

Dunfermline & District Motor Cycle Club AGM 2009

Minutes of meeting held 3rd December 2009 at the Queensferry Hotel, North Queensferry

Welcome and apologies

Willie Gillespie welcomed 15 members to the meeting. Apologies were received from Linda, Ann, Willie Jnr., Mike. Peter wasn't present either.

Chairman's report

Willie Gillespie outlined the Club's activity for 2009 (a summary of which forms much of the Secretary's Report). Willie felt that we had a successful year's trials apart from low turnouts at the Nationals.

Minutes

The minutes of the 2008 AGM, held 21/1/09, were made available for those attending to read. They have also been on the website since the last AGM for members to view. Willie Gillespie proposed their adoption, seconded by Colin McNiven.

Secretary's Report – compiled Stevie Baird/Russell Whiteford. Read by Russell Whiteford

Club membership for 2009 was 103 which is the highest number for many years, exceeding each of the previous five years by around 9%.

In 2009 we ran 11 trials – 6 Club Championship Rounds, 2 Fun Trials, 1 Tuition Trial, and 2 SACU National Trials. Two of the Club trials were held in conjunction with Lanarkshire Club which avoided a date clash and solved a date availability issue. Both trials were deemed to be highly successful. This year our Club Championship rules were amended slightly such that riders were compelled to ride in groups and could not mark their own cards. This was compulsory for those participating in the Championship while those not seeking points could opt out of these rules. Was this a successful change? Our first National of the year was the John Davies Memorial Trial at Dunduff in July. A lot of work was done by the Committee to create new sections, commemorative T shirts were again provided to riders and officials and, the Aquawash caravan was on site. It was therefore a little disappointing to have an entry of only 38 riders. Our second National was a round of the Support Championship (Youths/Over 40s, pre-65/twinshock) held at Silver Barton, Burntisland and a better entry of 47 took part.

A good number of Club members had a successful year on the National calendar. Joe Dawson excelled yet again, coming joint 1st in SACU C Class and Euan Allan also rode well to come 2nd in B Class. Ian Sheddon and Neil Dawson rode most of the Twinshock Rounds and Ian finished 2nd with Neil 3rd. Had they managed all the Rounds and, had Neil not been recovering from a nasty joinery accident, the podium order might have been different! Lee Tinney won the SACU Clubman Championship, winning 4 of the 6 Rounds. The other 2 Rounds were won by Stephen Baird. Inverness Club hosted the SACU Team Trial this year at the distant Cannich. The location undoubtedly hindered entries and we were represented by only one intrepid team which did very well coming 3rd. The team comprised Bob Malloch, Jim Buchan, Iain and Lee Shankie and observer James Foster.

At the wettest Scottish Six Days Trial for many years, the route was actually substantially altered on the Thursday due to hazardous water levels in the rivers. Those who rode knew how tough it was despite some wags commenting on the easier Thursday route turning the event into the “Scottish 5 ½ Day Trial”! Four of our Club members started the event on the Monday morning. Neil Dawson and Grant Adamson were to finish well up the scores as usual. First timer, Mike McNiven stuck doggedly to the task and received a well-earned Finishers Award. Wull Gillespie rode well for 1 ½ days but unfortunately had to pull out with a recurring shoulder injury.

The website continues to be a massive asset to the administration of the club and I’d like to thank Stevo for his hard work in this respect. (This is a copy and paste sentence from last year’s report and the sentiment still stands.) I’d also like to acknowledge the other administration work and IT effort put in by Stevo.

In 2010 we plan to hold the New Year trial, the Jimmy Adamson Memorial tuition trial, 7 Club trials, a Premier/Sportsman/Clubman Championship Round, and a Support Championship Round. Once again, the Club seeks the assistance of all members in order that these events can be the success we expect. In this regard, I’d like to single out and thank, on behalf of the Club, Jim Tennant and James Foster. Both have offered their help, in some way, at virtually every event this year and their assistance is greatly appreciated.

Treasurer’s report

Colin read out the report and explained the figures. The club continues with a healthy balance. Once again, postage costs were reduced due to more reliance on the website for information access. Trophy costs were down due to fewer Nationals. Bank/Building society interest earnings were down substantially as expected. Allan Adamson queried the large rise in SACU permit costs which Colin surmised was due to phasing of permit payment over 2 seasons for the 2007/08 years. This was accepted since permit costs per se have not increased dramatically. Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by Bob Malloch and seconded by Stephen Baird.

Election of office bearers

Chairman – Willie Gillespie	Proposed – Colin McNiven	2nd – Bob Malloch
Treasurer – Colin McNiven	Proposed – Russell Whiteford	2nd – Willie Gillespie
Membership Secretary – Ann Whiteford	Proposed – Willie Gillespie	2nd – Colin McNiven
Webmaster – Stephen Baird	Proposed – Russell Whiteford	2nd – Colin McNiven
Trials secretary – Linda Gillespie	Proposed – Willie Gillespie	2nd – Colin McNiven
T&MX reporter – Russell Whiteford		

Committee – The above named plus William Gillespie Jnr., Bob Malloch, Grant Dempster, Dave Smollett and Peter Valente (currently awaiting confirmation. RW). Mike McNiven had to stand down due to College commitments in Inverness and he was replaced by Ian Sheddon who was warmly welcomed by the Committee.

Club subscriptions 2010

These have been retained, for another year, at £10 for adults, £5 for schoolboys and free for non-competition licence holders. Club trial entries will remain at £8 and £5 and £2 for “minders”.

