

Harrogate Advance Bikes Committee Meeting minutes

Date of meeting: 18th January 2021 (via Zoom)

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. minutes of the last meeting and matters arising
3. Finance and Subs for 2021
4. Training
5. Rideouts
6. Winter meeting activities
7. Future Club Officials
8. AOB

Attendees:

John Blanchfield
Paul Dresser
Richard Stembrowicz
Peter Smith
Barry Ring
Pete McNulty
Bob Hill
John Watts

Apologies: None

2. Minutes of the last meetings and matters arising.

No amendment to last meeting.

3. Finance and Subs for 2021

Discussed issue raised by Bob previously over a proposed a social bank account to segregate member subs from IAM training funds and allow greater flexibility on what we can offer members as IAM funds can only be used for road training and safety objectives.

Various views and discussion points raised by all. Main points are:

IAM can take all club funds if club wound up for any reason and much of the current balance is associated with money raised or subs. The money from IAM is small and cover the investment in associates.

IAM handbook review by Pete McNulty which was distributed to committee prior to meeting. This confirmed that on winding up of a group the group funds would be transferred to the IAM, however we can use such funds to develop road safety objectives and for social purposes.

Bob highlighted that this had been brought in by stealth and had never been agreed to by any previous committee's or Chairpersons. Bob also felt that if we are an IAM group then members payments to the IAM should be their only contribution and the membership payment to us should either be cancelled or paid into a different account. Bob also highlighted that we have lost members in the past who would normally have maintained a social membership but not an IAM membership. The question was raised as to whether IAM members and Social members could be on a rideout together as this is against IAM guidance

Various views and discussions put forward key points.

- If the funds are at our disposal for training and social we should use them as such, we have not had significant investment in the past and have healthy reserves.
- Discussed how the finances would develop if we ran the club solely from IAM contributions, RS commented that they would deplete in about 5 years.
- Discussed a second social account starting from zero and been built up by membership and fund raising to uses at clubs discretion.
- That the current funds could not be split into separate accounts as this would be construed badly by IAM, RS pointed out they have never asked for financial statements or accounts.
- Discussed a club structure operating outside the IAM and whether we would need a committee etc.

JB highlighted that such significant changes would have to be put to membership at AGM and would most likely be the 2021 AGM.

Final consensus was that we should spend more on member activities and use the money for training and social activities to benefit the general membership. Ideas put forward included.

- Remuneration to Observers for their time. (although Bob commented post meeting that "the observers get their reward from training members and remuneration, other than fuel expenses is not necessary")
- Additional training for Observers such as first aid.
- Investment in equipment (although we have invested in radios and a new laptop)
- Funding specific speaker sessions.
- General training (suggested things like I2I, roadsafe, Rapid training etc)
- Remuneration to club officials (although all agreed not necessary)
- Social events for members (BBQ/Trips/events)

A comment was also made that there is a lot of good comes from IAM membership such as the training framework, the safety and development for members and that there is also the social side and that it would not be beneficial to separate and segregate the two halves.

On general accounts status Richard stated the following

Operating account balance £1292.43

Deposit account balance £2550.50

Total reserves £3842.93

Current subs received 24 (to 27th December statement), when Richard receives next statement he will reconcile payments and Paul will contact those not paid.

Recent expenditure £315.60 on Webhosting (20 months) and zoom pro subscription to enable committee meetings remotely due to covid.

4. Training

Sufficient observers and observers in training, going well.

Between lockdowns 10 people through test and 2 first class passes which is excellent

Bob stated we had 9 associates, some of which have been associate members for a couple of years. New associates have joined but are deferring training until the spring, COVID has had an impact on what we can deliver.

John B questioned whether we had sent Observers on Skills days, Barry highlighted that they were more like track days and that his insurance did not cover it and an additional £100 insurance was required. (Cornmarket cover you for this).

Further development of Observers is desirable but would need commitment from observers to engage. Various options discussed bit in house and brought in training and agreed we would review further. One area of training highlighted was 'how to be a better trainer' to develop coaching skills. Bob could go on some of these outsider provide courses to access them and either bring them in to develop training or use the ideas learnt to improve the delivery of in house training.

Bob is to review possibilities and report back with a view to improving the deliver of training.

5. Rideouts.

Still in lockdown so no activities at minute. Planning for when restrictions lifted an possibly six person rides.

Dates are in on calendar but can't commit to anything at minute.

Barry suggested summer meetings were attended well but limit of six and covid had made this sporadic. Suggested that we could combine indoor and outdoor meetings to increase social aspect and have a short ride before going to the club house. Some people could do ride only, ride and meet or meet only providing flexibility.

All agreed a good idea and we would try it out.

All thanked Barry for the work he had done.

6. Winter evening activities.

It was agreed by all that due to the current Covid situation it would not be possible to re-commence indoor meetings.

7. Future Club Officials

Although current elected committee (secretary/finance) were happy to remain in post JB highlighted that his three-year post was coming to an end and intended to step down at the next AGM.

Paul Dresser (Secretary) had indicated he would be willing to step up to Chairman however this would leave the secretary post open and recruitment should start for this position.

The date of the AGM could be delayed to May or June due to Covid and this would be reviewed as things developed.

8 AOB

No AOB

Next Meetings.

Due to difficulties In meeting face to face agreed that JB would review dates for a future zoom meeting.