

DRAFT
Minutes of MAG Western Region Committee Meeting
15th August 2010
The Lamb, Iron Action, South Glos

Apologies:- Kath Aldom, Finance. Deb Rose, W&NS Rep. Taff Jones, vice Mid-Wilts. Di Pugsley, Membership Sec.

AWOL:- Mo Green, Bristol Rep. Hugh Probert, NotAvon Rep.

Attendees:- Denny Powell, Glos Rep. Andy M, Committee Chair. Steve P, Website. Steve Bradford, Events & Products. Andy K, Clubs. Trace, NC Liaison. Robbie, Forest of Dean. George, the Troll, Political & the WRAG. Anne, Admin. Bill, Observer. Eddie, OWP.

		ACTION
2	<p>Minutes of June Meeting - Correctness 3 –Steve B. Products account has £44.</p> <p>Matters Arising Item 4 – Bristol Group – 2 Action points for Mo from this meeting on the 20mph zones. i) contact Councillors re 20mph zones and ii) email Nich for MAG’s official stance on 20mph zones. Has this been done? Can Mo please feed back?</p>	Mo
3	<p>Officers Reports George, Political – Nothing to report.</p> <p>Trace, NC Liaison – since taking office Trace is halfway through visiting all the Groups in the Region and attended his first NC (this time round) the day prior to this meeting.</p> <p>Andy K, Clubs – Bill P had visited Somerset Motorcycle Club who said they would affiliate, however, nothing heard so far. Andy rang Fergus, resigned National Clubs Officer (NCO) through ill health, to see if he knew if any progress had been made in recruiting anyone to the post of NCO, however, he does not know anything except that it had been advertised in Network. Anne G explained that she had done that off her own back to promote what she saw as an essential role. Denny Powell advised that Louisa Smith and Paddy Tyson (staff at Central Office) were taking care of National clubs and were in the process of sending Regional Clubs Officers details of any National Clubs which might be in their Region, disseminated down to the Local Groups. Groups may like to visit these clubs. There will also be a job description in the next edition of The Road for the NCOs role.</p> <p>A short discussion ensued and concern was expressed that this had not been done following the AGC; that Fergus had worked really hard with the Clubs so this role should be filled as soon as possible.</p> <p>Eddie, OWP – is waiting for inspiration on a new regional design. Meanwhile.....</p> <p>Steve B, Products..... had been to a supplier who required a minimum order of 25 or a set-up fee. It was agreed that money would be lent from the Regional Account to make this first purchase. Steve has some confirmed orders. It was felt by some that the amount quoted for this minimum order was a little more than expected (what is it Steve?). Steve then gave a breakdown of individual prices for T’s, Sweats & hoodies.</p> <p>Bill on behalf of Di, Regional Memberships - nothing to report except that Ceri is now employed at Central Office to take care of Memberships etc.</p>	

	<p>In the light of the proposed expenditure from the Regional Account for Products, George's internet service provider & the expenses of the Regional AGM, a proposal was made by Anne G as follows:- 'That £750 be knocked off the amount we agreed (£2500) to send to Central at the June meeting to enable the Region to function adequately over the next 12 months'. Proposed: Anne Gale. Seconded: Eddie Garnier. Unanimous.</p> <p>Steve P, Web-master – asked when George wanted to end the on-line ticket sales for the GWR. Two weeks prior was agreed.</p> <p>Andy M, Communications – nothing to report. However, Mid-Wilts and FoD websites need re-setting as these are on the old system. Can the respective Group Webmasters contact Andy M. If no one is willing to work these sites, Steve P will do but has to be given the information.</p> <p>Action point for Taff – can you please sort out who is the webmaster for Mid-Wilts and confirm to Andy M/Steve P</p> <p>Action point for Robbie -ditto Forest of Dean.....</p>	<p>Taff</p> <p>Robbie</p>
4	<p>GROUP REPS</p> <p>Glos MAG – Den. The summer ride-outs on a Wednesday have knocked attendance for the usual Thursday meeting. Two Sunday rides planned for September = Cheddar Gorge on 5th and Pet Food Run to present cheque from the Rally on 26th.</p> <p>a) Glos MAG are organising the MAG stand at Ogri. Rory to deliver on Thursday. Rota as follows:- Friday – Trace 2-5 + others as they arrive. Saturday – 10-12 = Deb/Steve Peake; 12-5 = Troll & Irish Paul + others as they arrive. Due to possible family commitments in Scotland, Anne confirmed she would have to let them know at the last minute but would endeavour support on the Saturday. Sunday – Take stand down, Trace to collect. Need all MAG products for the stand. Andy M to arrange for passes to be collected on the gate for George, Irish Paul & Anne for the Saturday rota.</p> <p>b) Hogging the Bridge – Den will make her way to the MAG Stand after completing the Run.</p> <p>c) Group have been invited to West Mids by Rocky.</p>	
	<p>Weston & North Somerset – George/Bill. Group toddling along nicely. In full swing for the GWR. 15-18 members from W&NS went to the inaugural meeting of the newly reformed Taunton Group at which there were 57 people. 2/3 members visited the newly formed Dorchester and Newton Abbot Groups. These Groups look really promising. Bill is going down to help formulate.</p>	
	<p>Bristol – Anne. All help required for marshalling the Bristol Bike Show please and try to support the After Show Party which is now Bristol's only fund raiser.</p>	
	<p>Forest of Dean – Robbie. Group is ticking along. Ol' Tupps Tiffin was a great success.</p>	
	<p>Swindon – nothing to report.</p>	
	<p>Mid-Wilts – Andy K. Numbers up recently. MAG stand had been at Calne. Pet Food Run Fairly well attended with a good collection of around £200 for the Animal Rescue Centre.</p>	
	<p>2-15 break for lunch. 2.50 re-convene.</p>	
	<p>NotAvon – Eddie. Good turn-out at every meeting. Ed will try to get Hugh the Rep to attend the meetings if he isn't working on a Sunday now.</p>	Eddie
5.	<p>NC Report – Trace:- Report to Western Region Committee National Committee Meeting - 14th August 2010 Central Office Start 10:10am</p>	

