

Minutes of Western Region Committee Meeting

12th August 2007

Mayors Arms, Bristol.

Attending: Troll aka George Legg – MP/MEP/Regional Newsletter Editor. Trace – NC Liaison. Steve Peake – Incoming webmaster. Andy Meredith – IT and Committee Chairman. Di Pugsley – Membership Sec. Bill Pugsley – W&NS Rep. Robbie – Forest of Dean Rep. Andy Kerr – Clubs Liaison. Eddie Garnier – NotAvon Rep. Spider aka Stuart Duckworth – Outgoing Webmaster. Kath Aldom – Treasurer. Geoff Mills – Observing. Anne Gale – Admin.

Apologies: Den Powell & Bev Hearn – Glos MAG Reps. Taff – Mid-Wilts & Officer without portfolio.

Item No	Discussion Point	Action
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Meeting commenced at 13.15

2 & 3 **Minutes of the last meeting & Matters Arising**

Minutes were perused for matters of correctness and ratified.

5. **Officers Reports**

Troll

Quiet at present. The Campaigns Manager doesn't appear to be telling us anything.

New PC is good and sincere thanks to Taff.

Anne

Anne to remind Taff about reimbursement of monies to him.

Steve P

Steve P has found a Router and he will contact Taff.

Troll unhappy with his email provider and intends changing accounts after the GWR.

Treasurers Report – Kath

£6107.50 in the account.

Spider – Web-site

Hasn't done much due to impending retirement as of today. Handing over to Steve Peake.

Anne proposed a vote of thanks to Stuart who has been invaluable since he came onto the Regional Committee several years ago. He is always rational without shying away the reality of a situation. Wish him luck with his study and hope he will return to Regional Work at some time in the future. Thank

you for being a good friend too – will miss you.

2nd: George Legg

Unanimous

Andy – Clubs Liaison

Spoken to A4 Riders who were considering affiliating to the BMF because of the deal with PLI, but have now decided against.

Action

Of the 9 clubs due for renewal 7 have rejoined.

Have emailed Fergus re CMA (Bristol & Glos)

Post meeting note: Andy – Troll met the new Bristol CMA rep at Freewheelers Bike Show who, when he asked his fellow club members about the renewal forms, was told he didn't have to do anything. So there is a little confusion but Troll put him right I think.

A38rs have affiliated.

Spoke to Wilts Royal Enfield Club & paid them a visit. They seemed keen and will follow up.

Di – Membership

Has 24 letters ready to go to lapsed members.

Is there any way to check if the letters Di sends are doing any good?

Di

Asks for feedback. Suggest Di emails Ian Jones at Central

Andy M

Nothing to report

Andy K reported that an email sent by Bristol to warn mid-Wilts of their impending visit never got through.

It is thought whoever sent it mistakenly sent it to the mailing list and not contact address.

Andy M to sort .

Andy M

6 Web-Master Handover

Steve Peake, as of now, is Regional Webmaster. He intends to carry on for the time being much the same as Spider but in time will make some changes. It is probably due for a cosmetic overhaul. Anyone with any suggestions speak to Steve. Send material for web-site – reports, articles,

photos.

George's monthly newsletter still fronting the website.

Steve P to put out email requesting material .

Steve P

7 **Reps Reports**

Swindon MA; Trace – attendance improving. 4/5 members went to the Heart of England Rally. Swindon AGM on 4 September.

Bristol MAG; Stuart & Ed – on a roll with lots of new people turning up on a Thursday night.

MAG Awareness Stand at the Colliseum on 18 August. Not the Bristol Bike Show Party in evening at usual venue.

Clare has resigned as Social Sec.

Group has a new Web-mistress

NotAvon; Ed – Still eating their way through South Gloucestershire. Members improving. Had a visit from John Thompson (recently moved to the Forest and ex Regional Rep)

Forest of Dean; Robbie – ‘Twitching’! More members coming along.

Weston & North Somerset – Good turnout every week. Bikefest was good and signed up 5 new members. Focusing on GWR in September and Beach Race in October.

Action

Mid-Wilts; Andy K – Good turnout for the Pet Food Run of about 25 bikes. Ran MAG Stand at Calne Bike Show. Also, attended Lysley Arms Bike Show. Putting on MAG stand at Chopper Club event in September.

Planned ride down to Bristol on Thursday before end of August.

Glos; Steve P – 2 members were flooded out.

1st September – Inter Group Skittles match at Englands Glory pub in Gloucester with BBQ. All funds raised will go to the Flood Appeal.

13 October – Bev & Phil's birthday bash – Englands Glory.

25th November – Pet Food Run, Whitminster

16th Feb '08 – What the F*** Happened to Xmas party – Englands Glory

1st meeting in October will be Glos MAG AGM.

