

**Biker Forum
Minutes**

**Aylesbury Fire Station
25th January 2010**

Attendees

Nigel Spencer	Buckinghamshire County Council
Keith Wheeler	Bucks Fire & Rescue
Neil McGlyn	On yerbike
Alan Songhurst	TVAM – Observer
Bruce Wingrave	Bucks Better Biker
Gary Armstrong	Alternative Training
Darren Carnell	Thames Valley Police
Guy Lachlan	VSMC/ISC/HOC
Dave Howe	BMF
Mark Mawby	Wycombe MAG
Yana De Silva	Group Manager Communications – Bucks CC

Apologies

Ivon Jennery	BMF
Vince Morley	Milton Keynes Council
Carole Graham	Aylesbury Advanced Motorcyclists
Graham James	IAM – Aylesbury
Jon Wilmer	Wycombe MAG

Welcome and introductions

Round the table introductions occurred for this meeting.

Mark was welcomed to the forum as substitute for Jon Wilmer who is the new rep for Wycombe MAG but was unable to attend this evening
Also welcomed was Yana who attended to gain an insight into the motorcycle forum with a view to writing an article on this group for the next issue of Buckinghamshire Times, also maybe an article on the forthcoming awareness day.

Last Meetings Minutes

Outstanding issues regarding Burcott lane, Bierton; The area is subject to a speed limit review, it will go out for public consultation during March/April 2010. There will be a roadside check on speeding on that road sometime during w/c 1st February, at a time suggested by the local community.

The minutes were agreed as fine

The last 2 meetings minutes are available for viewing on the Bucks CC web site;

2010 Motorcycle Awareness Day

The date is now Saturday 8th May, the date was changed because we have been successful in gaining attendance from Bradley Smith (subject to no sponsor attendance event), the previous agreed date clashed with a round of the Moto GP.

Further investigation to the possibility of a marquee, open sided to encourage visitors to the square – **Nigel/Keith to investigate costs.**

Try & book MCI “get on” promotion road show. Neil to mention when they visit on yer bike. (Guy has progressed this but they are booked on the 8th May)

Requested higher attendance from scooter/smaller P2W dealers.

Investigate possible attendance from electric P2W – **Guy to progress.**

Arcade rides will be attending & will be placed by fire exhibition vehicle.

Other attendees to be: Road safety, On yer bike, BMF, Wycombe MAG, Emergency services bikes, IAM, Skidz & White Dalton.

Investigate possible attendance from: Dave Woods Racing, any other motorcycle dealers in Bucks, Rapid Training, Serv (blood runners), Help the heroes – Brize Norton, DSA, Think promotional team, Bennetts insurance, Wheels to work initiative. **Nigel to progress.**

Investigate goodie bag for drop in bikers – **Nigel**

Professional photographer to record event – **Yana to progress**

Promote publicity through local press & radio – **Nigel & Yana to progress**

Explore quiz & free gifts/prizes for on the day activity - **Nigel**

Date of our next meeting to be before the awareness day to confirm all attendees & activities

BABB 2010 Assessment Days

The dates & venues for 2010 have been confirmed & they are:

Winslow Centre - off A413 between Aylesbury & Buckingham
17th April
12th June
10th July

Princes Risborough Fire Station
15th May
26th June
11th September

There is a limit of 12 attendees at the Risborough events, but can expand to 14 for the Winslow centre ones if required.

Cost to Bikers £35, also £35 refundable deposit required that will be handed back on attendance on the day, to secure full courses on the day.

Actively arranging publicity through local news publications within Bucks – Bucks Times, MK18 magazine, Bucks Herald & Bucks Free Press, Mix 96.

Bucks CC motorcycle web page has been updated, on-line application form available. Facility to pay by credit card/debit card now available.

With Bruce's assistance looking to progress BABB stand alone web page, also begin twitter & face book pages.

The Thames Valley Police have requested permission to roll out the BABB Assessment day's protocol across the Thames Valley. It already exists in Milton Keynes & Oxfordshire are beginning this year.

BABB promotional merchandise being progressed, ordering posters & leaflets to be delivered to all motorcycle dealers.

Ordering ear defenders, biker buffs, lanyards, think bike stickers. Have a supply of bike stands carried over from last year.

Still progressing with Highways Agency the possibility of a motorcycle safety pack.

Motorcycle Casualty Stats 2009

Two days after the forum meeting the November figures were published, which showed:

Latest motorcycle stats for 2009 up to the end of November, which are:
3 fatal & 50 serious = 53 KSI

The fatal figure stayed at 3 for the whole of 2009, complete end of year figures should be available at the beginning of March.

The end of year figures for 2008 was:
1 fatal & 50 serious = 51 KSI

Since the forum Guy has distributed to forum members the annual figures for m/cycle usage from the DFT in units of billion km. The last 5 years are:

2004 – 5.2
2005 – 5.4
2006 – 5.2
2007 – 5.6
2008 – 5.1

Below is a link to a recent publication from the IAM titled motorcycling facts, a copy was passed around the table at the forum.

http://www.iam.org.uk/policy_and_research/policyresearch.html

Motorcycle Issues on Buckinghamshire's roads

A discussion took place regarding potholes, which do cause problems for all road users but especially for motorcyclists.

An extra 2 million pounds of emergency money is being made available by Bucks County Council to fix the large number of pot holes left in the wake of the winter weather and the big freeze.

Nigel to investigate the possibility of a press release on a general warning to motorcyclists re pot holes from a positive point of view from the Council.

Questions rose regarding lane markings in Aylesbury.

Nigel to investigate who within the motorcycle forum are consulted on planned projects, so engineering issues are looked at from a P2W point of view

Round the table input

Gary – What is the possibility of an information board on a main road in Bucks showing real-time traffic information similar to ones seen in Basingstoke & on A40 towards Oxford? These are possibly Highways agency funded signs.

Darren – When the new sites for the Think Bike signs are contemplated could the Long Crendon & Oakley areas be investigated as high levels of bike activity have been identified to Thames Valley Police.

Nigel – The Thames Valley Police have requested dates & venues for any forthcoming motorcycle events they could attend to promote safer motorcycling. Please send Nigel any events & dates that may be relevant. I have informed them of our awareness day in May, Ludgershall bike night on 5th July.

Dates for this year Wycombe MAG Chinnor bike show are 2nd, 3rd & 4th July

Thank Keith for providing venue for this meeting & hopefully future ones too.

Action for next meeting – Nigel to bring biscuits!

Date of next forum meeting

Monday 26th April 2010 at 7.30pm, Aylesbury Fire Station, Stocklake, HP20 1BD