Introduced to Ceri Hughes Priddle who has been taken on in the role of Membership Administrator at Central.

Paddy Tyson has been taken on full-time.

CAMPAIGNS (not the correct term, more of an overview of events)

1. Local Group Case Study:

Max, the rep of the new Dorset group gave a report about how the group got it's first members (mainly existing MAG members living in the area); using the press to get the word out; contacting the local council to discuss LTPs; talks with elected council members: meeting with all relevant parties to investigate reasons for PTW KSI figures.

2. International requests for MAG endorsement.

Received from both Australia and New Zealand, requests to use the MAG name and model to start organisations in respective countries. Discussion about pros and cons.

3. Products - Online and on the table.

Discussion (again) about the way products are run. Some seem to favour PacMan logo shirts with local group names above the logo, in an attempt to portray a corporate image. Apparently this has been identified as a Board project (but not found in the Board report).

4. Information Dissemination - The MAG structure.

The need to get info out to members quickly was discussed, via reps or email lists. Forums were talked about, although nobody has time to moderate one, and the use of threads on 3rd party forums. How many email lists do we have and who uses them? Ensure local reps get Network to use.

5. What are we for?

This was to give direction for MAG & staff regarding support for other aims. The opinion was that MAG was a rider's rights organisation, and if other organisations did not follow this aim, then MAG would not officially endorse them. This doesn't mean that local groups couldn't support them, which will obviously occur.

6. Quad Helmet issue.

Quads are not bikes, so don't get involved. But keep watch in case trikes look as if getting involved.

7. 25 Year VED.

Feelers about moving the date that Historic status comes into play (presently 1972). Contact affiliated Classic clubs about their views. Discussions to be careful with regard to possible Old-Timer laws in place elsewhere.

8. Local Group Development / RLO / Websites.

More of a discussion about local group websites, possibly on the MAG server, and starting with a base template, with help for local groups to get their website started and running. Not quite sure how this was to be done, obviously an on-going project. Subject moved to local contacts, with a request for all sorts of local contact details (see Bill Pugsley for complete list).

9. Club Development

A request for a Huntingdon group from somebody (who was subsequently found out to not be a m/c rider but supported MAG's views) gathered a 'launch' meeting of 8 people. However 3 of those people were from a local bike club who have now expressed a wish to convert their club into the basis of a local MAG group.

10. Tolls - Tyne Tunnel

The tunnel has been agreed to be toll-free for bikes from 2014, but people are looking into various traffic orders to see if it can be brought forward.

11. RAV in the Spring.

Local elections in Spring 2011.

McRAV in June 2011 for Scottish MSP elections.

12. Composite Access Covers.

Covers committee stalled (10 companies on committee, of which 9 make iron covers).

1 company may be willing to fund a campaign if MAG run it. Letters may be required to make sure MPs and other relevant bodies made aware of existence of composite covers.

13. DSA Review.

Lots of talk, but basically the DSA are stalling.

14. Corporates.

Numbers of corporate members still growing (3 more last month). Continental Tyres have agreed to advertise for several issues of the Road.

15. Westminster Council - Not Discussed.

16. Gov't Spending Cuts - Not Discussed.

17. FEMA - Not Discussed.

18. Priorities.

Nich handed out pieces of paper with a list of possible priorities, and asked us to take them away to our regions to try to get an idea of what we wanted Central to concentrate on.

List as follows:

EU - Road Safety Action Plan: ABS, TuV, Clothing Standards.

