Next Meeting

Sunday 14th July 2019 at 11am at the WI Hall, Dunchurch

Appendix 1

A7CA Registrar's Report - 2019 January - March

Activity in the last three months is summarised in these tables, and this report will be attached to the Committee Meeting minutes. The stream of information from members, clubs and model seems to have slowed when compared to last year. If anyone has a car not yet on the Register I would be pleased to hear from them, or to correct or add details for existing entries.

Submissions Apr – Mar 2018-19 (2017-18)	
eform	email
231 (202)	84 (138)

For security reasons, the Register does not hold contact or location details. Club and model registers are recorded if the details are offered, and this is the only way owners might be contacted. Some owners do not want their cars included, so I don't personally check every Austin 7 that I come across and enter it regardless.

I try to respond to submissions within a week, but not all result in a change to the Register. It is *your* data which I accept at face value unless there is an obvious problem, for example with the format of chassis or engine numbers. Also, your submission may suggest that a vehicle no longer exists, and it is a register of *surviving* cars. Sometimes I am right, sometimes wrong. Accuracy is my aim and no offence is intended when I seek clarification.

A7CA all marques Register 2018 (2017)			
	all	new	change
Apr	16 (38)	7 (05)	9 (33)
May	14 (22)	7 (13)	7 (09)
Jun	12 (23)	7 (13)	5 (10)
Jul	22 (48)	10 (11)	12 (37)
Aug	23 (28)	11 (17)	22 (11)
Sep	25 (18)	9 (08)	16 (10)
Oct	9 (14)	7 (4)	2 (10)
Nov	17 (18)	9 (10)	8 (8)
Dec	10 (16)	4 (6)	6 (10)
Jan	23 (22)	12 (6)	12 (16)
Feb	33 (46)	9 (18)	24 (28)
Mar	28 (23)	12 (13)	16 (10)
year	232 (316)	104 (124)	139 (192)

Register entries, especially new entries, often omit club or model register details. If the A7CA record of your car has no club or model register information, it would be helpful to add it. I also ask club and model registrars to check their records against the Association Register, appropriately sorted spreadsheets are available to download. Please let me know what needs to be added or changed. I believe the information held by club and model registrars is the best record since they should be in regular contact with their members. Maybe **Club Chairmen** can from time to time check that their end is working as intended? The on-line submission form makes it easy to submit a few records, but if there are a large number of please get in touch to agree a better way. And whilst on the subject of clubs, I've seen a few clubs' websites which contain reference to the number of surviving cars. Most are now wrong (even ours) and ought to be revised – **Webmasters** please note.

The list of associate clubs and clubs recognised by the Association has not changed during my term in office. I am occasionally aware of other clubs to which owners belong. When they appear operate as a club - ie. formal membership, meetings, events, publications etc. I want to add them to the Club Record Number list so they can be referenced like clubs already on the list. Maybe they could also be approached and sold the benefits of joining the Association. More members should be good for everyone.

Appendix 2

Austin 7 Clubs' Association

Financial Report 1 January to 31 March 2019

	£	£
Balance 1 January 2019		17,485.71
<u>Receipts January-March 2019</u>		
Magazine Sales	8,237.00	
Sale of back numbers	0.00	
Subscriptions for 2018/9	120.00	
Magazine Distribution Recharged to Clubs	432.30	
Receipts Identifying Austins Booklet	0.00	
Receipts Warwick DVD	46.67	
Advertising	75.00	
Interest Received	0.00	
Receipts for Jack French Garage Project	0.00	
Sale of Binders	0.00	
Insurance Payouts	0.00	
Archive Sales	0.00	
Digital Archive Receipts	0.00	
Other Misc Income (Australia Donation)	3,015.26	
Production Changes Book	7.50	
Index Booklet Receipts	0.00	
Hiscox Adverts Receipts	0.00	
<u>Total receipts</u>	<u>11,933.73</u>	
<u>Payments January-March 2019</u>		
Magazine Print and Layout Costs	6,980.66	
Magazine Distribution (postage)	511.98	
Identifying Austins Booklet Costs	0.00	
Jack French Garage Project Costs	780.80	
Subscriptions (ie FBHVC)	0.00	
Room Hire for Meetings	96.00	
Binders Costs	0.00	
Insurance	2,365.59	
Archive Costs	92.93	
Archive Purchases	65.53	
Digitisation of Archives Project	0.00	
Website Cost	0.00	
Officers Expenses	234.40	
Production Changes Book	0.00	
Index Booklet Costs	0.00	
A7CA contribution to Jack French Garage project	0.00	
Hiscox Rebated Payments	336.00	
<u>Total payments</u>	<u>11,463.89</u>	
Balance Mar 2019		17,955.55

Analysis of Account balances at the end of March 2019

Lloyds: A7CA Funds	16,530.25
Lloyds: Jack French Garage project fund	425.30
2022 Accrual Fund	<u>1,000.00</u>
	<u>17,955.55</u>

Payments Jan-Mar

Magazine Layout Brainstorm 2019A	540.00
Ink Archive C Charles	92.93
Post and Packing Automedia 2018D	146.21
Magazine Print Automedia 2018D	1,989.00
Dropbox for Mag - Dunford	79.00
JFG - CS Electrical	780.80
Registrar Expenses Miles R Brown	47.50
Secretary Exp Rm Hire Miles P Lawrence	59.90
Room Hire - Reimburse D Cochrane	48.00
Dropbox for Mag - Costigan	79.00
Magazine Print Automedia 2019A +extra	4,293.66
Post and Packing Automedia 2019A	132.12
Insurances - Routen Chaplin	2,365.59
Chairman Expenses Miles - C Garner	63.75
Archive Purchase Reimb T Payne	65.53
Mag Coordinator Expenses H Annett	70.00
Magazine Postage by H Annett	233.65
Registrar Expenses Miles R Brown	27.00
Registrar Expenses Miles F Leigh	14.25