2009 Trial dates

Refer to final paragraph, Secretary’s Report.

All dates can be found on our Trials Planner which is being updated by Stevo at the moment and will shortly be on the website. Three Club trial dates will need to be changed as, since our planning meeting in September, the SACU National dates have been published and clashes are apparent. Our first trial of the year, 3rd January, normally held at Torry was proposed to be moved to Crieff Hydro

thanks to an offer from Stephen Leckie. Ground conditions in January suggested that Crieff might be a better venue. Stevie will confirm this arrangement to Stephen Leckie. Torry may be used for our March Club Trial. The April/May/June dates and venues will be discussed at our next meeting. The July/September/November dates and venues are confirmed.

2010 Trials school

The Jimmy Adamson Memorial Trial was planned for 21st February but, since this is the weekend of the Award Presentation/Dance, the revised date is proposed to be Sunday 28th February. If this date is unsuitable then Saturday 27th is the fallback. The trial is open to all schoolboys and clubmen who are members of Dunfermline Club and entry is free of charge. It is proposed to be held at Glenlomond Farm – the same as last year, and riders are requested to enter beforehand as we need to plan the allocation of pupils to teachers. Regs/Entry forms will be on the website in plenty of time.

Allan Adamson will co-ordinate the event as last year which everyone agreed was a great success.

Disclosure Certificates

Colin outlined the background to this subject based on his own GP experience and on attending an SACU meeting. All persons who supervise through training or work with young persons (under 18s) are required to undergo a Disclosure procedure to confirm they are legally suitable for such work. Ian Sheddon and Bob Malloch added their experience to the discussion and it became apparent that the committee is required to quickly adopt this requirement. Colin will contact SACU Office to confirm the next step to take to achieve Disclosure for a number of Club members. Costs may perhaps be borne by SACU or they may need to be borne by the Club and Colin will ascertain the current situation.

Club Champions

Awards will be presented in February (see next item) but the Club Champions are:-

Expert: Neil Dawson

Non Expert A: Grant Reid

Non Expert B: Lee Collins

Novice: Grant Dempster

Over 40: Jim Tennant

Youth A: Thomas Weir

Youth B: Chris Moir

Youth C: Connor Smith

Awards Presentation/Ceilidh

Following an initial suggestion by Jim Tennant, Dunfermline and Lanarkshire Clubs are holding a joint function at Keavil House Hotel, Crossford, Dunfermline on Saturday 20th February 2010. Tickets cost £10/person and include a buffet and Ceilidh with music by Dundee-based “Sporran Again”. Awards for both Clubs Champions will be presented during the evening. Special overnight accommodation rates have been agreed with the Hotel and all Hotel leisure facilities are open to residents. Tickets are strictly limited to 50 persons per Club and are available on a first-come first-served basis from Russell Whiteford, Dunfermline Club or Doreen Stratford, Lanarkshire Club

Gifts for landowners

Allan Adamson will arrange a suitable gift for Mr & Mrs David Yeaman, Glenlomond.

Willie Gillespie will handle Dunduff and also, make contact with Paul Wibberley to deal with Burntisland.

Russell Whiteford will arrange flowers for Mrs Leckie, Crieff Hydro.

AOB

Hi-Visibility waistcoats are needed for observers/Club officials at trials and Bob Malloch has agreed to source 20 of these as soon as possible.

The topic of availability of new trials ground was initiated by Dougie Bald and discussed in open forum at some length. Various known potential venues were suggested but without any firm possibilities coming to the fore. The conclusion reached was as with previous conversations in that word of mouth and personal contact with landowners and farmers was the most likely solution.

Willie Gillespie proposed an Over 50 Class be included in our Club Championship series. This was agreed by the meeting attendees and Stevie will modify the Entry form to include this Class.

Willie Gillespie suggested a 2 or 3 trial Summer evening Series for 2010. In principle this was agreed but a firm commitment would not be made until early next year. Land availability and personnel availability to organize and run the events were concerns.

Willie Gillespie suggested that a “White” or beginners route be adopted for our Club trials thus offering 3 routes for each section. Bob Malloch also had this suggestion as an “aob” and the idea was quickly accepted by everyone present.

Willie Gillespie wondered whether the club should adopt the SACU coloured section-marking system in the near future. The SACU system was introduced for 2009 and will be continued, unchanged, into 2010. In the interests of consistency for riders and observers it was agreed that a move to the SACU system should be adopted, BUT, that this action should be deferred until the next AGM. We have sufficient quantities of the “old” markers at present to continue with the existing system and, until we know that the 2nd year of the SACU system continues unchanged into 2011 the Committee is reluctant to purchase a complete new set of Club markers for 2010.

Willie Gillespie lamented the regular difficulty of securing observers for our National trials and proposed that we adopt a more robust stance on our Entry form and insist that Club members name and provide an observer or be themselves denied a ride. Stevie felt that the current statement on our entry form, whilst less strict, had been relatively successful and that we had managed to secure observers for both Nationals this year. The drop from 4 to 2 Nationals has perhaps eased the difficulty somewhat and with over 100 members it should be possible to recruit 12-15 observers for each of the 2 events/year. We will continue with the current Entry forms and Willie will monitor the forms as they are submitted and take action to seek an observer name where necessary.

Club Membership forms were made available as were Award Presentation/Ceilidh tickets.

Recorded by Russell Whiteford 3/12/09

Compiled by Russell Whiteford 4/12/09