

Minutes of Western Region Committee Meeting

10th August 2008

Attending: George, The Troll, Legg (numerous hats). Andy Meredith (Committee Chair). Andy Derrett (Bristol Rep). Di Pugsley (memberships). Bill Pugsley (NC Liaison). Anne Gale (Admin). Taff (Products). Trace (Swindon). Steve P (Webmaster). Eddie – apologies for lateness (NotAvon).

Meeting commenced at 1.15

Item	Discussion Point	Action
------	------------------	--------

1.	Apologies: Andy Kerr, Clubs. Kath Aldom, Treasurer. Denny, Glos Rep. Robbie, Forest of Dean Rep.	
----	---	--

2/3	Minutes of June Meeting	
-----	--------------------------------	--

Deemed Correct.

No matters arising.

4.	Officers Reports	
----	-------------------------	--

Troll Political – Attended Somerset Motorcycle Forum – concern over number of motorcycle deaths in the County. Bikes in bus lanes possibly experimental in the near future. Grippy man-hole covers.

North Somerset also interested in the anti-skid manhole covers after Council Official attended the recent successful Seminar held in Bristol at which Andy Derrett & David Short were asked to speak.

Somerset also interested in looking at the number of motorcycle bays available in car parks and whether more are needed.

Di Membership – Nothing to report

On behalf of the Treasurer – current balance is £3,500+

Steve P – Webmaster

Sample page for Clubs/website – emailing link to Andy Kerr

Out of date stuff has now gone

Trolls WRAG up on site one day before publication!

Updated Clubs page.

Action for Andy Kerr to contact affiliated clubs to see if they want links on our website.

Andy K

Easier for Steve to type material onto website.

Has ideas for improving site.

Regional Minutes are all up together.

5. **Group Reports**

Troll – Weston & North Somerset

Has been attending Biker Nights held on Thursdays at Weston. Alternating exhibiting for MAG & marshalling.

Group ticking over 10-20 attending. With a couple of new members.

Trace – Swindon MAG report:

Attendance at meetings still minimal, although we did have an almost full house (that means about 10 actually) for the visit of Paul Minton. Paul is ex-Wycombe MAG rep who now lives in Normandy and runs a 'guest house' that caters for weekend visits for groups of bikers, with entertainment layed on. Very interesting, and a pleasant evening was had by all until we rode off into the rain (typically none of us had brought waterproofs). I know we had attendees at Calne bike day, I just don't know how many, but being Swindon MAG members that most of them didn't even manage to meet up with each other, let alone anybody else. Hopefully we'll have a riding season soon to get people to meetings, but all I can see in the forecast is more rain, never mind.

Andy – Bristol

Bristol Bike Show is ready to go with a Marshalls Meeting at St Nicks Market the Thursday before.

Negotiating for trial studies for PTWs using the advanced stop lines at traffic lights currently used by cyclists is in its early stages.

Manhole covers still ongoing.

Trying to get members to do things is hard work but the committee is very positive.

Halloween Party 1 November

Thursday 21st – run out to Blackhorse at Clapton in Gordano. W&NS invited to meet up with us. Run leaves Mayors Arms at 7.30.

Taff – Mid Wilts

Turnout is between 5-8.

Successful run out to the Wildlife Hospital with about 30 bikes the day after Calne.

Steve P – Glos

Good attendance 15-20.

Has written letter to Tewkesbury Council re the pay & display parking where motorcycle parking is not mentioned. The reply confirmed there is no charge for PTWs in their off-street parking.

Suggest that if PTW parking is not mentioned on notices that charges or not are confirmed with the authorities.

6. **NC/Board Report**

Finance (end of financial year)

Bank Balance £102031.28 Loss of £34562.65

[It was commented by Western Region at their committee meeting that we wouldn't have had so much of a loss if the re-launch had not been financed!]

The bad weather at Farmyard and Stormin reduced the donations.

Fewer numbers of clubs are taking up insurance; however club numbers are up so the insurance is no longer a motivation.

Campaign Manager update

After TV interview some time ago, David has been requested to attend a meeting next week to discuss contingency and interim measures for multi-purpose test centres.

CTC attack is factually wrong, representatives from MCIA, MAG and others to compile a document to de-construct 'facts' in report.

Board Report

Membership Admin.

