

Minutes of the Yorkshire Group Committee Meeting
Held Friday 17th April 2027
Hawes Auction Mart

Meeting opened: 5:30pm

Members present: Sean Sowley, Elaine Jakeman, Chris Stephens, Malc Core, Jean Sowley, Heather Castle, Bob Muskett, Paul Green

Apologies: Eoin and Sarah Dugdale

Minutes from previous meeting: Minutes were discussed and agreed.

Actions

AGM Questions – The list of these were talked through and answers provided which will be made available on the notice board at the next AGM

Appendix D - There will be another sub-group meeting to finalise these outstanding points.

Committee Badges & Chains of Office Committee badges have now been delivered. Work on the Chains of Office are ongoing.

Complaint to CoM – This has been fully investigated by the Council of Management. The complaint against the Yorkshire Committee was not upheld.

AGM 2027 Locations – After a discussion the Rally Officer will contact Wetherby Racecourse to see if the venue is available on 3rd to 5th September 2027 for the Yorkshire AGM. As it is being held earlier in the year, the room will not be as cold.

MCC National Preparations – Agreed that Sean Sowley and Bob Muskett would attend the Members Meeting.

Online Booking Forms – Bob has been monitoring the use of these and the printouts that are sent to rally hosts. Feedback was that it was difficult to keep on the same line when scanning across the page and maybe colouring alternating lines in light grey would help with this.

Non-attendance and waiting lists - it was noted that there were at least 5 no shows at the recent Easter rally at York Auction Centre, despite deposits being paid – one was booked the day before the rally was due to start. It needs to be highlighted to all that deposits are non-refundable – any refunds are at the discretion of the Committee and it was discussed and agreed in this meeting that only a rally credit note would be issued in these exceptional circumstances and emailed/sent for the deposit amount and this would have a 'use by' date that ensured that it stayed within the financial year for accounting purposes.

Following discussions it was also agreed to limit reserve lists to 5 for the majority of bookable rallies

Bingo Monies Both Bob and Sean raised this as they had the honour of managing the Bingo sales at the Easter Rally and noted that there was no written down process for working out winnings from the sales made and how much should be held back for purchase of more tickets etc. Bob has devised a sliding scale payouts spreadsheet based on 8 and 10 percent for the club. This is to be laminated and kept with the Bingo equipment.

Rally Packs – We have the whereabouts for 5 rally host packs and 3 'A' boards. Agreed to have a host pack in each Committee Members van as it would be unusual not to have at least 1

member attending a meet. When identified will be attending each meet, they will arrive early to hand over to the host and offer any other assistance the host may need.

Checklists – Pickering, Derwent Arms and Bridlington were reviewed

Online Payments and bookable rallies – Some members, especially from other groups have asked why we do not have online payment options. There was a discussion around card readers

It was suggested that linking payments to the online booking could be looked and as members are now used to paying deposits online, so it is only a small step to moving this to paying the full amount either using this bank transfer method or a 3rd party payment system.

There is also the issue of supporting our hosts who potentially could have up to £4000 in cash in their van that they would also need to get to a committee member or the bank safely and an extra worry that may stop some from wanting to host. Bob to look at options for the next meeting.

If all rallies were made bookable – it would also reduce the task of the hosts who would know when everyone had arrived and could relax for a little more of the weekend. We could think about making this optional in the first instance just to see how it works – This weekends rally is a case in point where the host was expecting 20 to 25 vans but 35 attended which was fine for the actual site – but the room would not have been able to accommodate everyone if they all had decided to spend the evening with us in the room.

New Year Rally Budget – Paul gave out the figures for last years rally which made a substantial loss. We all agreed that this could not be allowed to happen again. Based on all costs being the same this year a price per van for the 4 nights of £110 would show a small profit. However, we already know that this is not the case due to inflation and increased cost of room hire and price per night for each van. A lower price of £100 per van was discussed and discounted

Treasurers Report - The Easter Rally made a profit of £350. The quarterly audit process is progressing to schedule

Rally Officer Report – The process of booking venues for the 2027 rallies is underway and a number of new venues have been visited – some with potential and some unsuitable.

AOB

Theme for New Year Meet – Jean has suggested several themes to consider for New Year 2026/7 This was a long list so she will canvas the room of members present tonight before bringing a shortlist back to the committee for final decision.

Larger Motorhomes – There was a point raised regarding the biggest motorhomes in our group which are sometimes difficult to accommodate in a small number of our venues. If we are moving towards all bookable rallies, we can highlight the suitability of the venue for such vans and maybe speak to the member to explain the issues if we know they wish to attend.

Next Meeting. 6pm on Sunday 10th May - Online

Meeting Closed 7:15pm