



Leeds MAG AGM 20th JANUARY 2015

1. Present

Richard Manny Manton, Kate Williams, Sally Johnson, John Hewitt, Martin Smith, Mik Rhodes, Gavin Weiner, John Nettleship, Marcus Houlden, Keith Maven, Su Mitchell, Oliver Rose, Dave Taylor, Helen Taylor, Steve Corbridge

RM opened the meeting and introduced Oliver Rose as the Observer

2. Officers' Reports Group Report

January - N/A

February - Leeds AGM, Comedy Night, Fred Hill Run

March – Attended AGC, Easter Egg Run

April - N/A

May - Marshalling at ITV, Demo Ride & Campover from Squires

June - Marshalling at FYP,, Bikers MP Question Time Otley

July - N/A

August – Marshalling at Yorkshire Pudding

September – Stormin the Castle, Comedy Night

October - Organised and hosted the Yorkshire MAG AGM, Leeds MAG Halloween Party – made over £200

November – N/A

December – Toy Run to Lineham Farm, Christmas Drinks at the Duck & Drake Leeds - Interioz playing.

Throughout the year we've supported all the local clubs and other MAG branches. Group numbers are stable even with moving venue, but still need to see more people turning up, RM mantra – always have something in the pipeline – keep the momentum going. T-shirts, badges, patches and stickers have sold well. Donated £620 to Group. Change of Year end in the accounts which now runs Oct to end Sept to tie in with Yorkshire MAG AGM dates has made a difference to the amount donated in this financial year.

3. Officers Reports

Richard Manny Manton (rep)

An enjoyable but frustrating year, with lots of things achieved both personally and with the group.

The MAG work has kept me very busy but it's still good fun on the whole.

It's very challenging to juggle work and MAG stuff but support from both Kate and Sally has been invaluable.

It has been heartening to see people coming up with new ideas for fundraising and promoting and thanks must go to Helen for organising the comedy night yet again.

We've attracted a few new attendees, which is great but it would be great to see more new faces.

It is frustrating when lots of effort goes into events and we don't get the support from members and other groups.

This year I've made a conscious decision to not lose out financially any more by doing MAG work. For the last 4 years I've swapped shifts and turned overtime down and ran around in my own time to attend and organise MAG events but after the lack of participation in the demo ride and Halloween party – granted, for reasons out of our control, I've said "no more". I'm happy to be the driving force if wanted but will do it on my terms.

This year concludes the fourth year that I've been Leeds rep and maybe it's time for someone else to have a go.....

I will stand again and if re-elected I'll endeavour to make Leeds MAG a fun and rewarding way for people to support riders rights and hopefully we can push on again in 2015 and keep a good mix of political work and social fun to keep things interesting.

Martin Smith (vice rep)

Frustrations with the lack of information from central on the political side – slow to get things moving and then getting pushed forward by Central before the full information has been disseminated to the ranks. Eg bikes in bus lanes/ bike test legislation - not getting the support nationally. Oliver agreed to pass comments back to Central. Apart from that its been a good crack!

Kate Williams (Treasurer)

Accounts are from Oct to end Sept – bring into line Yorkshire MAG AGM. Noti given much this year as asked to withhold – finished year with nearly £2k in bank – then £1,530 now donated to Yorkshire MAG. Currently in bank £606.57. Holding this balance to cover the outlay for the Austin Vince event. Helen asked why the float amount of £200 had never been reviewed over the years. Kate explained we always keep enough in the float to cover the next upcoming events. Oliver commented the figure of £200 is in the 'model rules' for Groups. Oliver said when ££ goes to Yorkshire – it then goes up to Central as and when they request it.

Kate won the Richard Tegg award for 'Outstanding Contribution to Group' at the AGC this year.

Jan Smith (MAP Liaison)

Jan has handed this role over to Martin Smith mid term, as she moved out of the area, Martin was voted in at local group meeting. Nothing specific to report.

Chris Pursey (Membership rep)

Not present – but advised Manny he is prepared to stand again – looking to go on mass to Sun Inn at Fewston and try and get more members – and try to find fresh ways to recruit new members.

Marcus Houlden (Web Master)

Leeds MAG website has now all been transferred to the central MAG server for security reasons.

New software is using 'wordpress' – giving users more flexibility. Updating the FB page and Twitter accounts to get more flexibility and more advanced on social media. As well as the Leeds FB 'Group' Marcus will set up a Leeds FB 'Page' so that we can have the 'Page' just for events and info and announcements to the general public, and keep the 'Group' for discussions and chit chat between members. Also setting up a Leeds MAG Paypal account. Marcus suggested an online shop selling MAG merchandise to local members.

