

Minutes of December 2007 Committee Meeting

Mayors Arms, Bristol

Attending: Bill Pugsley, Di Pugsley, Andy Meredith, Andy Kerr, Trace, George (The Troll) Legg, Denny Powell, Kath Aldom, Geoff Mills (Observing), Anne Gale.

Apologies: Steve Peake, Debs Peake, Bev, Taff, Paul, Eddie and Robbie.

Item	Discussion Point	Action
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2.	Minutes of the October Meeting ratified	
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3.	Matters Arising	
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Den queried why the August Minutes were not on the website. Anne certain she sent them to Steve but pointed out he had been busy with the AGM circulars.

6. Andy M yet to contact Trevor re the procedure for the renewal of pink forms.

12. AGC 2009 – Bill had not done anything on that as he lacked the motivation and there were other venues in the melting pot. Anne pleased as she too lacked the motivation.

Andy M

9. Trailer for Marquee/rally stuff – not under £500 so not viable. Denny informed us that Dave had been troubled with stuff being stolen from the farm and so he was probably purchasing a container to keep all his stuff in and storage may be viable for our stuff in that.

Logo/re-launch – Despite 3rd time of asking the Chair had still not responded to the email sent from the Committee. Trace told us that the official figures for this venture were £14k. A discussion ensued as to how these new figures were reached and which seem a mystery.

It was suggested that we take this to our Regional AGM to see if our members wished to pursue it and get a mandate from them to pursue this further.

4.	100% Biker – latest edition – had a letter from someone called Bushbaby. Bill or Andy K to scan and send as not many of us take this journal.	
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4.	Officers Reports	
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Kath, Treasurer. Balance £6071.15.

So far Kath has only received accounts from Forest of Dean, W&NS, Gloucester. Still outstanding from Not-Avon, Bristol, Swindon, mid-Wilts making it very difficult for her to close the Regional Accounts and get them audited.

Donation of £3k to MAG Central.

Di – Membership. So far this term Di has sent out 75 renewal letters to lapsed members. However, no way of telling whether these have subsequently renewed.

Andy Meredith to talk to Trevor Baird about the Pink Forms (why do re-elected members have to submit new photos year on year) and to discuss the membership database.

Andy M

Andy K – Clubs. Has contacted the Wild Roses who have not renewed – they are happy to but the Chair has had an accident and sustained injuries and they intend to rejoin in January.

Blue Knights – nothing heard from them.

White Tigers – unsure.

Members of Island Bikers Rideout Club – have become affiliated and gave very good feedback on the Bikes in Bus Lanes and Anti Slip Manhole covers work done by Bristol MAG. There is good liaison/rapour between them and us.

Clubs page on regional web-site liaising with Steve Peake.

George – Political/Events/WRAG editor – Quiet on political front. Still intends to resign on 27th January unless liaison/guidance between Campaigns Manager and Regional PO's improves.

Regarding the issue of Police advice to members re the non-display of tax, the local police have declined to reply! The Minister replied referring to secure tax display units.

Attended Somerset Road Safety Forum.

Andy M – IT/Communications – Nothing to report.

6 **Reps Reports**

Denny – Glos. Gloucester had their AGM. 25 members present. Bev/Den re-elected as joint Reps; Bev Treasurer; Les Jevins – webmaster; Den – Products; Nick – Rally organiser; Political Officer – Di.

Pet Food Run was very successful.

Support 3 Charities – Teckles, Diabetes UK and Severn Freewheelers.

Bill – W&NS. Held AGM – lost some officers in the form of Rep, Treasurer, Political Officer. Keith Hillier elected as Treasurer, Group web-master – George and the rest of the committee made up of officers without portfolio. Group made donation to Region.

Trace – Swindon. Interesting meetings!

Andy Kerr – mid-Wilts. Pet food run = 20 bikes with lots of food provided to RSPCA in Bath and a whip round which raised £105. The Xmas party was well attended and financially successful. Group in a position to make a donation to Region soon.

