

## Minutes of Western Region Committee Meeting

**12<sup>th</sup> February 2012. The Lamb, Iron Acton.**

**Attending:** George, the Troll, Legg. Steve Peake. Dominic Lowe. Keith Hillier. Deb Rose. Mo Green. Steve Bradford. Eddie Garnier. Andy Kerr. Anne Gale.

**Groups Represented:**

NotAvon – Dom. Weston & North Somerset – Deb Rose. Bristol – Mo Green. Glos MAG – Steve Peake.

		<b>Action</b>
1	<b>Apologies:</b> Tim Derrick, Bristol. Den Powell, Glos. Robbie Harris, Glos MAG. Trace, NC Liaison. Andy Meredith, Committee Chair. Hugh Probart, NotAvon. Taff Jones, OWP.	
2	<b>Minutes of the December 2011 Meeting:</b> were ratified.	
3	<p><b>Officer's Reports:</b></p> <p>Steve Peake, Webmaster – Nothing new since our Regional AGM: re-launched Glos MAG web-site. Regional web-site is pending. Question from SP = should Regional Minutes be published on the web-site, is it worth the trouble? A discussion ensued and it was decided in the interest of transparency we should continue to do so.</p> <p>Question from SP = <b>Please go onto Glos MAG web-site, see how it operates and feed back to SP any comments you may have.</b></p> <p>Question Andy K = <b>what is happening with the mid-Wilts web-site because it is so dated and nothing seems to happen with it? SP has offered to upload anything to the website which is sent to him from Mid-Wilts.</b></p> <p>Steve Peake, Membership Sec – Nothing as yet but has requested lists of lapsed members.</p> <p>George Legg, Political – Since Regional AGM there has not been much. Passes on to Weston list anything sent out by Paddy. <b>A discussion ensued and it was suggested that when forwarding relevant stuff, he forward to all lists in the Region thus ensuring everyone is informed.</b></p> <p>Anne Gale, Admin – Nothing to report.</p> <p>Eddie Garnier, Products – Eddie was elected into the post of Products Officer. He may look at the Products range to liven it up. Steve B suggested contacting Pat Healey of Bristol MAG.</p> <p>Steve Bradford, Events – Calendar options are being explored. Events list circulated once a month.</p> <p>Regional Stand – has made up some plasticised flyers for the exhibition boards that he has acquired for the Regional stand. Has had a quote from Tim of £23 for a 9' banner for the back of the stand.</p> <p>Proposed: Steve Bradford. Seconded: Andy Kerr. Unanimous.</p> <p>Andy Kerr, Clubs – Has not done much since October due to personal circumstances. Nothing received from Central Office for many months. A discussion ensued concerning the lack of information/lists from Central Office and the possible lack of service to Clubs. Committee feels this is serious. <b>Trace to explore why Clubs list is not being distributed.</b></p> <p>Keith Hillier, Treasurer – Signatories at present are: Kath/Di/Anne. Di definitely doesn't want to remain as a signatory. Anne happy to remain. Eddie and Keith to be the other two signatories. <b>Eddie &amp; Keith to supply photographs for ID purposes with the Bank.</b></p>	<p>All SP &amp; mid-Wilts</p> <p>Troll</p> <p>Trace</p>

		Eddie/Keith
4	<p><b>Reps Reports:</b></p> <p>Forest of Dean:- Group attendance is very low – around 3 people attending including Robbie. Not sure what can be done but will put his thinking cap on.</p> <p>Glos MAG:-</p> <p>Not Avon – Dom:- Hugh (the Rep) is very hot on the Group doing letter writing to MEPs. Due to Hugh’s current work situation Dom will be deputising at Regional meetings for the Group.</p> <p>Weston &amp; North Somerset – Deb:- Rally is well under way with the Bands booked. Group doing well. On-line tickets will be available soon.</p> <p>Bristol – Mo:- Quietish at the mo – probably the time of year.</p>	
	<b>Adjourn for lunch 1.55. Resumed 14.20.</b>	
5	<p><b>Should we send a donation to Central?</b> Proposal from Steve Bradford to send up £1200. Seconded – Mo Green. Unanimous.</p> <p>Glos MAG donation will follow soon = Steve Peake.</p>	
6	<p><b>NC/Board Report.</b></p> <p><i>Trace broke down en route to the meeting and so was unable to present his report.</i></p> <p>A discussion ensued whereby extreme concern was expressed concerning nominations to AGC for the position of Chair. On 4<sup>th</sup> February it was confirmed to Den by The Chairman that she was standing unopposed, however, the Thursday prior to NC (I believe) NC were informed by Nich Brown there were two nominations for the post! There is concern that the Constitution may not have been adhered to insofar as a) were nominations received by the deadline date (last working day of December which would have been Friday the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2011); b) whether they were or not, the Constitution states that nominees must receive copies of opposing candidates as soon as nominations close. A mystery!</p> <p><b>Report Received electronically</b></p> <p>NC Meeting - 11th February 2012 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: After The IMCO vote on 5th December, Article 18a was added regarding other modifications, but significantly includes no age cut off. FEMA has voted to fight all of Article 18. FEMA also voted to fight 'permanently-on' ABS If there is no agreement in 6 weeks, the parliamentary vote may be delayed by 12 months. Keep writing letters to MEPs to ensure they actually read the regs.</p> <p>b) PTI &amp; Hi-Viz: France has settled on a 150 sq.cm. of hi-viz as it's requirement. Possibility of picketing Irish and French embassies to raise publicity. We still have the view of extra training / knowledge of road users rather than possibly criminalising riders.</p> <p>c) Lobby Day: RAV have booked a room for 40 people for 2 hours on 7th March. More people required to sign up to talk to your MP's.</p>	

