



SILK ROUTE MOTORCARAVAN NETWORK AGM 2015

to be held at

**Blackmore Camping and
Caravanning Club**

Hanley Swan WR8 0EE UK on

Sunday 6 September 2015 at 09.30

AGENDA

1. Appointment of AGM chair and scribe
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 30 August 2014 (attached below)
4. Matters arising from the minutes and not addressed elsewhere
5. Treasurer's report (attached below) **CS**
6. "Where do we go from here?"
 - a. Report and debate on implementation of the plan agreed at the 2014 EGM **LB**
 - b. Determination of next steps consequent upon the report and debate
7. Election of officers or representatives (if any), consequent on the preceding discussion
8. Discussion of any matters and resolutions notified in writing to the AGM organiser before 23 August 2015
9. Any other urgent business

Les Brook

Self-appointed AGM organiser

lesbrook@blueyonder.co.uk

15 July 2015

Draft Minutes of Silk Route Motorhome Network EGM 2014

Malvern 30 August 2014

Attendees

Champa and Chad Soma, Stephen Stewart, Michele Maynard, Ian and Roma Smith, Patricia Tribelhorn, Les Brook, Norman Seddon, Clare Dyson and Darren Oliver.

New members Paul and Jenny Hopkinson, Ginny and Alan Williams were welcomed.

In the absence of any other offers Ginny agreed to take the minutes of the meeting.

Apologies were received from Pat and Neil Hay, Steve K and Annie Thorne, Maureen Middleton, Margaret Brook, John and Olwen SURNAME, Mike and Valerie Ratcliffe, Clive and Ann Barker who had also submitted a document for discussion at the meeting.

Champa advised that 52 emails had been sent and she had received 26 responses. Some members have resigned and others wish to remain members. It is possible that there were others who wished to attend whose names may have been omitted from these minutes for which apologies.

Best wishes were sent to Annie Thorne and Pat Hay.

Welcome

In her capacity as outgoing Treasurer and sole remaining member of the Committee, Champa Soma welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. She explained that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the way forward for the SRMN and thanked Clive and Ann Barker for all their hard work and production of the discussion document - see attached.

Introductions

Everyone attending introduced themselves (and their partners where relevant) giving a brief outline of their background, membership of SRMN, travel experiences and future plans.

Treasurer's report

Champa advised that the SRMN is in credit by £710.21, the only outstanding expense being the hire of the hall for the EGM. There are no other known debts. There had been no significant expenditure in recent months. There was a brief discussion over the expenditure of £500 in November for the website work. It was agreed that Clare Dyson would contact the designer Sebastian SURNAME of WS Workshop to see if there was any money due back to SRMN since the work had been put on hold.

(Action CD)

It was agreed that Paul Hopkinson and Alan Williams would be additional signatories to the account since Champa will shortly be travelling for several months.

(Action CS, PH, AW)

Where do we go from here?

There was considerable discussion over the way forward. All those attending were keen for the network to continue and expressed their support for it.

Les Brook encouraged everyone to consider what the purpose of the network was and what its aims were. Again there was considerable discussion about this and many members stressed the importance to them and the value of personal contact. Strong emphasis was placed on help and friendship and there was a strong feeling that the SRMN should not become a commercial organisation.

It was agreed that the network's main aims were:

- the provision and exchange of information
- mutual support and inspiration between members
- to foster friendship between members by including social events, this is particularly important for those members who are no longer able to travel
- enabling an environment where members may be able to plan joint trips together

Comparisons were made with the French group who have a large membership and organise many social events, trips and so on.

There was also discussion re whether there were any similar organisations in the UK but it was agreed that anything similar to SRMN was run on a commercial basis.

Stephen Stewart advised that the SRMN forum has some 200 members.

Les Brook suggested that a database should be kept. It was agreed that this would be a valuable resource but concern was expressed about the time and cost of administering this and maintaining it.

Fees

There followed discussion about whether or not the SRMN should charge a fee for membership as members receive very little in concrete terms for their fee. It was agreed that the concept of members committing to the aims of the SRMN should be explored, rather than asking for a fee.

There was debate over whether fees should be abolished or suspended. In view of the difficulties connected with abolition and because there could be future expenditure, it was agreed that fees would be suspended.

Website

In his capacity as Webmaster, Stephen will liaise with Clive and Ann re the newsletter (Action SS, CB and AB)

Clare Dyson and/or Champa Soma to contact Ian Cassidy to accept his offer of assisting SS with the web. (Action CS/CD)

Certain information e.g the newsletter may be password protected for members only, this requires further discussion.

Clare Dyson to speak to Sebastian SURNAME to see if any of the work he has done for the website can be used and liaise with Stephen (Action CD and SS)

Stephen advised that there are 3 domain names. He has been happy to pay £120 per year to keep these registered and he was thanked for this.

