

Minutes of Western Region Committee Meeting

14 December 2015. Railway Tavern, Fishponds, Bristol.

Attending: George (the Troll) Legg, NC Liaison. Deb Rose, Committee (Madam) Chairman. Eddie Garnier, Regional Products & NotAvon contact. Mark Hamblin, W&NS Rep. Den Powell, Glos MAG Rep. Taps (Alec Groom), Bristol MAG Rep. Sally Smart, Regional Membership Officer. Keith Hillier (Regional Treasurer). Anne Gale, Admin.

		ACTION
1.	Debs opened the meeting by welcoming two new Group Reps = Taps for Bristol and Mark for W&NS.	
2.	Apologies: Trace, Swindon Contact. Andy Kerr, Clubs Liaison. AWOL: Steve (birthday boy) Bradford.	
3.	Minutes of the last meeting: Anne has changed Den from AWOL to apologies as she gave her prior apologies for October at the August meeting. Apart from that Minutes were deemed as correct with no matters arising.	
4.	<p>Officers Report:</p> <p>Keith: Regional funds stand at £2205 including £221 passed on from the Not Avon account. Possible amounts coming up to Region = £600 from Bristol and £1k from W&NS. Glos have not had their AGM yet.</p> <p>Sally: Membership emails are up and running. Triumph Owners Club may not be renewing Nationally, however, the Bristol Branch want to. Sally asked to liaise with Andy Kerr on Clubs. When working on the stand at NEC Sal worked on a possible sign up of Corporate Membership = Wheel Assist.</p> <p>Taps has been working on local businesses re Corporate Membership – he will send the list to Sal and they'll liaise.</p> <p>Trace has renewed.</p> <p>George: Political = prepare yourselves for campaigning from Jan up to election. Has attended all NC meetings.</p> <p>Anne: Been in London on family business. Managed to fulfil all MAG roles.</p> <p>Ed: Preparing audit for AGM. Will not be re-standing as Products Officer. However, will remain on Regional Committee as NotAvon contact.</p>	Sally Taps
5.	<p>Reps Reports:</p> <p>Glos: A couple of renewed members have returned to the Group so its slightly bigger. AGM is in January. Xmas Meal. Making an effort to do some Rallies next year we've never done before and ride outs next year. Fingers crossed for the future of the Group.</p> <p>Bristol: Tim was elected as the Bristol Council Liaison Officer at the AGM. South Glos needs covering. Sal and Taps helped out ont he stand on the Sunday at NEC. Group had a good curry night out. Excellent Julian Trust Run. Fb and website = good hits.</p> <p>Weston and North Somerset: AGM was well attended. Mark elected Rep and Barry elected Treasurer. Group had well attended Xmas meal. Strong group – well attended. Some members had a good ride to NEC. Ride outs. Had first GWR meeting and first band is booked. New permanent venue = The Burrington so no longer nomadic. This venue gives a chance to recruit as it is a good bikers venue.</p>	

	NotAvon: AGM was poorly attended. Ed is now contact. Plans afoot for a Tragical Mystery Tour in the Spring. And will be bringing the date to Regional AGM.	
6	<p>NC Meeting Report. 13 December 2015</p> <p>The October minutes were ratified</p> <p>Leon & Lembits Campaigns Update</p> <p>Overview:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAG is an influence at the top of the DfT • Political support increasing • Improving links between L&L and local Groups <p>Key Focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater influence with Local and Central Government <p>DfT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have rejuvenated contact at the Director General Level adding power to MAG's influence • MAG is setting a New Agenda for DfT's treatment of biking • PACTS membership highlights the value of input from MAG and building useful alliances • Changing safety audits drives equal treatment • Previous agreement with the DfT to review audit procedures rekindled with personnel change • TfL has started a review of audit procedures after continued MAG pressure • MAG input (via Leon) is highlighting issues <p>Breakthrough in London identifies 4 key issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenging adverse impacts of cycle schemes • Research into 'modal shift' from car to PTW • Role of motorcycles/scooters to cut pollution • MAG, ACPO & Industry promote new evidence that more motorcycling improves safety <p>General Election campaign kickstarted</p> <p>Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolve policy document (L&L) • Simplify work list (JS & L&L) • Improve media system e.g. Facebook (LO & IM) • Increase support from all parties (L&L) 	

Vice Chair

The bike show was a huge success, with a lot of new sign ups and new connections made.

