

MINUTES OF WESTERN REGION COMMITTEE MEETING

11TH DECEMBER 2011 – THE FOX AND ELM, GL4 ODA

Attending:- Andy M, Committee Chair. Tim Derrick, Bristol MAG Rep. George (the Troll) Legg, Political/WRAG Editor. Geoff Mills, Observing. Kath Aldom, Treasurer. Trace, NC Liaison. DenPowell, Glos MAG Rep. Anne Gale, Admin.

Groups Represented: Bristol. Glos.

Meeting commenced at 13.10. Welcome to Tim, newly elected Rep for Bristol MAG.

Item	Discussion Point	Action
1	Apologies: Eddie Garnier, OWP. Taff, mid-Wilts/OWP. Steve Peake, Web-master. Steve Bradford, Products/Events. Deb Rose, W&NS Rep. Robbie, FoD Rep. Dom Lowe, vice-Rep NotAvon. Hugh Probert, Rep NotAvon.	
2	Minutes of the October Meeting: Agreed as correct. No matters arising.	
3	<p>Officers Reports:</p> <p>Steve Peake, web-master (submitted prior to meeting): Apologies but I haven't made any progress on the Glos MAG website which I intended to have ready by now. My plan is still to have something to show you very soon, and hope to have at least made a start on the regional site changes before the AGM.</p> <p>Troll, Political: Awaiting feedback on the recent vote by Euro Commission on proposed legislation for motorcycles.</p> <p>Kath, Treasurer: £2181.21 in the Regional Account.</p> <p>Trace, NC Liaison: As NCL has visited every Group in Region apart from Forest of Dean.</p> <p>Den, Membership: Nothing to report</p> <p>Trace/Den will forward membership list to Steve P for the mail-out for Regional AGM.</p> <p>Anne – Admin: Nothing to report. Post meeting note: 'Thankyou to those Reps/Officers who submitted a report if they weren't able to attend – Ta Chaps'.</p>	Trace/Den
4	<p>Reps Reports:</p> <p>Bristol – Tim:- Elected as Rep at recent AGM. Imminent is Xmas Party on 15th December at The Railway Tavern - £8 – contact Claire.</p> <p>W&NS (by Troll – not designated by Rep but just an update): Paul Watts (Ex Bristol, Regional Rep) is now on the W&NS Committee in the post of OWP. 1st non-slip manhole cover has been installed in the County in Nailsea.</p>	

	<p>Soggy John doing a lot of work with the local Council.</p> <p>Swindon – nothing to report.</p> <p>Glos MAG – Despite rumours the Slippit Inn Rally is going ahead as usual at Easter 2012. Advertising to be out there soon. Den re-elected as Rep at recent AGM. £5 donation to Region. Xmas Party on the 17th – contact Den. New venue: Fox and Elm.</p> <p>Mid-Wilts (sent prior to meeting): Things are plodding along, we would like to thank Bristol and Weston & North Somerset groups for supporting our Christmas do.</p> <p>Calne bike day, as soon as the dates are released for 2012 I will book the MAG stand in, the same goes if I hear any news from Bike Safe at Castle Combe.</p> <p>Not Avon Report (sent prior to meeting)</p> <p>Following the October meeting which Steve Webb (our local MP) attended, I have had some follow-up contact with him. He prepared a press release (which was good as I hadn't finished mine so it saved me a job!) which was sent to the Gazette and Bristol Evening Post. It has been published in the Gazette, but I don't know about the BEP. He reiterated his promise to speak to MEPs about the European stuff when he got the chance, and to come back to me. So far I've heard no more on that, whether that's because he's not spoken to them yet or because they're no keener to reply to him than us I don't know.</p> <p>On 1st Nov. we held the Not Avon AGM at The Lamb (thanks George and Trace for attending). Minutes have been distributed. I have spoken to Mike Stimson since the meeting. Unfortunately Mike is suffering from a knee injury at the moment, and consequently feels unable to make the commitment to continue in the role of information officer, which leaves this role vacant.</p> <p>For Christmas we will be holding a social meeting in the Railway Tavern, Charfield (not to be confused with the pub of the same name in Fishponds where Bristol MAG meet) on Tue 20th Dec. Food is available between 7 and 9pm.</p>	
5	<p>NC/Board Report from Trace: NC Meeting - 10th December 2011 Shrewley Village Hall, Shrewley Common, Warwickshire. Meeting started 10:00 (MAG time ie about 10:12am)</p> <p>CAMPAIGNS UPDATE</p> <p>a) EU Framework. The vote has been taken by the IMCO committee, including voting on the 299 amendments. As yet there is no breakdown on what amendments have been accepted. We are still against the ABS and Headlights On items, but Nich accepts there is no real chance of getting them rejected.</p>	

One area that still needs clarification is Article 18 about anti-tampering. There is no evidence to show it is a good idea, but too many people want it. A new amendment to Article 18 concerns restricted (and then de-restricted) bikes for stepped licence purposes. The new proposal will be circulated by Nich. A question is to be raised to the DfT on how they would respond to the proposals, which may guide our actions. There are problems with the members associated with the Right To Ride organisation and their constant posting on MAG facebook sites with regard to the Euro discussion. Simon Mouncey has volunteered to act as a designated contact to try to solve the problem. (NC voted 14-0 in favour of this action).

b) PTI & Hi-Viz: No further developments.

c) UK Rider training.

