

## Harrogate Advanced Bikes

### Committee Meeting - Bilton Cricket Club - 5 August 2013

Present:

Bob Hill

Pauline Simms

Tim Simms

Andrew Pratt

Paul Dresser

David Haywood

1. Apologies noted from Mike Fourie and Doug Masterton.
2. Minutes of 15 April meeting approved.
3. Pauline reported on her attendance at a meeting in June with Chief Observers from other Yorkshire IAM groups to discuss changes to National Observer Qualification (NOQ) and Local Observer Qualification (LOQ). One object of this meeting was to see how local groups would support each other as the LOQ requires a National Observer (NO) from a different group to do the assessing.  
Mike Hearn (Chief Observer, York group) wanted all groups to write a joint letter to the IAM re their concerns. Other groups felt this would be taking away their independence and that a joint letter might be seen as tacitly accepting the idea of smaller groups amalgamating.

Committee agreed that amalgamation would not be practical to HAB on a number of levels although no one is sure if this is an aspiration of IAM or a definite plan.

Other concerns are:

- The question of expenses when a NO assesses someone for LOQ in another area (which could be some distance away)
- The potential time putting observers through NOQ (not an immediate issue as we have five Senior Observers still with over two years to go before they need to review).

**Agreed we should refrain from writing to the IAM until after the national meeting in Warwick on 6 Oct and the autumn regional forum, when we can review the situation.**

Pauline said she was concerned that, overall, we need to improve riding skills to achieve NOQ standard. Andrew disagreed; in his opinion most observers would be above the required level.

Until we get someone through the new test however, we don't really know what the required level is.

Andrew asked if anyone knew much about the group in Hull who've apparently broken away from IAM. It would seem they're still putting people through the IAM test and also through the RoSPA test with insurance cover provided by MAG.

Potential benefits seem to be greater flexibility for the group with lower cost for members: club members don't necessarily have to be members of IAM.

Agreed we should meet with Hull at some point in the future to see how their new group is doing.

*BH to attend IAM National Conference in Warwick  
PS to attend meeting at Squires 31 Aug to find out what Mike Hearn from York is  
proposing  
PS to attend autumn forum in Sept.*

4. Proposed Open Day end of September celebrating 10 years of HAB.

Agreed on 28 Sept, 10.00am to 2.30pm. Venue: BCC

Format for the Open Day to be:

- An introduction to what HAB and advanced riding is all about
- A free observed ride following by bacon butty and coffee for all interested riders attending.

Publicity:

- BH is hopeful of getting an article in the Harrogate Advertiser to promote.
- New HAB leaflets to hand out at the event: PD said these were nearing completion so should be available for the Open Day.

Agreed to ask all observers to attend if they possibly can and invite all club members to a 'Free 10th Anniversary Buffet at 1.30pm on 28 Sept with a short ride out afterwards'.

BCC to be asked to provide 10 to 20 bacon butties for riders taking the free observed ride and a buffet for 30 in the afternoon.

Agreed there should be a short disclaimer statement for riders taking the free observed ride to sign.

*BH to arrange Harrogate Advertiser article  
PS to set up the 'Introduction to ...' material  
PS to write the disclaimer statement  
PD to send draft of new leaflet to all committee members for checking  
DH to contact all Observers re attending  
DH to set up web flyer to advertise Open Day  
TS to book BCC and food (DONE)*

5. Radio skills for Observers

Mixed feeling about the use of radios and particular the cost involved were aired.

Agreed to ignore this.

6. We have been asked by Steve Beckwith, a motorcycle police officer from Skipton, if we can send leaflets for a couple of proposed BikeSafe events he is hoping to set up. He's also invited us to send members along.

We need to firm up on dates with him. Subject to this, we will be happy for two or three group observers to attend.

We will send him leaflets as soon as these are available.

Agreed we should invite him personally to our Open Day on 28 Sept.

*DH to write*

7. Andrew asked about the “First on the scene” courses. Pauline said we will be going for the November date and she will put details on the website.

***PS to organise***

8. Proposed Members Questionnaire.

Various suggestions for amendments were made to the draft. These to be incorporated and a new draft sent to committee members for approval.

***DH to organise***

9. Remind MF about inviting the ‘airbag vest’ man to give his presentation to members at one of the BCC meetings this winter.

***MIKE - Please note!***

10. Suggestion made that we should have a note on the website inviting members to put forward suggestions for close season meetings.

***DH to organise***

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm.

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