

## **Bournemouth & Wessex Advanced Motorcyclists**

### **Minutes of Committee Meeting**

#### **Monday 8 February at Cobham Sports and Social Club**

Present : Mark Bezzant, Andy Mansfield, Peter Wills, Tony Summers and Claire Saunders

Apologies: Chris Green, Martin Saunders and Matt Timmins

Guest: Martin Sheppard

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

#### **Training/Observers**

Mark opened the meeting by starting off with training matters. He had been approached by three full members who had expressed an interest in observing. He had placed these members with Senior Observers although their training was still in its infancy.

Mark was keen that the three Trainee Observers get on the put themselves up for test. He had given his availability and was waiting to confirm dates. It was also hoped that the Senior Observers would spend their time training the Trainee Observers.

There were no test passes to report which was due to the time of year and weather although a re-test was due shortly.

It had been discussed previously that Associates have sight of their training notes and this was something still to be discussed and actioned.

Mark confirmed that he had undertaken Observer re-tests and was pleased to report that John Spinks and Steve Palmer had passed. He still needed to re-test Martin Saunders, Bob Gould and Nigel Jones.

Alex and Pearl James were keen to get back involved in BWAM after their return from holiday in about April time. It was anticipated that Nigel Jones would spend some time with them getting them back up to standard following their absence.

The Observers Training Weekend was confirmed as 24 April and it was expected that 14 Observers would be attending. Mark has yet to confirm hotel booking but will do this asap.

Mark asked that it be minuted that his Associate Marc Cattini recently came off his motorcycle whilst taking part in a training session with him. It was left that the Associate would contact Mark when he was back in the saddle.

Claire raised the point that not all Observers were recording their rides and in fact the Waiting List was not up to date. There were three Associates who had been allocated but their Observers had not completed the form on the web page. It was felt to be important that the Observers do their bit of admin and keep their recordings up to date.

Dave Orvin had conducted one GTAR and more were planned at the moment monthly and when the weather improved together with lighter evenings they would be more regular.

The Unallocated Associates Rides were due to start in April with the assistance of Paul Gardiner and it was intended that on the 15 March Paul would conduct a theory training session for Unallocated Associates and Associates at 7.30 p.m. at Cobham. It was suggested this invitation be extended to all Members of BWAM and an entry will be posted on the forum. Claire will send an e-mail to all Unallocated Associates and Associates nearer the time.

### **Treasurers report**

Andy confirmed that at present there was approximately £1,300.00 in the current account with approximately £2,000.00 in the savings account. The funds from DCC in the sum of £900.00 were yet to be banked.

The Observers that had requested payment of expenses had been paid which amounted to £75.00 although no Senior Observers had asked for any training expenses.

The accounts need to be finalized and audited in April which Andy will deal with.

It was discussed subsidizing the Observers in some way for their training weekend and this will be discussed further once a hotel has been booked and the full cost of the weekend known.

The other option of using funds for the benefit of BWAM members was to invest in training equipment, Observers time and fuel, a motorcycle camera and possibly brand clothing.

As the subs are going up this year it was felt important that the club members see what the Committee are doing with their money.

This matter was deferred to the next committee meeting when it was hoped further discussion could take place.

(note to Martin Saunders to add this to the Agenda)

### **Website**

Tony was asked to remove John Topping and Steve Hinds as Observers in BWAM as they were no longer continuing in this role.

Tony raised the issue that the events calendar was looking rather empty and he would like to change the photos on the front page of the website regularly. It was agreed that the website was an important tool for BWAM and photos should be regularly updated and events posted.

Regular monthly Sunday rides, fish and chip rides and club evening events would be posted by Tony.

Some time was spent on ideas for forthcoming Club nights, guest speakers and events generally. This was something all members of the Committee would need to give some thought to although a rough outline of events was planned which Tony will add to the website.

### **Membership matters**

Peter reported that with regard to the membership fee increase many members had paid in advance and the majority were setting up standing orders.

Later this month he will write to members chasing payment for fees but on the whole it was felt the transition was going as well as could be expected.

### **AGM**

All those currently on the Committee were agreeing to stand for re-election. Concern was raised to filling the position of Vice Chairman and Event's Co-ordinator. Several names were mentioned as to filling the role of Events Co-ordinator and these members will be approached.

It was suggested and agreed that the re-election and Steve Strong trophy nomination forms would be printed off and handed out at the Club night in February.

### **Ride Safe**

This was left with Mark to follow up with Sue Virgin.

## **AOB**

The need for some basic first aid training for Observers was felt necessary and Mark had spent some time looking into this.

Martin knew of somebody who may be able to assist the Club and he would make further enquires.

Date of next Committee Meeting – Monday 12 April.

Venue was suggested as the Seven Stars 7.00 p.m. but not confirmed.