Trials suggest that it is possible to put M/C test back on the road.

But the DSA are looking to put more controls on trainers. Possible problems for existing training schools (and also the IAM).

d) Get-A-Grip: 1500 new signatures were collected for the campaign at the NEC show.

e) 80 mph Motorway Speed limit consultation: no further developments.

f) Historic vehicle MOT exemption.

It has been suggested that pre-1960 vehicles may become exempt from MOT testing. Possible problems have been insurance requirements, and the worry that it may be the first stage to forcing them off the road.

g) Bike Theft.

Discussions under way to re-launch the anti-theft package. Simon Mouncey has a slot at a parking conference, and would like examples of secure parking good practice with regard to parking bays and security devices.

h) Dr. Leon Mannings.

TFL have sat on a Commuter Study concerned with speed of travel including use of bikes in bus lanes. This study has now been passed to Mike Penning who has asked his staff to write a report from the study.

Apparently KSI figures for motorcycles reduced by 15% in 2010.

Trial of bikes in London bus lanes other than red routes is due to start on 29th Feb 2012.

A meeting is due to take place soon with the Mayor's office about the previous London bus lane trial, and hopefully the trail of bikes in red route bus lanes will become permanent.

NC MEETING FORMAT.

Email discussions had taken place to try to modify the format of the meeting slightly, and despite mentioning things like conference calls, monthly meetings and set time limits on items, the discussion had repeatedly come back to getting a campaigns report from Nich prior to the meeting, thus only requiring discussion about specific items during the actual meeting.

The NC voted 14-0 in favour of this report being produced, and Nich has said he will actually produce it monthly to allow it to be added to the monthly Network.

MORFs (Pink forms).

Still no fixed rules about who fills in the forms, but it seems to have come down to Regional and Group reps, members of the board, and anybody who represents MAG. This may actually vary from region to region.

There are some discrepancies between MORFs, Rep's Handbook and model rules. Several people are looking at this and are aiming to have new paperwork in place by the AGC.

MATTERS ARISING from October 2011 NC minutes:

We have a minute taker for the NC meetings, Wendy (I think) from Wycombe MAG. Business plan is still being worked on.

RESIGNATIONS:

Andy Pyatt has resigned as Warwickshire Rep.
Kitson has resigned as North-East Rep.

Lunch – 2.05 – 2.30

BOARD REPORT:

- a) Direct Debits should be live in February 2012. New membership forms will be required. Board asks that as many people as possible move to DD in first 6 months of operation, because cost of setting up individual DDs in that time is significantly lower.
- b) Steve Wykes has been co-opted onto the board to make up the minimum requirement of 5 directors. The other applicants were thanked for their interest, and if they were still interested, asked to put forward their manifestos for consideration at AGC 2012.
- c) Purchasing Policy has been produced to state how much money can be spent by staff without needing Board clearance.

- d) Membership database crocked. Not news, but it now can't tell us exactly how many members we have. Replacement database using Sugar CRM should be in place by Spring 2012 at a cost of £6000.
- e) Affiliate club costings to be looked at, but recommended that clubs no longer receive affiliate cards. Clubs could have cards, if they pay the cost of them.
- f) Business plan. Draft versions available, but suggestions required from NC and should be sent to PatVA by 2nd week of January 2012.
- g) Membership secretary job presently being done by agency staff 3 days a week until the post will hopefully be filled in the New Year.
- i) Yorkshire concerns are still being addressed.
- j) Board reported that MAG stand at NEC was thought to be too much Get-A-Grip.

Board report was accepted unanimously.

Officers Reports:

North-East situation has been resolved, albeit with reservations about communications around the subject.

AGC 2012

14th April 2012 at Chiltern Park Aerodrome in Oxfordshire.

Free party with camping and bands on Friday evening.

Dirty Donkey party on Saturday evening £5 entry.

Wycombe MAG organisers would like some idea of numbers attending AGC about a month in advance.

Possible proposal to allow proxy voting.

Nominations for awards being sought.

Products update - Jenny Cook has a trial website to sell MAG products online.

Consensus to make it live.

FEMA report to be put out by Nich on email.

Tony Cox asked us to consider Police Commissioner elections to take place in all constabularies in 2012.

End of meeting approx 4:30pm.

<p>6</p>	<p>Regional AGM – pre-AGM committee meeting – do we want one? Short discussion ensued. Proposal Trace – That we do not hold a pre-AGM meeting. Seconded – Den. Unanimous.</p> <p>As Bristol are hosting this Anne will speak to Tim closer to the event to get some bodies along for prepping the venue and Registration Clerks etc.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>AOB – Nothing. Meeting closed at 3.45. Next meeting – post AGM will be February 12th.</p>	