MAG is looking for a Financial Officer.

The office is running well and the staff is happy.

Clubs are slightly down on previous month.

A MAG night in each group should be ran once a year as a fund raiser.

Only positive messages to be posted to MAG facebook pages.

Member to be encouraged to attend/support MAG events.

Offices to be moved for economic reasons.

The Road to be reduced to A5 and published quarterly again for economic reasons.

Network will have to fill the gap with more of the campaign info.

Training Session

Go out and eliminate negative elements, we are at the top of our game with a great campaign team.

All Rep's to equally pass the message down from NC as well as up from Group's and Region's.

MAG Facebook pages must be controlled by a moderator and operated as a closed group, the pages should only be for MAG info and not personal stuff and vendettas.

Campaigns & Strategy

Objective; to secure MAG policy implemented at local and national level.

Strategy:

- Define our policies
- Identify allies across parties
- Use the media as a tool
- Present Motorcycling as a solution

Implementation:

- Statement of policy by L&L approved by NC
- Direct contact with possible supporters and policy shapers
- High standard output from RRs and Central on request
- Make intelligent use of studies and evidence held at central and access support from L&L

How Leon wins with political shapers

- Know exactly what you are asking for

- Back things up with evidence
- Prepare for challenges and objections
- Seek allies
- Explain what is in it for them
- Make agreeing with you rewarding

Keep in touch; use The Road as a campaign handbook.

What we need to do:

- Create shared agenda
- Display external unity
- Build good internal and external relationships
- Accept feedback

Be the best team:

- Get Vision
- Celebrate talents
- Promote Dreams
- Think like winners

Vision for the future of Motorcycling

Objective: Parity of respect for riders rights

Parity of treatment for all single track vehicles, i.e. Motorcycles, scooters and bicycles, with 'light touch' regulation.

MAG Vision: The preservation of motorcyclist's freedom.

MAG opposes oppressive and discriminatory legislation aimed at motorcycling, by lobbying politicians.

MAG Goals

1. Resist erosion of liberties
2. Better approach to road safety
3. Bikes in bus lanes
4. Motorcycle parking on par with cycles
5. Zero rating Vehicle Excise Duty
6. Review of rider testing
7. Proactive approach to innovations
8. Joint approach with industry and police
9. Change in sentencing for SMIDSY's

Local Groups and meetings

Launch Bikers are voters from January 2nd

Use MAG expansion plan

	Fund raise Send names of local press to L&L	
7	Regional AGM W&NS all sorted and ready for hosting AGM. Tim Peregrine came forward as National Observer.	
8	<p>AOB</p> <p>Den – Could we have a stall at Prescott. Its becoming larger and a 1 day event. 12 April 2015.</p> <p>A general discussion that the problem with taking the MAG stand is transport – it was agreed that a full list of events where we can have a MAG stand in 2015 be put on the Agenda at Regional AGM so people could come forward to volunteer transport to specific events. George to provide list – Anne to include on Agenda.</p> <p>Taps – asked about the viability of an Evening Regional meeting. However, consideration has to be taken of those travelling to the venue. Traditionally the meeting has always been the Sunday following the NCmeeting.</p> <p>Certain suggestions were made – morning meeting etc. A suggestion of meeting beginning 2 and ending at 5 with no break for lunch. Working lunch?</p> <p>Request for a Corporate Membership Officer pack.</p>	<p>George Anne</p> <p>George.</p>