

Minutes of WR Committee Meeting

Sunday 23rd August 2009 @ The Ropewalk, Bristol

Attending: Eddie, NotAvon. Steve Peake, Webmaster. Denny, Glos MAG Rep., Trace, Vice & Swindon contact. Andy M, Committee Chairman. George (the Troll) Legg, Political/WRAG editor. Andy K, Clubs. Deb Rose, W&NS MAG Rep. Kath, Regional Treasurer. Anne, Admin.

Observing: Geoff Mills. Suzanne Vailes.

AWOL: Robbie, FOD Rep. Taff, Products & mid-Wilts.

		Action
1	Apologies:- Bill & Di Pugsley. Steve B.	
2	Minutes of June Meeting:- Anne apologise for omitting Trace from the Attendees to the meeting. The Minutes were deemed as correct and will be published on the Regional website.	Steve P
	One Matter Arising :- Item 11 (AOB) c) ABS & FEMA Report in Network – As Bill was not at the meeting, we did not know what the feedback on this item was. Anne to email him.	Anne
	Item 11 e) ID Cards for Regional Officers – this to be discussed under item 10 on the current agenda	
3.	Regional Annual Group Meeting Minutes – correctness These were deemed to be correct and will be published on the Regional website.	Steve P
4.	Officers Reports The Troll – has been mostly concentrating on the Bike Park on W-s-M sea front. A report will appear in the September Network. Troll & Deb Rose had attended a meeting with Council officers to discuss the planned re-vamp of the Sea Front area. They expressed their concerns over the current plans and made various suggestions to which the officers listened. A further meeting is planned to discuss amendments to the plan (a copy of which were distributed at this meeting) and these have to be finalised by October. Work begins in February. Concerns were expressed at our meeting over the plans and how this would affect the Beach Enduro held in October as this brings in massive	

revenue to the area. It was suggested to Troll & Debs that, at their next meeting, they express these concerns to the Council along with mentioning the revenue generated from this huge event.

Andy K – has contacted Fergus re the late and/or non-receipt of renewals by affiliated Clubs, however, Fergus has not yet come back with a response. Andy to try again.

Debs & Troll

Andy to contact some more clubs with a view to informing them of our facility for their events on our web-site.

Denny suggested she is happy to contact any of her local clubs to save Andy too much work and suggested a list of local clubs be circulated to each Group.

Whiteliners MCC have not renewed. This is a mix up with a change of officers in their club. They intend to renew but haven't yet got round to it. Andy K has spoken to Claire (Bristol MAG) who knows them quite well & she will liaise with them.

Andy K

Andy visited the Somerset Motorcycle Group, which is a very small group, and gave them a talk on MAG and its work.

Steve P – is getting the updates done more promptly and is tidying up the website.

Kath – Balance is £1466.66.

Trace – Nothing to report

Andy M – Everything, Nationally, is rolling along OK. Denny has received two emails both with a 'GL' sender's address which is a bit of a mystery. Forward them to Andy M and he will sort it.

Denny/AndyM

Andy K on behalf of Mid-Wilts – Calne Bike Show was a success with 10 memberships having been taken.

The day after the Bike show, Mid-Wilts had their annual pet food run to the Wildlife Sanctuary. Unfortunately only 15 riders attended who, nevertheless, raised a fair amount of money for the centre.

A Rideout has been arranged for the 13th September to Sammy Miller's Museum.

There was a comment that the mid. Wilts web-site is about 2 years out of date and they have no one, at present, able to update it. Steve P is willing to help out with the technical side. They will liaise.

NotAvon – Dominic had an accident on the day of the Bristol Bike Show where he had to be taken by helicopter to Frenchay. He is on Ward 201 and will be there until mid-September. He will be pleased to see any visitors.

Steve P/Mid
Wilts

Bristol – have been having Ride-outs. Will not be doing a Halloween Party this year but will be doing a Spring Party in 2010. The After Bike Show Party generated approximately £450 on the gate and raffle plus the BBQ which raised £135. Anne thanked those who helped marshal the event (particularly those who had come to the event straight from a night shift) and emphasised that even if someone can only marshal for an hour or two during the day, it means someone who is on duty all day can take a break.

Despite the fact that emails had been sent requesting help on the day, there were less offers this year, and, at times, Sian was tearing her hair out through lack of marshals – Anne asked if Groups could put more marshals in the field next year to help this run a lot smoother. Both Ed & Anne mentioned Bristol MAG's own "very Ballsy Lady" – Dawn - & how she went round shaking a bucket all day on behalf of MAG on her crutches & prosthetic limb. Very grateful Dawn.

Weston-super-Mare – Bike Park scenario already reported on. GWR is OK. Deb has a virus on her PC and Andy M will set up an email address through the web-site so she can respond to emails.

Gloucester – Gloucester Council had organised Hempstead Motorcycle Event which was a good site, good bands, good location, good potential but badly administered. Denny knew nothing of this until practically the day. However, she suggested MAG gets involved and encourages BikeSafe to make an even bigger event. Roads in the area are good for taking riders out for observation rides.

Denny has been liaising with Deb and they have decided that when it comes to buying Spirits for the rallies, they will probably buy the amounts required for each rally together to take advantage of the special discounts offered. Also, Glos have given 2 tickets as Raffle Prizes for the GWR. W&NS

will reciprocate.

Slippit Rally Site – Dave has been burgled again with around £5k of stuff being taken. He will now be installing security at the farm including CCTV and security gates.