Marcus Houlden (New rider rep)

Bike test now passed and no longer a learner. Written a leaflet to put in any MAG packs to suggest why new riders should join MAG and the benefits available to them. Also written a report for 'The Road' to explain how difficult it was to pass the bike test and his experiences. There has been a dramatic percentage drop of people trying to take the bike test – with the new rules that have come in. RM raised the fact that there is a proposal take this up nationally.

Helen Taylor (Club liaison)

Still looking to affiliate Team Sober to MAG – waiting to hear from Sarah? Not possible for clubs to download any Affiliation Form from the website – instead having to chase MAG Central for these. Oliver will supply Helen with a pack – the website still a work in progress and not yet available. MAG central apparently have a list of all affiliated clubs – but this has not been disseminated to local groups. Apparently GEMCC joined in August but Helen hadn't been advised of this. RM suggested putting together a list of all the bike clubs in Leeds/ Bradford area, so that we can then start working through these to get as many as possible affiliated. Oliver will advise which ones are currently affiliated so a list can be started to approach others.

Martin Smith (political officer)

As per comments above in Martin's Vice Rep report

Sally Johnson (Communication Secretary)

Enjoying the new role, and happy to help Manny out and relieve the burden where i can.

John Nettleship (Press liaison)

Needs to have more delegated to him as doesn't feel hes getting enough to work with and happy to take on more. Managed to get Manny on Radio Aire this year– could be Look North next year when it comes round to the Demo Ride. Trying to get involved with the new TV channel called 'Made in Leeds', as we have personal contacts with one of the reporters – so will see if we can 'get in there'.

4. Goals and Missions

- 1) We seem to be doing the right things in so much as keeping the group active, but we need to keep sight of the fact that we are a political organisation. We've built better ties with the council and highways. This is important to push the bus lane campaign to a positive conclusion.
- 2) We've got a full committee but when I delegate things out, they need to get done. I'm happy, if voted back in, to lead things but I need other people willing to do a bit of the spade work. Most of the organising falls to me and Kate and when we ask for help, we need it. It would be nice if people stepped up.
3. Always have something in the pipeline to keep up interest in the group. We've got the comedy night, changed the Halloween party, done the demo ride campover. We're having the "Bargain hunt" event and Austin Vince talk which if we can sell it out we'll make over a grand. Still need more ideas for events and fundraising to try to keep it fresh and interesting

5. Events 2015

Leeds MAG Bargain Hunt – 8th February

Fred Hill Run – 15th February

A Right Royal Spring Party – 21st March (quarterly with the seasons)

Easter Egg Run - 25th March

An Evening with Austin Vince Mondo Enduro – 18th April

Demo Ride and Camp Over – 23rd May

Comedy Curry & Cakes – TBA (possibly two dates)

Plus attending as many rallies as possible, supporting all the other Yorkshire groups and anything we can make up as we go along!

6. Election of roles

Leeds MAG Rep

Richard Manton, proposed Helen Taylor, seconded Steve Corbridge, vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG Vice Rep

Martin Smith, proposed Dave Taylor, seconded Mik Rhodes, vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG Treasurer

Kate Williams, proposed Sally Johnson, seconded Su Mitchell vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG MAP Liaison

Martin Smith (Keith Maven dep when required) , proposed Richard Manton seconded Kate Williams vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG Membership Secretary

Chris Pursey proposed Martin Smith seconded Keith Maven vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG Web Officer

Marcus Houlden, proposed Kate Williams seconded Mik Rhodes vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG New Rider Rep

Marcus Houlden, proposed Su Mitchell seconded Richard Manton vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG Club Liaison

Helen Taylor proposed Sally Johnson seconded Martin Smith, vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG Political Officer

Martin Smith, proposed Marcus Houlden seconded Mik Rhodes, vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG Press Liaison

John Nettleship, proposed Dave Taylor seconded Keith Maven vote: unanimous

Leeds MAG Communication Secretary

Sally Johnson, proposed Richard Manton seconded Su Mitchell vote: unanimous

7. Any other Business

Manny raised the point that if anyone was interested in Leeds Rep position next year – Manny is happy for them to shadow him over the next year to get an idea of how the role works and what is involved. Oliver mentioned that he and the Rep Liaison Officer will also offer support to anyone who wants to consider the role going forward.

Marcus Houlden suggest that on the Leeds MAG website we update the 'whos who' with photos and write up for each of the committee members.