<p>d) Rider Training:  TRL trial results - figure-of-8 manoeuvre on road is dangerous. No requirement for figure-of-8 in Euro regs, therefore figure-of-8 will be removed from test. Only 1 phase of TRL trials completed, and no money left to trial phases 2 and 3.  Possibility of new test in November 2013 (which is actually 10 months after 3DLD is to have been implemented).  U-turn and emergency stop are now undertaken off-road.  If no MVTC is available, possibility of slow manoeuvres to be videoed at riding school and tape sent to riding test.  Riding Schools will require new bikes for new classes of licence, but there is no list of acceptable bikes available.  There is no legislation yet on the books to introduce 3DLD, and no rules yet to sort out power change mods (ie. De-Restrict).</p> <p>e) Get-A-Grip:  Reduced hours at Central due to other items. Shift of emphasis to local &amp; regional action, with technical support from Central.</p> <p>f) Justice:  MCN has mentioned the campaign. Families involved reluctant to involve press. The wording of an e-petition raised by one of the families is, in our opinion, not helpful.</p> <p>g) Pre-1960 MOT consultation:  After consulting affiliated clubs, MAG made no official response.</p> <p>h) DVLA Local Office Closure consultation:  The consultation is awful, and makes no mention of the services presently done by the local offices, and how they are to be 're-located'.  * Request for info on how members use their local DVLA offices*</p> <p>i) 80mph motorway speed limit:  Apparently no official consultation.</p> <p>j) Bike Theft:  Re-launch the 'MAG Protected' scheme, with stickers.  Voted 8-6 to keep reward at up to £1000.</p> <p>k) Helmets off:  At petrol stations etc. Difficult subject, which varies between areas and time.  No finalised answer.</p> <p>l) Leon Manning:  Westminster CC to trial bikes in all WCC bus lanes (not just the 8 trailing at present) with an oversight group to observe.  Worries over licences for Taxi-Bikes. At present all running on temporary licences. Lots of Taxi-bikes required for Olympics.  MCN contact ongoing.  No-To-Bike-Parking-Tax organisation to ramp up protests, MAG to keep distant.  London Mayor - MAG to stay A-Party Political.  -----</p> <p>London MAG to re-launch at the Ace on 15th April.</p> <p>Check your Multi-Bike insurance. Aviva and several other companies are</p>	
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no longer offering this type of policy.

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RIGHT 2 RIDE:

After the events of last year with R2R members spamming the MAG web pages, it has slowed down, and Trevor Baird is no longer a MAG member. Elaine's membership comes up for renewal in March. Watching brief for any new action.

Linked to R2R.

Andy Baker from Norwich has been vocal on line about MAG link on a BNP website (dating from Sept 25 demo). He has apparently resigned his membership, and is on line saying that MAG members should join R2R instead.

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Resignations etc:

Geoff Hinton (N.Wales rep) has resigned.  
Andy Pyatt resigned as Warwickshire rep last year, but has now stood forward and taken the Regional Reps job again.

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Motorcycle Alliance Party.

Formed to gain publicity by putting a candidate forward for Manchester Police Chief election.

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Mulhouse Declaration:

Although the MD is still quite good, the first paragraph was felt to be out of date. Western Region has been asked to draft a new version, and contact NFL for comments.

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Board Report:

Finance Update: memberships up, money up, last year in slight profit.  
Tenders being taken for Auditors.  
Business Plan - a draft plan is to be emailed out to the NC for comments.  
Direct Debit hopefully active by the end of February.  
Club affiliation costs to be investigated. A possible Clubs Officer has come forward.  
New membership admin (Carol Ferrari) has just started.  
IT, ADSL link, database and new website still ongoing.  
The Road - too many changes and corrections required. Things have to change.  
Neil Stephenson has submitted a list of shows to be covered, but has no contract yet.  
Leon Mannings report has to be reduced in size.

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AGC:

Dirty Donkey tickets going fast.  
They'd like ideas of attendance at AGC for catering use.  
Chair and Board elections will take place.  
Awards - any suggestions?

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FEMA report:

BMF has been stripped of voting rights.  
All member organisations except MAG and FFMC have falling membership.  
FFMC membership has gone up by 24%.