There was brief discussion re Data Protection and it was thought advisable for members' information not to be circulated. Both Champa and Stephen have a list of members.

Meeting adjourned for lunch

In the afternoon session the way forward was unanimously agreed by all those attending.

It is as follows:

Way forward

1. Membership fees will be suspended for the time being, if it becomes necessary to reintroduce them for future expenditure then this will be reviewed. At present, given the current bank balance, there is no need for subscriptions.
2. The SRMN forum will become a members' forum

New and existing members will be asked to complete an online form giving basic information about themselves and will state how they can commit to the aims of the club. Members will join as a 'crew' per vehicle. The information which members are able to provide could form the the equivalent of a database of knowledge.

Commitment could be by, for example

- provision of technical advice or expertise
- sharing knowledge re countries visited, visa requirements etc (countries can be listed under profile)
- volunteering to run one of the SRMN events
- volunteering to write an article for the newsletter
- posting a blog or article on the website
- provision of support and assistance when called upon by other members
- etc etc

Once the profile has been completed the crew will then be admitted as member of the SRMN by Stephen Stewart.

Les Brook agreed to prepare an outline document for circulation which could be used (**Action LB**)

3. There will no longer be a formal committee but Champa will continue in her capacity as Treasurer and Stephen Stewart as Webmaster.

Both Champa and Stephen indicated that they would be happy to relinquish their roles if anyone else wished to take them on. There were no volunteers at the meeting.

4. Quarterly newsletter as proposed by Clive and Ann Barker. Their offer of editing the newsletter was gratefully accepted by all those attending.
5. Annual meeting for members to present slides of trips and to network. Possibility of other informal meet ups at major overland events.
6. Members' blogs to provide link to website and vice versa (**Action SS and all members with blogs**)

AOB

Norman agreed to organise next year's meeting (**Action NS**)

As normal, this will include social event and presentations by members. Clare will bring projector (**Action CD**)

Les advised that he had been writing a biography of an overland traveller of the 1920s, John Weston and his work can be found at johnwestonpioneer.info

There was a vote of thanks to Champa for her hard work and energy both in organising the meeting and safeguarding the SRMN's future.

The meeting concluded and an impromptu barbecue was held in the evening.

Community Account Statement

Account name THE SILK ROUTE MOTORCARAVAN NETWORK
 Account number 33530795 Sort Code 20-73-53

THE OFFICIALS
 THE SILK ROUTE MOTORCARAVAN
 NETWORK
 27 ST THOMAS DRIVE
 FINNER
 MIDDLESEX
 HA5 4SX

Statement for 27 Aug - 26 Sep 2014

Statement sheet 49 (issued on 29 Sep 2014)

Balance from 26 Aug 2014	710.21
Total payments - incl. commission charges	20.65
Commission charges	0.00
Total receipts - incl. interest	0.00
Gross interest received	0.00
Tax paid	0.00
Net interest received	0.00
Balance as at 26 Sep	689.56

IBAN GB88 BARC 2073 5333 5307 95
 SWIFTBIC BARCGB22

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We are covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). The FSCS can pay compensation to depositors if a bank is unable to meet its financial obligations. Most depositors - including most individuals and small businesses - are covered by the scheme.

In respect of deposits, an eligible depositor is entitled to claim up to £85,000. For joint accounts each account holder is treated as having a claim in respect of their share so, for a joint account held by two eligible depositors, the maximum amount that could be claimed would be £85,000 each (making a total of £170,000). The £85,000 limit relates to the combined amount in all the eligible depositor's accounts with the bank, including their share of any joint account, and not to each separate account.

For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS (including the amounts covered and eligibility to claim) please ask at any branch, refer to the FSCS website www.fscs.org.uk or call the FSCS on 020 7741 4100 or 0800 678 1100. Please note only compensation related queries should be directed to the FSCS.

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Transactions in date order

Date	Description	Payments	Receipts	Balance
	Balance brought forward			710.21
4 Sep	Cheque issued 100008	20.65		689.56
26 Sep	Balance carried forward			689.56
	Total Payments/ Receipts	20.65	0.00	

Continued

BARCLAYS Leicester LEB7 2BB Tel 0345-717-1819

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View Account Entries

Sort Code 20-73-53 **A/C Number** 33530795
Account Name THE SILK ROUTE MOTORCARAVAN NETWORK **Account Type** BUS COMMUNITY
Refer Stream 335

Search Details

Account Entries from 01/01/2012 to 16/04/2015

Statement Date	Detail	Srce	Type	Payment Amount GBP	Receipt Amount GBP	Statement Balance GBP	Select
04/09/2014	BALANCE FORWARD					689.56	