

Minutes of Western Region April 2014 Meeting

The Railway Tavern (in the skittle Alley), Station Road, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3SG

Attending:- Eddie Garnier, products. Andy Kerr, Clubs and Regional Vice. Tim Derrick, Bristol Rep. Trace, Swindon contact. Anne Gale, Admin. George Legg, Regional NC Liaison and Political. Steve Bradford, Events. Denise Powell, Glos MAG Rep. Keith Hillier, Regional Treasurer. Deb Rose, Weston & North Somerset Rep.

Election of Chairman to the meeting: Proposed: Trace. Unanimous.

Discussion requested by Den: to contact Andy Meredith to see if he will return as Regional Committee Chair. The discussion ensued. Proposal: George Legg. Seconded: Steve Bradford. Unanimous. **Proposal by Den:** That Trace be the one to contact Andy M as opposed to George. Agreed.

February Minutes: were agreed as correct with no matters arising.

Officers Reports:

Steve Bradford – needs to get the stand out and aired for proofing. Agreed that SB can be reimbursed the cost of the proofing product.

Keith - £2060 balance. Final monies have been received from the Forest of Dean Group. The balance of George's AGC expenses not covered by central office has been reimbursed to Anne who footed the bill initially.

George – Political Officer – Sent email today re sticker on the back of road signs linked to an article. Leon emphasising the issue of unlit and dangerous road furniture – Groups to tackle this locally.

Andy K - A National Clubs Liaison Officer has been elected – Oliver Rose. When he was in officer Ferg wrote out a job description for Club's officers. White Tigers have affiliated. Bruce was pleased with the quote they received from our Brokers for PLI.

Eddie – Takes the patches/stickers still held by Region to Bristol sometimes.

Reps Group Reports:

Swindon – **Trace** talking to the local Council about motorcycle parking issues.

Weston and North Somerset – **Deb** – Group has a new Council Liaison in the form of Bill Harding. Rally is on track with a meeting scheduled for next week. Looking for a band for the Friday night. Saturday band is SmokeRoom. Bike Nights start 1st May – MAG representation to be decided locally.

Bristol – **Tim** – Group had a local brewery tour which was very successful. New members have been signed up. 19 July is a one nighter at Bridge Inn, Michaelschurch. Bristol Bike Show T shirts (as very elegantly modelled by Tim) are available to order. After Show Party on track. MAG Awareness Day at Riders – date tbc (this was held in May, extremely successful with members signed up).

Mid-Wilts MAG – George had asked **Trace** to go along and see what was happening. Trace reported back that neither Paul nor Taff had rejoined because of the inaccurate gossip that ex staff had been paid £20k. No idea

where this rubbish came from. Consequently the Rep and vice rep are not currently MAG members which is far from ideal.

George – Action – to message mid-Wilts email list.

Glos MAG – Den – Resignation of Steve Peake is a blow to the Group. Very few members attending meetings. As a result of AGC, Marion and Alec have decided to resign one of their memberships. Den is thinking of walking away. Group is trying to decide about the money made from their Rallies.

Annual Group Conference Report – George Legg:

MAG AGC. Blackpool 12 April 2014

This year's AGC was hosted by North Western Region MAG in Blackpool with the AGC itself being held at the Ashley Conservative Club, and the party at the Blackpool Rugby Club.

A minutes silence was observed to remember all those who had passed away.

With well over 200 MAG members crowding the hall some folk had to stand for the whole AGC.

As was to be expected, what with the controversy of the tribunal and its outcome (so far), it was always going to be a lively conference.

The directors of MAG (UK) Ltd each gave their reports on the staff changes and status of MAG (UK) Ltd, there were also reports from non board members.

Questions were put to the board, mainly regarding the perceived damage to MAG's name, and a push was made to stop the appeal to the tribunal, but after a vote this was rejected.

Board Motions:

- i. The AGM accepts the Board's Report was carried
- ii. The AGM endorses the outsourcing agreement entered into with The Motorcycle Action Group Ltd was carried
- iii. The AGM endorses the sale of assets by MAG (UK) Ltd to The Motorcycle Action Group Ltd was carried
- iv. The AGM accepts the Finance report was carried.

The Board of MAG (UK) Ltd will see out the closing down of MAG (UK) Ltd and the appeal over the next year.

After various officers were elected to their posts and the business attending to closing down of MAG (UK) Ltd and the Starting off of The Motorcycle Action Group was successfully conducted, the Leon and Lembit double act took to the floor.

Their report is available.

With these two chaps beavering away on MAG's behalf we should be well set for setting Riders Rights to rights, and what a team they make!

We then had a presentation by the producer behind the record MAG are pushing you all to buy, and a video of the artist performing the song "It means so much" by "Stranger".

It was explained that this could pull in a sizable sum to the MAG coffers, as well as further tie-ins with the artist doing shows for MAG.

Two awards went to Western Region members, Anne Gale received the Chairman's award and Deb Rose received a Merit award.

The Conference finished with the President's address in which he believed that MAG can now go forward to a bright future.

Board members of the Motorcycle Action Group Ltd:

John Mitchell (elected at AGC).

Neil F Liversage (elected at AGC)

Paul Turner (elected at AGC)

Graeme 'Scouse' Hoose (elected at AGC)

Pete 'Veece' Davison (elected at AGC)

Phil McFadden – S Wales rep – (co-opted after AGC).

The general mood of the meeting appeared to be positive for MAG moving forward constructively with The Motorcycle Action Group doing what it does best i.e. fighting for Riders Rights leaving the Board of MAG (UK) Limited to deal with the Appeal/Remedy/Tribunal etc.

George Legg, Western Region NC Liaison.

Den - voiced her concern that non Board Members gave reports to Conference during the AGM of the MAG (UK) Ltd Company.

Eddie - gave concise feedback on how he saw the AGM and AGC.

Regional Rally Update:

Given by **Steve Bradford** – a number of sites have been or are being explored. Deb mentioned a new W&NS member who owns a camp site – to give details to SB.

Calne:

is scheduled for 26th July. **Andy K – Action** – to book. **Keith and Deb – Action** - have offered to transport the MAG stand and will liaise with SB regarding collecting the stand etc. **Hoggin the Bridge** is on 19th October and a decision will be taken in the future as to who will kindly transport it. **Sparkford, Haynes – Bill Harding** has volunteered to do this and will take the W&NS stand.

Any Other Business:

- i) **Scottish Referendum** - the question was asked what will happen if Scotland get independence as refers MAG Scotland. Best wait and see what the outcome of the referendum is first.
- ii) **Cheques etc** – should be payable to The Motorcycle Action Group Ltd.

Meeting closed at 3.17.