	<p>Decision to fight 4DLD, although only initial thoughts so far.  Transport White Paper, referring to transport efficiency, has no mention of PTWs or motorcycles.  PTI consultation was only in English, so Commission didn't like the fact that only English speakers responded. Impact assessment of PTI is months late being undertaken, so PTI may have been put on very-back burner.  (Honda France PTI faux pas).  Project Simon - funding for ITS research at MIRA.  Guardrails - still no standard.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>End of meeting approx 5:30pm.  -----</p>	
7	<p><b>AGM 2012 Minutes – Correctness/ratification prior to publishing</b>  Apparently, the 2011 Minutes are not on the website. <b>Steve Peake to investigate and rectify.</b>  The 2012 Minutes were ratified.  <b>Steve P to upload onto website</b></p>	<p>Steve P</p> <p>Steve P</p>
8/9	<p><b>2012 Events and August Bank Holiday</b>  Steve B issues an Events List monthly.  We have been invited to have our stand at the VSOC Rally, Weston, over the August Bank Holiday. For the past couple of years the Regional Stand has been at Ogri and Den has said she has no objections to the stand being at VSOC. However, Steve B said the logistics of collecting it from the mid-Wilts area for August Bank Holiday and then returning it for the following weekend if Paul wishes to do the Bike Racing at Castle Combe, as he did last year, are difficult. Therefore, Deb Rose will ask Taunton if we can borrow their Stand for VSOC for Troll/Anne/Anyone-who-feels-like-it to staff. This would leave the Western Region stand in the area of Ogri for the usual 'suspects' to staff.  <b>Deb will ask Taunton soonest and report back on email – urgent.</b>  <b>Steve P will speak to Den.</b></p>	<p>Deb</p> <p>Steve P</p>
10	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>a) <b>Eddie Garnier</b> – felt that this year's Regional AGM came to an abrupt end after the formalities were completed. Numbers were 26 delegates – the lowest we've ever had. He felt more dialogue is required from the floor to keep the meeting interesting. Discussion took place on re-instating a Guest Speaker slot into the Agenda and a Q&amp;A Open Forum from the Floor.  <b>It was felt this was an excellent idea and is to go onto the August Agenda. Meanwhile, all to give thought to this and to a Speaker.</b></p> <p>b) <b>Andy Kerr</b> - raised the subject of 'Western Region's Future Direction for next year. This is to be discussed later in the year - October.</p> <p>c) <b>Fred Hill Runs</b> – Suggestion was made to have a Fred Hill Run in this Region. There has only ever been one in this Region – many years ago organised by the then Bath Rep Craig Clinch. From that time our Region normally supported the Oxford Run to the Martyrs Memorial, however, that was not advertised this year (and maybe last – not sure). To have a FH Run in this area we would need to finish the Run at a War Memorial – suggested Bath which is on the edge of Victoria Park and easier parking (from memory). We would need a very good Speaker for when Riders arrived at the end of the Run. Suggestion was Paul Watts. <b>This is to be on the Agenda from August onwards, meanwhile, all to give it some thought.</b></p> <p>d) <b>Regional AGM Mail Out</b> – Anne asked if the meeting thought this was worth the money (£190). We are not obliged by The Constitution to do a mail out provided, provided the event is publicised in The Road and on the National web-site. <b>This to be reviewed when we decide the format of the 2013 Regional AGM. October.</b></p> <p>e) <b>NC Liaison for The Region</b> – Trace had intimated to Anne that he wished to stand down for at least a year's rest at the end of his 2012/2013 term. Anne suggested Steve P could fill this roll! (Sorry Steve)</p>	<p>Anne/All</p> <p>Anne/All</p> <p>Anne/All</p>

	<p><b>f) Activists Training Weekend in this Region</b> – this was suggested in the light of new Groups and that we are about due one. It was decided to put an ‘ad’ in the WRAG as follows:- ‘If anyone is interested in giving up a weekend of their time to help organise an Activists Weekend in this Region please email your Rep accordingly’. Suggested time – early November.</p> <p><b>g) Paper Ballot for the position of Chairman at AGC</b> – a discussion took place in that the AGC of 2002 where there was a contest for the position of Chairman taught us that a paper ballot should be held in the case of more than one candidate. This worked well in 2006 (I think) when there were opposing candidates (Ian Moore and Jane Chisholm). Western Region Committee to email Trace to the effect they wish for one to be held for the voting at 2013 AGC in the light of more than one Candidate up for the post. Anne to word email and send to Committee for amending/clarification and then on to Trace once decision taken.</p> <p><b>h) April Meeting</b> – due to the month being full. It was agreed to do anything post-AGC on email. Therefore the next time we meet up will be <b>June 10<sup>th</sup></b>.</p>	Troll
	<b>Meeting finished at 1600hrs</b>	Anne/All
	<b>Dates for 2012 Meetings</b> – June 10 <sup>th</sup> . August 12 <sup>th</sup> . October 14 <sup>th</sup> . December 9th	