As clubs are now on a rolling program a renewal reminder is now required

Contracts

Issues of SSP needed correcting

Corporate memberships

Pack was not updated last year, they got a free year.

Complaint procedure

Draft to be discussed further at NC

AOB

It was agreed to take out Tax Investigation policy. £176 insurance policy to cover any financial audits)

General Secretary.

Focus on the operational systems for MAG central.

Nich gave a presentation on his view of the structure and operations of MAG and how the systems at central should support this and be automated as much as possible to allow the staff at central to support the membership & campaigns rather than typing in the information from membership forms etc.

I.T. systems are very close to meltdown, Jane spent a week at central not long ago and was shocked at what she saw.

Literature stock levels

We're going places membership forms	no stock
8 Pager memb. form)	3000 (does contain
Breakdown cover	2500
HC travel	4000
Yellow road hazard card report a road online?)	1000 (move to
Is this the future	100/50

It was agreed to order further stocks to cover the rest of the season, review and redesign for next year.

Foundation

Nich apologised for not having a report, the focus has had to be on keeping central running

Position Statements

Nich has produced a list of the statements MAG has, David is now going to prioritise these for the NC to review and update if required

Network

There have been very few replies from survey in the back of the last network. General discussion and ideas were discussed.

MAG in a box

NE Region is to go ahead with their idea.

Wish List

There is a wish list of ideas from RR's; however the focus at the present time has

to be the functioning of central.

AGC 2009

Possibly in the North East first weekend of April

Training 2009

If required there needs to be locations found and conformation of numbers attending

Complaints Procedure

Draft was reviewed. It was noted that there were only two options, Complaint withdrawn or full procedure, suggested there should be a negotiation stage. David to add to draft and e-mail out.Meeting closed 3.15

7. **GWR Update**

PLI, Tens, toilets & Bands all taken care of

Collecting marquees & Gennies Wednesday prior to Rally.

W&NS now have their own bar

New lights for marquees

Andy Derrett to look at some he has got.

Andy D

Bookings steadily coming in.

8. **Regional Events**

- a. BBS – marshalls meeting Thursday 14th August
- b. NCC Show at Lysley Arms – Mid Wilts exhibiting MAG stand
- c. Halloween Party 1st November.
- d.

9. **Beach Race 11/12 October**

George has contacted Gareth Hockey re MAG running the secure bike park as usual – yet to have reply.

Bill & Di can put up around 10 people who come to help and want beds for the night.

Troll to email info re bike park out.

Troll

10. **Update on Regional Marquees**

Small group sorted through. Damage is not so bad following the atrocious weather

at the Slippit Inn Rally. All rooves have small holes in them where the ropes holding them down burned through but nothing which Duck Tape won't put right.

Steve has been to Attwolls Commercial section and found white gaffer tape to do the job.

There are two complete and serviceable marquees. The 3rd one has lost eyelets. Steve purchased brass eyelets but a half inch hole punch is required.

Action – Bill to get before GWR.

Rubbers have been repaired

Bill

Steve has bought safety straps to put over the frames but under the marquee fabric to secure them down.

Nick has welded all the corner feet which were damaged.

12 pieces are not salvageable and which will cost around £150.

Troll & Steve have put together and laminated parts lists and erection instructions to go with each marquee.

In storage at the farm the polles are all together one set for each marquee.

Suggest bags so these can be kept together.

Tressle for the bar is to be collected plus the feet for the marquees.

Thanks to Steve for the work he has put in on this.

11. **Group Mailing Lists**

Should these be strictly MAG members only or MAG members plus useful/interested A.N.Others.

Groups lists keep those in contact who aren't at meetings regularly or in touch with & involved with MAG/Local activities.

Permission of addressee sought & there is a mechanism to unsubscribe. These lists are for 'mild' discussion topics.

Proposal Local Group & Regional Mailing lists should be open to non-members in the interests of kindling good relations for MAG

Andy M. Unanimous

12. **Any Other Business**

1. Table to go with MAG stand – all to look around for suitable foldable table. All
2. BMW Talk on MAG scheduled for next March. 45 minute talk wanted. Steve P will speak to Nich Brown re support. Troll going along with membership forms etc.

3. Andy D 'what are other Groups fighting for?' - Not much.
4. Trace to attend the next NC meeting as Bill will be working at the Beach Race
5. Ed sending personal email address due to redundancy from work.
6. Next Meeting 26th October.
7. Meeting closed 16.10