Swindon – Trace has still not been able to contact the Swindon Treasurer to close the Group Account and pass any monies up to Region but he will try again.

Trace

6 **NC/Board Report. Notes taken by Steve P & Denny.**

MAG NC Meeting.

McCans accident lawyers - offering cash reward (£300?) to MAG per enquiry from members.

Killspills - running competition re: cleaning up diesel. Asking for 5000 per entry, which is a bit weak

Affiliate card delays due to printing lead times as the cards have the membership number of the organisation on them. In-house card printing has been looked at recently, but is too expensive. Pursuing other ideas to make this faster.

PLI for affiliates - maybe new options available soon. Still a confused mess.

New National Finance Officer needed for AGC next April as Justine is standing down after 5 years.

Honda & HD will not be at NEC this year.

Audit insurance offered by accountants - £150 vs thousands for a compelled audit. We have taken this, as audits are becoming common on smaller organisations.

13/20 regions don't have reps.

Eastern Region issues. Failed to split the region at last AGC, but still trying

to reshuffle groups. Problems increased by Rep-less regions adjacent.

Forecourt watch – national issue currently concentrated in East Anglia region. Several chains are demanding lids off before authorising the pumps. Collecting information about fuel station policies. Has been suggested that Troll to collates nationally?

Pink forms are known to be in disarray – trying to sort out the Central Office issues.

Paddy - ex Eastern rep helping Nich on a case-by-case basis. Single payments of £500 per issue, with strict performance targets.

Bikers are voters campaign about to launch – now called Riders are Voters.

Transport select committee inquiry into DSA re: new test problems. Anecdotal evidence required from people who have taken this test, or from training schools whose business has been damaged by the new test.

4th DLD – trying to harmonise training across the whole EU!

DVLA losing entitlements - idea to return old invalidated documents similar to how passports are handled

Need examples of overzealous local police behaviour (events and road blocks). Weston? Suggested Troll to co-ordinate?

13th Sept MCN Wales ride horseshoe pass cafe ride in for noon.

Westminster bike park charges. Trying to raise money for legal challenge.

Bikes in bus lanes – unofficially told it is very unlikely to be rolled back. Cycle lobby not strong yet. (But we don't want to draw attention to that!)

Network - praise for Aine.

Foundation. Donna's memorial should finally happen with our input.

Derby MAG starting soon.

Aspire - spinal injury rehabilitation charity – has approached MAG for help with publicity. 7% of spinal injuries are PTW related. Agreed that an article could go in the Road, but we wouldn't be promoting their fund-raising activities as it detracts from MAG's income.

Denny/Steve P - had mentioned at NC the Regional Committee's concerns regarding the increase in fees in this particular economic climate and this had been discussed. The outcome was that renewals for existing members, after November 2009, which is the inception date of the increase, will be offered their next years membership at the existing £20 whilst informing

them of the increase as at their next renewal date.

Those members paying by standing order will then have a chance to adjust their standing order with their bank for the following year.

Justine, the National Treasurer, saw no problem with this from a financial point of view. MAG UK is on target to break even this year.

7 **Any Events to be added to Regional Events List?**

Troll has resigned his post as Regional Events Co-ordinator because, basically, the same as when Bill was doing it, no-one (except Pauline for Bristol) sends him stuff.

A discussion ensued as to how we could ensure events got onto the website to inform other Groups and to encourage support.

All

It was therefore suggested that if Groups have an Event they contact the Regional web-master direct for him to add the details.

8 **GWR Update** – as in Deb's report

9 **Beach Race** – is definitely 10th/11th October. As many volunteers as possible are requested to help marshal the event. Especially due to the fact that, because of the confusion over the dates, some of W&NS members are taking a well-earned holiday.

Anne asked, particularly as MAG is concentrating on fund raising, if there was any news on the money raised from the helmet park. Bill was not there to update us so will email him.

Anne

10 **ID Cards** – because of no response from MAG Central to our 'pink form' applications a proposal was adopted at our June meeting for Steve P to make up our ID cards. ID cards had since been received but as these were more than 6 months into the officers term Anne made a suggestion that we dispense with submitting pink forms and get Steve P to do our cards asap after election at AGM.

Steve P is also going to volunteer to do all the pink form/ID for MAG UK to take the pressure off Central Office. That is now 3 officers from WR who have offered to take on National work to help alleviate the workload in Rugby.

11 **Proposal to AGC** – just a reminder that, if anyone has anything they feel needs to be taken to AGC, the closing date is 31 December.

12 **October Regional Committee Meeting date** – due to the Beach Race being on the usual weekend we hold these meetings (i.e. Sunday after NC meetings which are held on the 2nd Saturday of alternate months), it was decided to hold the committee meeting on the 25th October. Although this is the day of the Soup Run, this takes place during the morning and the

committee meeting will start about an hour later than normal.

13

Any Other Business

- a. **Riders are Voters** is gearing up, suggest Anne contact Selena, East Anglia for some info for Network.
- b. **Money donated in Donna's name to MAG Foundation (£5K)** – Denny had brought this up at the NC meeting. It is now 3 years since this was donated and nothing has been done in Donna's name through the Foundation. Sheila McFarlane is taking over overseeing the Foundation and the suggestion has been made that the bike parking booklet be updated and an acknowledgment in memory of Donna printed on the front cover.
- c. **Possible resurgence of Taunton Group** - Troll has been approached by someone who was once the Taunton Rep and who is interested in starting up the Group again. Discussion took place and we are happy to help in any way we can to encourage and to get this off the ground.

Meeting Closed at 4.45