

MAG Western Regional Committee Minutes - 18th April 2004

Present:

Paul Sysun; Trace; Bill Pugsley; Brian Weekes; Phyl Weekes; George (The Troll) Leggatt; Derwen Hinds; Andy Meredith; Eddie Garnier; Anne Gale.

Apologies:

Sheila; Donna; Stuart (Spider) Duckworth; Ian Moore.

1. Short AGC Report by Derwen

Ian Moore ratified as National Chairman

Justine Travis elected as National Finance Officer

Trevor Baird launched campaign for a Minister for Motorcycling - already 1 MP on-side.

Local Group Expansion Plan (LGEP) presentation by NFL - LGEP to be used only as a guide.

Rick Hulse expressed concern over the cost of the Solicitors bill for setting up MAG Foundation - £6500.

Board emphasised to concerned members that MAG Foundation is NOT just a tax dodge. That is a perk of having charitable status, however, the prime objective of setting up the Foundation was to enable MAG to fund and undertake work in more areas for the benefit of Riders.

NABD now have full time administrator and lottery grants.

High Court challenge to the Helmet Law by Robert Quane. Quane was awarded expenses in the Magistrates court, who felt unqualified to judge

the case, to pursue in the High Court.

[addendum to Minutes: I believe the case has been subsequently heard and Quane lost].

Ian Moore has stated his intention to hold the Chair for a full year.

Proposed Mass Lobby for end September in London on the Insurance issue/campaign launched at AGC.

MAG's finances have improved from the previous NC meeting.

Awards:

- Steve Tannock (Teamwork) Award: Northern Ireland for membership blitz
- Richard Tegg
- Honorary Life Membership: Mark Illine & Eddie Lowe
- Chairman's Award⁷ Andy Meredith

2005 AGC: 9th April Salisbury.

2. REGIONAL AFFAIRS MEETING (RAMs) - (17 April 2004)

NC was made aware of motorcycle group coalitions around the country being organised by the HA. MAG Groups being invited as individuals.

Job Descriptions for National Communications & National Clubs Liaison Officers being reconstructed by the NC.

2005/6 Raffle to be 'middle of the road' bike.

LGEP to be reviewed by RAMs to be less prescriptive to help Groups and NOT as a list of Rules/Regulations. Working Party set up to review.

3. National Committee Meeting - (17 April 2004)

National Finance Officer - Justine Travis - confirmed as a Board Member.

Board increased from 5 to 7.

Resignations: Steve Peake as West Mids Sec. Steve's replacement is Clare Franklin.

Mike Baker (Cornwall) made up to full NC member to back up Roy Hills as South West (SW) Rep.

Mike Baker resigned as Deputy Rep.

Ian Moore has suggested as our Region is adjacent to SW we may be able to help.

Debbie Jones deemed to have stood down by the NC as Acting Rep for South Wales.

Street Biker distribution. Proof reading by NC and Board via a secure site.

Public Liability Insurance (PLI) discussed: Most events now require £5m as a minimum. Normal cover under the policy is £2m but a top up fee can be paid to take this to £5m cover.

Looking at MAG's own PLI.

2005 AGC - Cattle Market 9th April, Salisbury. Salisbury Bike Show is 10th April.

Officers had been co-opted into the posts of National Network Communications and Clubs Liaisons Officers roles.

SB - distribute to affiliated clubs and only leave $\hat{A}^{3/4}$ per dealer with a notice on saying: Please Leave Behind. It is felt that by leaving bundles of SBs at Dealers - these are taken by potential members who are reluctant to join because they get an SB for free.

FarePool - disbanded.

Regions to be more responsible for monies held at Regional level. The National Finance Officer requires a statement of monies held every 4 months from both Regional & Group Treasurers. This is to be able to ascertain more correctly MAG's finances.

Rick Hulse, NABD Chairman, had queried MAG's profile and the NC agreed that MAG communicates through the Chairman.

Part-time Researcher has been employed and is Elaine Hardy

Trevor Baird presented a Matrix for taking MAG forward.

Register of Directors and Officers Interests was called for the next NC.