EU - Framework Directive: global technical control by 'experts'.

EU - Longer Term ITS Developments, eg Throttle Control.

UK - Implementation of 3rd Driving Licence Directive.

UK - Revision of current (2DLD) test arrangements.

UK - Gov't Review of restrictive laws / Regulations.

UK - Replacement for Government Motorcycle Strategy.

UK - Law Commission programme of work - compensation culture.

UK - Tolls and other costs faced by riders.

UK - Local Issues.

Competitors - R2R, BMF, Blogs, etc.

MINUTES OF LAST NC MEETING - Agreed.

Hopefully to be agreed on email in future.

	<p>GOVERNANCE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of Regional Structures and management Mainly regarding information dissemination discussed earlier. 2. Regional / Local Groups' AGM notices - Covered in Bill P's new role. 3. Fundraising - Reference to fundraising for charities could be moved in constitution to appear less important. Reps Handbook being looked at by Jane Chisholm. Model Rules for Groups being looked at by Sheila McFarlane. 4. AGC 2011 - West Midlands region preferred. Venue not decided yet. 5. Constitution Update - Regarding new Lincs region. 6. Availability of NC, Board & AGC minutes - still problems accessing website. 7. Road Requirements - Louisa is to be the single contact in future. She will pass on the numbers to Mutchie prior to printing. 8. Meeting requirements. Di P to compile an action list during the NC meeting. Request for NC members to see the NC meeting agenda in advance to allow possible discussion with members. <p>NATIONAL OFFICER'S REPORTS:</p> <p>Chairman - forgot - it's in the Road. Vice Chair - didn't know he had to give a report. Finance Director - Also didn't know. No figures given, but apparently figures are better than we thought. Clubs Officer - vacant position - Thought this was being fed down to regions, but apparently clubs contact Central direct. Mutchie to sort out job definition (ask Ferg for views). Reps Liaison Officer - reported earlier.</p> <p>REGIONAL REPORTS:</p> <p>Sent by email, but not many sent this time. Scotland - Bike parking bay losses cancelled after collection of 900 signature petition.</p> <p>AOB:</p> <p>£500 donation from Heart Of England. £300 donation from Aberystwyth MAG. Mike Baker's last meeting. Two candidates for SW Rep at meeting - Max (Dorset) and Kato (Cornwall). Tony Cox to investigate Tele Conferencing.</p> <p>End of meeting 16:15 ish.</p>	
	<p>Board Report –Trace Board Report - August 2010</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Central Office New premises near Warwick working well. 	

Lack of storage and some IT type issues. Still unpacking but better than Rugby. Unit 4 at Rugby looks fabulous, landlords happy, no further action required. Staff - Ceri Hughes Priddle settling in well as Membership administrator. All bar one of full time employee are now MAG members. Suzy has also been doing sterling work as a temp, will be with us till the 28th August. Paddy has been helping Mr Mutch with content and design of the Road as well as proof reading. Has also been submitting MAG articles to bike magazines. Addressing false assumption that people who ride bikes know about MAG. Has also been stimulating several new groups. Taunton, Bedford, Huntingdon, South Wales – still require support Bill can assist as Reps Liaison Officer. Revamp and simplification of reps handbook, model rules etc. would help allow us to stimulate groups remotely. How do we measure success, tricky since group performance is dependant on local members. Trying to build local groups so they can campaign on local issues. Also corporate connections if he sees an opportunity he pursues it. Has been temporarily employed for 10 months cash flow flat, so has not cost the organisation.

2. Contractors – incl. Products and request from MAG Foundation

Reference to Neil Stevenson rates - now resolved.

Storming, Neil and Pete Walker there for set up/breakdown and advice/negotiations.

SMcF proposed that we support Pete/Neil this year, breakdown of activities requested to aid future funding decision. DP seconded. Agreed

3. Think Bike and Diesel Spills stickers required – Foundation funding fresh batch of 5,000 stickers. Keep track of usage for MAG Foundation – Louisa logging requests from regions and usage.

Neil still has a quantity of MAG UK stand equipment, would MAG UK fund a small trailer for storage and/or transport £400 to £500. Investigate Foundation funding “Safety Trailer”

4. Products – Neil focussed on events ensuring stock available for events, slight difference from those requests received centrally – products for groups. Neil charges cost price, quality continuity and product lines. Possibility of deal along the line of Café Press for on line though would need to discuss with Neil.

Director involvement complementary range, investigate product range for on-line sales, compare suppliers get advice from Neil.

5. Membership – Doing better on recruitment than on retention. We need to work out why, and find methods to reverse the teend.