NC Report

There are now either 140 or 141 clubs affiliated including the International Motorcycle Touring Club.

General Secs and Campaign Manager's reports – trace to send out.

Trace

Regional Political officers – the working group set up in October to deal with the problem of the lack of liaison between the Campaigns Manager and regional Political Offices has not worked.

A discussion ensued on this and Anne informed the meeting that she had tried by emailing the Chair, who declined to reply, and to Trevor and David. Both had responded. Trevor is trying to revert NETWORK back to the action document it once was. However, as pointed out to the Chair, Gen Sec & CM, the Political Officers feels guidance from these officers is needed in addition to NETWORK – who anyone can request and receive.

It all remains undone and stalemate at present.

Campaigns Managers Report – included:

Isle of Wight residents have to go to Hampshire for testing.

Campaigns procedure – no National Campaign as all Regions are different.

Western Region appears to be out of step with other Regions in that we don't seem to be instigating campaigns in our own Region.** A discussion ensued including Bikes in Bus Lanes, pioneered in this Region and then taken nationally and the latest venture being Anti-Slip manhole covers – instigated in this Region, voted as National Policy in 2002 but not acted upon by National Officers until being pushed into it during 2007! General opinion - **utter bollox.

The Campaigns Manager seems to work at a much higher level than Membership level and it was generally felt that a position was needed for an elected National Officer to liaise with Regional Pos. Anne had written to the 3 officers concerned: Gen Sec seemed positive, CM – negative and the Chair did not respond!

Campaigns Manager is looking to members to contact him regarding campaigns.

Dot – South East Rep has pursued motorcycles into the sustainable transport plan and a 90pp report has been undertaken to amend this to include motorcycles.

Pink forms – only 3 of the NC have current id. Some regions and groups running unconstitutionally.

Foundation – has 3 new Trustees: Pete Walker, Andy Timms and one other – all Yorkshire members. MAGUK voted to fund the Foundation for next 6 months.

The MAG Plan – a set of indicators being discussed – complete fluff.

FACTS – Parliamentary Advice Committee on Transport – the holistic approach

to motoring beyond 2010 with no mention of PTWs – all about car culture.

Activists Training Weekend – Straford.

Awards – Any suggestions for national awards?

A3 Posters – ready for dealers. Regions/Groups can have CD and get them printed locally!

Affiliate patches – has the pipes logo.

Film Presentation to NC – good feedback. Producers of this are taking it to the short film festival. Copies available.

Public Liability – idiots guide – Trevor Baird promises within next couple of weeks.

MAG in a box – for those wishing to put on stands etc.

Denny is to look at the National Motorcycle Strategy to pull out what we need & give us feedback in how we can take this forward for the benefit of PTWs in the Region for LTPs. Providing a briefing sheet.

Committee proposed a vote of thanks to Trace for his work and fortitude as Region's NC Liaison. Trace told us that he is willing to come back into the post at some time having re-charged his batteries.

Denny

9 **Regional AGM**

Anne to liaise with Taff that all is prepared for the 27th Jan.

Anne

Any local group banners/flags – please take to Regional AGM for display.

10. Bikesafe 2008 – 12/13 April Sparkford, Nr Yeovil.

George willing to do this but needs help. Anne on Saturday. Bill/Di on Sunday.

Volunteers to support George required.

11. **Any Other Business**

i)*Bristol IAM* would like a Speaker at one of their meetings = Trace.

ii)*Save our Scallys* – Kath highlighted that the renown Bikers Pub at WSM may be closed and there is a website if you wish to add your names to those wishing to save it.

iii) Hospice Run – organised by Roger Cox is on 19/20 April with camping.

iv) Money Donated for Donna to the Foundation – Derwen Hinds has told Denny that there is a suggestion that an Award should be set up to be given to Councils who do the most for PTWs within their jurisdiction. A discussion ensued and it was agreed that this must be well thought out so that it includes the smaller authorities. Denny to speak to Trustees. Denny

Meeting closed at 16.25