Memberships:

Life Memberships: Fee had been increased from £200 to £300 and concern was expressed by the Regional Committee that this had been decided by NC and not taken to AGC as a proposal and for ratification. The new membership forms still have £200!!! Derwen to investigate. The overall feeling was that a 50% increase was not fair.

Life Membership Cards: Life Members in the Region require decent cards. The general consensus of opinion was that if someone elected to take Life Membership this was seen by them to be total commitment to the Organisation and should be recognised as such.

Standing Orders: Extreme concern was expressed by the fact that those members who pay by Standing Order were finding their membership had lapsed with apparently no notification from Central. Eddie Garnier had been a victim of 'the system'. Alternatives were suggested as to

ways the system could be changed to avoid this.

ACTION: Derwen to investigate and feed back to the Committee.

4. DUK DIK

Profit between £1500 and £2k

[addendum to meeting - Aine received a call from Donna. A donation had been received from Munchies which brought the profit up to circa £2k. Another donation was expected from elsewhere.]

Marshalling went well.

A ??? remains over whether the Organisers (Paul/Nick/Donna) will hold another in 2005.

5. MAG LEAFETS/FORMS/RAFFLE TICKETS.

Concern was expressed over the seeming lack of help offered to Trace (Swindon Rep) when he rang up for supplies. The Committee felt that with the need to increase membership help should be more forthcoming.

It is true that Central, with 2 people down since October, and no replacements are severely overworked, however, Derwen to investigate.

ACTION: Derwen

6. MAG Hatters/Pig Wars

Ed had been asked by Chris Beak if Ed felt it was a good idea to combine the two events. General opinion was that each event stood well on its own and each catered for a different 'market'.

7. Forest of Dean MAG

Inaugural meeting on 10th May. Groups encouraged to go along and support.

8. Chippenham/Mid-Wilts Group

Concern was expressed that Bristol had, had a run down to visit this Group. The run leader had telephoned the Rep prior to the date and left a message to which there was no response. The run had gone ahead only to find that the venue advertised in SB did not host the meeting and neither did any of the other pubs in Chippenham.

A discussion ensued on the Group and concern was expressed from most present over the lack of liaison with Region; non input into Regional affairs; no one knew whether the Group actually met; Region funding its £50 Fare Pool for the past years; and, most importantly, what an advertised but non-existent Group might be costing MAG in bad PR for people maybe attending an advertised venue and no one being there.

It was decided that the Group should be disbanded and the advert withdrawn from SB.

It was decided Aine should write to the Rep Paul McCullagh telling him of the Committee's decision.

ACTION: Aine

9. Chipping Sodbury Bike Show

15th May - Masonic Hall. Sheila and Donna organising MAG stand.

[addendum to meeting:: And a good little 'do'it was, as ever. Better weather than last year. Car park packed - those in attendance as S&D's support crew too numerous to mention but included Marilyn, Trace, Henry, a nice guy whose name I've forgotten]

10. Regional Finances

Decided to hold over to June meeting for decision as to whether to send up any monies when there might be a decision as to whether we need to hang onto any money for supporting Duk Dik.

11. Blackwood Bike Show

Organised by CMA through Debbie Jones. Will MAG put on a Stand?

Felt we should as we were the adjacent Region.

Bill suggested he and Di might be interested as this was close to Di's friend which would be convenient for staying over. Bill to ask Di.

Committee decided to take a decision on this at June's meeting.

ACTION: Aine to include on next Agenda.

12. Throttle & Bottle (Symonds Yat)

Had invited MAG to have a stand at their Rally. 25/26 June. Suggested

FoD MAG.

Email to Forest of Dean Rep to see if interested.

13. Thank you from Sheila to Clare (Bristol MAG)

Clare had sent £62 to Sheila for the sale of Products. Clare has now stood down from that role within Bristol MAG and Steve (Road Runner) has taken over.

14. Bristol MAG

Concern was expressed by Derwen at the lack of input/support from Bristol representation. Aine to talk to Stuart McNamara.

ACTION: Aine

[Addendum to meeting: SMcN was not in receipt of emails & didn't know when the meetings were. I sorted out his inclusion on the Regional email list and if Stuart cannot attend he will send someone in his stead to represent Bristol]

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 13TH JUNE 2004. 1.00 FOR 1.30 START.