

Minutes of the St Neots MRC Committee Meeting Buckden Village Club, Tuesday 7th June 2022 at 7.30pm

Attendees: Caroline Hoy, Chris Langdon, Thomas Hoy, John Kneeshaw, Harold Thompson, Jackie Kneeshaw

Item	Details	Action
1	Apologies Will Heath sent his apologies.	
2	Minutes of previous committee meeting No comments or amendments, and agreed as a true record.	
3	Matters arising None	
4	Treasurer's Report Capital reserves currently stand at £16,158. However, based on predictable expenditure, increased rental and storage costs will mean a projected shortfall in 2022/23 of £503. Adding an estimate of "unpredictable" expenditure based on the last three years gives a projected annual shortfall of £1,860. If nothing changed, our capital reserve would be exhausted in 9 years. To address this situation, the club needs to increase membership numbers, consider an increase in the subscription rate, and look for other income sources. It was considered that increasing the subscription rate now would risk losing existing members and put off new ones. It was agreed that, at the 2022 AGM, the committee proposes the current subscription rate remains the same for another year, but will have to increase if inflation remains high (currently 10%). Recruitment and retention is key. The next newsletter will ask <u>all</u> members to make new people feel welcome. Caroline will look into taking space at the village Buckfest on 16 July, with a possible layout under a gazebo. As part of the recruitment drive, an "open" modelling day will be considered for early 2023, to which visitors would be invited to view members' layouts and the test track. Will was asked to include future discussion of subscription rates as an agenda item under the Treasurer's report.	CL Jackie K CH CH WH
5	Exhibition Manager's Report Jackie reported that 9 layouts, 2 demonstrators and 6 traders have been confirmed. One more layout and one more trader have been invited. Packed lunches have been costed. Which means that income from traders is £368 and layout costs £229. Posters and flyers need to be shared out to members for distribution, and Jackie will advertise on social media. Planning has also started on the 2023 exhibition, with the Priory Centre reserved for Saturday 14 th October 2023.	Jackie K
6	Long Term Storage Update All exhibition materials have been moved from Club and Gwyn Williams' to the storage unit. There are just a couple of boxes left to sort. Rent invoices are being sent to the Club treasurer and paid into James Hoy's account.	
7	Club Leaflet Update John asked that the text on the draft layout be thoroughly checked.	All

	Jackie observed that the leaflet should include an acknowledgment to Paul Bason for some of the photographs and that Robert Potter should be asked if he was still happy for details of Passage Lane TMD to be included. It was agreed that a QR code be included for accessing the club's website. Sandy Sparks' printer has provided quotes, and it was agreed to order 2,000 copies at a cost of £105. Sandy will format the leaflet.	John K Jackie K SS
8	Test Track Caroline will check whether Robert is still interested in managing the test track. A list of maintenance jobs needs to be drawn up, and a plan of work agreed – this could be scheduled for the modelling day on 25 th June. Members need to be encouraged to help put the test track up every fortnight, as some particularly look forward to it. The importance of this will be emphasised in the next newsletter.	CH WH Jackie K
9	Annual Club Insurance Our annual insurance premium last year was £136, and is quoted this year at £151 (without CMRA discount). It was agreed to renew unchanged. Caroline will check the insurance of the off-site storage facility (Top Hat Storage) to see what is covered, and whether we need our own cover, and report back. Use of our own padlock should also be considered.	CL CH CH
10	Any Other Business None	

The next committee meeting will be held at Buckden Village Club on Tuesday 19th July 2022 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.37pm.