



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Cheltenham Motor Club Reluctantly Cancels the Hills Ford 3 Shires Stages

Ledbury, Worcestershire – September 16, 2022.

It's with regret that Cheltenham Motor Club has decided to cancel the 2022 Hills Ford 3 Shires Stages due to complications in procuring an alternative date. The club had previously agreed to postpone the event as it would otherwise have occurred during the period of national mourning linked to the death of HM Queen Elizabeth II. While the organisers had planned to look for an alternative date for the two-day rally, they could not find anything suitable.

As a qualifying round of the Protyre Motorsport UK Asphalt Rally Championship and other series, this event is very complex and requires a lot of planning. As a rally that features tests over closed public roads, the organisers must consult with various bodies and seek high-level permission before finalising road-closing orders. In addition, the rally relies on the availability of other venues for critical facilities, like a service park and control centre.

This event preparation takes time, involves complex negotiation, and all revolves around the central date. Ultimately, the organisers have been unable to synchronise dates between the various parties and have reluctantly been forced to cancel instead.

Nevertheless, the club is keen to stage this event again in 2023 and will now work diligently to make suitable preparations. Officials will process refunds as soon as possible and would like to ask competitors for their understanding, as this may take a week or more to move through the system.

In the meantime, the organising committee would like to extend their sincere gratitude to all residents, officials, venue owners and participants for their unwavering commitment to the event. They'd also like to recognise the sterling help from members of Craven Motor Club.

Cheltenham Motor Club would like to apologise to all concerned but stress that this cancellation is due to circumstances beyond their immediate control.

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### About Cheltenham Motor Club

The organising Cheltenham Motor Club was founded in 1906, making it one of the oldest active clubs in the country. It has been organising the Hills Ford 3 Shires Stages since 2019 as one of the first events to run under the new, nationwide closed road legislation.

### About Hills Ford

Hills Ford is one of the prominent Ford dealerships in the West Midlands and is renowned as one of England's premier car retailers. The company has branches at Kidderminster and Malvern.

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