Responses to Q&A session with Vice Chair.

At the recent Oxmog noggin John Duff ( Oxmog)  asked John Anderson (MSCC Vice Chair) various questions regarding the organisational changes proposed for approval at the MSCC AGM. The questions and answers are listed below. We hope these will assist you to decide if you should vote to approve these changes.

Please do take the time to cast your vote, it is important that we support the club at the AGM

Votes can be made via the on line form at https://us21.list-manage.com/survey?u=9ad420e649bba01069d8999d2&id=a44956f2e4

Regards

The Swanmog Team

 1. The club is proposing business structure with 7 Directors to streamline decision making. However concern was raised as to how the centres would be included in decision making

Also would the centres be allocated a contact person ?

 *I will remain the contact for centres. In addition we are planning to hold zoom meetings open to all members where they can discuss and ask anything.  We are looking for a more direct contact between directors and members.  In addition emails and phone numbers will be published in Miscellany. All board meeting minutes will be available for all members to see on the Club website.*

2. Will the Directors be paid ? How can we cope with increased costs including their expenses?

*Directors will give their time freely and will not be paid.  This change should be cost neutral for the Club*

 3. The club is running an on going deficit which is increasing - this is clearly unsustainable and income generating efforts are having modest impact - do we have a recovery plan?

 *We are very well aware of the financial  issues and the need to bring the current account deficit into balance. With the cost savings already taken and the £5 increase in fees we expect to be close to break even.  With fewer decision makers we expect to be able to take further actions to balance the costs, without cutting the benefits to members.*

4. The Peter James Insurance Scheme has not worked well for Oxmog members with 6 receiving poorer quotes than there existing providers- it appears to disadvantage newer cars . Why can’t other insurers be allowed to advertise in Miscellany generating income ?

 *The arrangement with Peter James Insurance brings more money to the club than the advertising revenue we had from the other insurers.  The arrangement with Peter James brings a significant contribution to the Club, it also has to make sense for them.  They are working on the pricing to bridge the cost gap.  They are also working on the elements that can be included in the insurance.  The arrangement is under regular review to continue it must benefit both parties*

5. Scenic Car Tours is our sole travel provider - can we not allow others to advertise as well? Further concern was expressed that the club were paying costs incurred by Scenic Car Tours

 *The Travel Club operates at break even so the Club does not incur cost for their services.  Other providers advertise in Miscellany.  There may be opportunities to look at other partner arrangements*

6. Miscellany is well regarded but consumes a substantial amount our income - how can this be managed in the future ?

 *The magazine is one of our biggest costs.  We are looking at a number of opportunities – they are not yet developed.*

7. The club advance funded the publication of a Morgan book (£20,000) but there has been no update whether this expenditure has been repaid.

*The Club ended up with a significant number of unsold books, there was a sale at the end of last year to try to reduce the stock.*

8. We understand the club has sold off it spares - were members involved in this decision? Has the sale generated income?

 *The spares were costing the Club more in insurance and storage costs than the sales revenue. At the end of last year there was a sale to reduce the stock and generate revenue.  We wanted to ensure continued availability of the spares and eliminate the burden of paying for insurance and storage.  The spares were transferred to a 3rd party who will be responsible for storage and insurance.  The Club will receive 50% of the sale price when an item is sold.  This maintains availability, reduces Club cost, and provides a revenue stream.  The stock will be counted annually to ensure we can verify what has been sold.*

In Addition, a reply from Jann Robinson – Chair of MSCC

Dear Swanmog members I am writing to add some extra information to the questions asked by Oxmog

Every member is really important to the MSCC and we have tried to keep members informed. All meeting notes are on the website as it is not possible to print all these in Miscellany.  It is important to read all the information provided in Miscellany and on the website.

The Treasurer’s report explains why the deficit looks larger this year. We are sorting out things that have been around for over 20 years with no value. The book investment was 22 k and we have sold enough books to repay that. The income from books is always in the accounts. Miscellany is our largest expenditure but for around 70 % of members that is what they get for their subs as only about 30 % take part in Centre activity. We have 4500 members . We have regular meetings with the publisher to discuss production. MSCC still produces a12 copies plus calendar a year. Most car clubs have reduced the number of copies produced. The Calendar is an expensive print. The advertising revenue for print magazines is becoming difficult to generate so we are looking at digital advertising to help generate income for the magazine production.

Volunteers have always been able to claim expenses and when we do events like Mogfest and NEC all members who volunteer can claim expenses, but these are very closely monitored by the Treasurer and he makes sure the criteria for claims is met.

Members have always been able to contact volunteers as the contacts are in Miscellany. The 7 people who are standing as directors will be responsible for areas in Club Management but will all be answerable to the membership. The Club cannot exist without the many volunteers throughout the country and what we have tried to do is streamline the business side to make it more manageable.

As a member of Swanmog, I have met many of you and I know you have a great team of volunteers helping you get full enjoyment from the Club. We just want to make it easier for people to volunteer and for members to have a good time.

This job as Chair is hard work and takes a lot of time but I do it, and so do the other people volunteering, because we enjoy it and we want the Club to keep being successful.

It easy to pull out a few things that may have had problems, or misrepresent what we have done as was stated in a letter, to the editor and it is comments like this from long standing members that cause problems as others believe without checking with the people doing the work.

Please don’t hesitate to ask questions I always answer emails and telephone calls promptly.

I look forward to seeing some of you at the AGM and at other Swanmog events

Best wishes

Jann