6. Priorities for next six months – Board need to give staff clear steer on priorities for effort and funding.

- Growing the membership and strengthening the group structure.
- Competition to MAG
- Right to Ride and similar free e-mail lists seeking to assuage conscience of riders making them feel as though they are involved with riders rights.
- BMF recognise us and are looking to organise along similar lines to MAG.
- Blogs that pop up from the likes of Richard Olliffe – new media that rubbish MAG/BMF

Many of these threats are as a result of communication failure, database and web-site e-mail. Suffering from inability to upload documentation and clean outdated pages and data. Redesign was Claire’s response to an emergency fire-fight due to failure of Creo to create satisfactory data management tool.

We need to be able to let members manage their own data and membership there is a disconnect between the database – looking for a package. We have contacts we can call on for advice to spec the package. Need an overview of system and cost, but we do need to address this urgently so it does not drag on.

Louisa to provide Tony with bullet points of failures and difficulties of database and

	<p>web-site management.</p> <p>Could explore symbiotic relationship with a Corporate member to mitigate cost. Though downside could be in the future if relationship goes sour.</p> <p>7. Finance Update: Pat says we're OK at the moment.</p> <p>8. SMcF proposed that Paddy is taken on full time as Campaigns Manager at an agreed rate seconded by Di Pugsley. Den to work on job description for the role and negotiate contract with Paddy.</p> <p>9. Corporate Members/Partnership/Deals Tony has signed up a B&B suggested that proof of number of MAG members getting discount could qualify for corporate discount in the following year. Tony to put info together on arrangement. Any payments in kind, spares etc will need to be included in Register of Interests. Suggest that Paddy gets involved in user friendly generalisation and guidelines for reps/members to use.</p> <p>10. Directors' Roles and Responsibilities Director of Employees – Assist the General Manager and Deputy General Manager of MAG UK to recruit and look after employees of the organisation - Den Powell Director of MAG Business – This role is to oversee meetings and dealing with agendas and minutes when required - Steve Wykes Director of Fundraising – This role would be to co-ordinate and record fundraising efforts by Groups and Regions and ensure groups focus on MAG fundraising - Sheila McFarlane Director of Membership - To be aware of memberships and corporate deals – maintain regional report - Tony Cox Director of Hospitality – A position that in general supports events of the Board and NC and AGC– Di Pugsley Director of Marketing/products – TBA- Justine Travis</p> <p>Above categories with breakdown to be further broken down and resolved, concept to be brokered to NC.</p> <p>11. Any Other Business Clubs Tariff look at changing banding to ensure we are not losing money Pat to look at clubs affiliated and pass information to Louisa for analysis.</p> <p>Ratified : Proposed Fin Colson , seconded Eddie Lowe - Agreed</p>	
6.	Bristol Bike Show – discussed earlier in the meeting.	
7/8	Hoggin' the Bridge 17th October. – Marshalls meeting at Aust on Friday 15 th . Discussion of how to get the Regional Stand to Hoggin as this will be in the W&NS area. Steve B has volunteered to transport it to and from Chepstow on the 17 th . A rumour has been circulating that for next year's event only police accredited Marshalls will be allowed to undertake marshalling. Pat, Bristol MAG, is trying to find out more about this from the Force. WR would like Pat to report back on his findings. Anne to pass this on.	Pat/Anne
9.	Regional Committee Contact Details. Anne is finalising a Contacts list and will distribute when finalised.	Anne
10.	Any Other Business 1) Steve Peake has his camera for photos for pink forms. 2) Den has the pink forms for Reps. George doing cards for officers. (at least I think that is what was decided, however, at this moment I'm not sure if Central office have changed their minds once again and want officers and reps to complete a pink form	

	<p>or only Reps as we were told last year. Trace can you please advise mate or are you as confused as me?)</p> <p>3) Wootton Bassett Run – 3rd April 2011. Seeing police within next couple weeks re closing the roads and doing the run en bloc. Den asked if committee members willing to help at Hullavington.</p> <p>4) Steve B asked if a MAG affiliated Club could borrow the Regional Marquees next year for a Rally. Against – 9; For 1; Abst 1.</p> <p>5) New Groups in South West. Reps to be invited to Observe at our committee meetings. With the possibility of either one or two new Regional Reps in the South West it was decided that out of courtesy to these new RR’s they should be invited to observe and Den willing to put them up at her place so they can come straight to the meeting from Glos.</p> <p>6) Region’s Model Rules – Anne seems to think the wording of the MRs adopted by the Region a few years ago should be re-worded and ratified at the Regional AGM. From memory, the existing ones require a quorum of Group Reps to be present for decisions to be made. At this meeting alone there were 4 Group Reps who couldn’t make the meeting. Anne to look at the wording and see if any adjustments can be made allowing for more flexibility, reporting back to the WR Committee with a view to any amendments to be tabled at the Regional AGM</p>	<p>Trace</p> <p>Anne</p>
<p>Meeting closed 16.15</p>		

Date of Next Meeting:- Sunday 10th October.