8. **NC/Board Report**

West Mids Region are well Pee'd off as the NC voted to make their event the National Rally & Demo but only 1 NC member turned up. No help was forthcoming with organising the event.

Consequently there will possibly be no National demo next year.

Is it time for us to look at Demo's, how they are done etc., to maximise the impact of a DEMO?

Director of Public Affairs report to NC - attached

This post has been re-named – now General Secretary. Our only concern was that Trevor was happy with this change and we were assured he is.

Campaigns Manager's Report to NC - attached

Multi-Purpose Test Centres – Steve Wykes has put together motorcycling guidelines for all Scottish Councils

FEMA MEP Ride will be held soon. The usual riders from Mid Lincs who include the MEP ride-out as part of their holiday are not interested in participating this year after the fiasco of last year when there was no ride out – just some high class buffet! Therefore there will be fewer riders offering rides to MEPs this year.

Filtering Document – when can you and when can you not filter through traffic?

Trace to send out a document to us on this

Trace

E-Bike Insurance – is a shambles. Contacts at E-bike have left. New Directors have declared our ¾ year contract with them void and in future we will be paid in bonds!!!!

A short discussion ensued as for a contract to be void both parties have to agree! Action

MAG UK is looking into links with other Insurance Companies.

E-Bike have set up Biker-Connect with Richard Oliffe (ex BMF).

BOARD REPORT

Hit n Run Scheme to be set up similar to existing MAG Bike Theft.

Finances are very healthy.

Staff - Retained Neil Stevenson as Events Manager

Director of Public Affairs - title changed to General Secretary. Trevors report as attachment.

Marketing – Board have said there is no extra money for David Short adverts

Comment – best publicity is success.

Business Plan – still under review by the Board.

FEMA Attendance – Trevor and Sol.

MAG Foundation appears to be a shambles, possibly owing to the lack of Chairmanship, as it seems impossible for the Trustees to be able to agree when to meet up. There are ¾ possible new Trustees but they are from Yorkshire and it seems ‘everything’ is from Yorkshire.

A short discussion ensued during which Anne re-iterated that the Trustees have a legal obligation and were accountable to the Charities Commission. She also commented that she did not care ‘where’ any new Trustees may come from as long as they did the job properly!

As one of the Trustees, Nich Brown, was one of Anne’s oldest friends she was asked by the WR committee to talk to him and find out what was going on.

Anne to report back to committee members.

Website – Andy M gave us a briefing: Creo could not come up with the goods for doing our web-site as whatever they had to offer would not run on our kit. Severe lack of liaison with Andy M by the Board before making decisions!

Despite MAG UK having parted with a considerable amount of cash to Creo for a package which included the web-site, it appears no money will be refunded. Anne

Clare Quartermaine will be taking over the web-site free of charge to MAG

UK.

Disciplinary Procedure – Chair is writing. Anne said that one already exists.

MAG in a Box – ????

Activists Training Weekend – February = North. March = Rugby.

Due to lack of interest shown in the south of the country for a similar event last year, it was decided that each Rep go back to their Groups and bring a list of members wishing to attend the Rugby event with them to the next meeting.

AOB

- a. Vehicle Ban in Nottinghamshire was discussed
- b. PLI Guidelines – still being put together
- c. List of lapsed members – does this include standing orders? Di to liaise with Ian Jones, Central.
- d. 2008 AGC Location = Bromsgrove on 2nd weekend of April.

Group Reps

Action

Di

4 **Feedback from the Chairman to our request for the Lifecycle of the re-launch**

Despite having received a reply from the Chair we have not received what we requested.

A lengthy discussion ensued.

Editorials from 100% Biker etc., were read and discussed, and it was felt that MAG UK's ignoring national mags that had hitherto been our supporters for publicising the re-launch of MAG was extremely remiss.

It seemed that the Board had been quite willing to part with money up-front to Creo, instead of being invoice in the usual way after the company's provision to us!

There seems to be a mention of £35k wherein we can only find £5-£15k

mentioned as having been ratified by the NC!

The Committee decided to send the following to the Chair of MAG UK:

When was it voted to authorise the ReBrand / Relaunch budget of £36k as stated in the Report to NC ref. re-branding campaign 11th August 2007 NC meeting?

Proposed:- Andy Meredith. Seconded: Anne Gale

Vote:- Unanimous.

Anne

Trace

Andy M

8. Events in the Region

GWR Marshalls needed.

As Troll has the marshalling rota – he is to send an email to Group Reps asking for a reply, one way or the other, as to who will be willing to Marshall the event.

Troll

Group Reps

9. Any Other Business

a) Mid-Wilts require the Stand for Saturday 15th September.

Mid-
Wilts/Taff/Paul

Di

Meeting closed @ 16.30