

**Biker Forum
Minutes**

**Aylesbury Fire Station
7th September 2009**

Attendees

Nigel Spencer	Buckinghamshire County Council
Keith Wheeler	Bucks Fire & Rescue
Ivon Jennery	BMF
Neil McGlyn	On yerbike
Alan Songhurst	TVAM – Observer
Bruce Wingrave	Bucks Better Biker
Alliston Hyde	Aylesbury Advanced Motorcyclists
Graham Owen	Drivetech
Steve Lane	Thames Valley Police

Apologies

Vince Morley	Milton Keynes Council
Gary Armstrong	Alternative Training
Carole Graham	Aylesbury Advanced Motorcyclists
Graham James	IAM – Aylesbury
Darren Carnell	Thames Valley Police

Welcome and introductions

Round the table introductions occurred for this meeting.

Steve was welcomed to the forum; he was attending on behalf of the Thames Valley Police and a keen motorcyclist.

Last Meetings Minutes

Issues raised over the red-painted pedestrian/cycle crossings in Aylesbury:

The problem raised at the stage 2 audit regarding these crossing points was:

The proposed marking of the crossing point is likely to lead to confusion for all road users. The 'elephant feet' markings appear similar to controlled crossing markings. The crossing is heavily used by school children and other pedestrians who, in addition to cyclists, may assume they have priority. Cyclists using the cycle way may also turn right suddenly to cross the road believing they have right of way. This is likely to lead to conflict between non-motorised and motorised road users and rear shunt type collisions on the carriageway due to sudden braking.

The response from cycling was:

Elephant feet markings remain as this is consistent with other crossing points in the town. Recommended road marking instruction from sustrans and cycle England providing enhanced continuity of route.

Nigel to investigate further the issue raised about speed limits off the roads in Bierton, especially Burcott lane.

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 2010 event was discussed, happy to keep it on a Saturday & in Kingsbury square looking for a date in either May or June – **Keith to find out date availability with Town Centre Management**

Suggestions of others to invite – Police (TVP Sports Bike), ambulance, fire, serve More motorcycle clubs, go ped mini motor for early 2 wheel useage
Possibility of a ride in – **Nigel to check possibility of free parking with AVDC**
Maybe use open sided Marque to house all exhibitors.
Potential to have celebrity attendance, Bradley Smith?

Nigel & Keith to pursue/progress all issues regarding the day & feedback at next meeting.

Hopefully it will appear in the 2010 events guide

Motorcycle Promotion Materials

Nigel has contacted various merchandise companies with a view to investigating motorcycle promotional materials to use from next year with the new logo on.
Items discussed & shown were:

Rucksack large & small – not following up due to safety reasons

Visor wipes – maybe

Buff – yes black one shown at meeting

Key strands/lanyards – yes

First aid kit – to include hi viz tabard, space blanket, card with what to do in an emergency, maybe also visor wipe or face mask.

Highways Agency has produced a biker safety pack & is looking to local authorities to help distribute these. – **Nigel meeting with HA next week to discuss this further**

Pen – no

Shammy leather – no

Nigel to progress ordering lanyards, buffs, emergency pack – maybe in association with HA pack

BABB 2009 Review

Take up in 2009 has been just over 80%

7 courses ran this year which includes on for Harley riders

A debrief meeting to take place in the coming weeks with Graham, Nigel, Bruce & Vince, also to plan for 2010.

Maybe look at less days but increased attendees at Bucks days in Winslow

Investigate better avenues for advertising days through bike clubs.

Leaflets & posters at bike shops have proved successful with attendees having seen details at these locations.

Motorcycle Casualty Stats 2009

Latest motorcycle stats for 2009 are up to the end of June, which are:

3 fatal & 26 serious = 29 KSI

For the same period for 2008 it was:

1 fatal & 25 serious = 26 KSI

For information the table below shows figures for past 6 years including slights

year	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Total
2003	12	71	156	238
2004	7	60	124	191
2005	7	64	129	200
2006	4	64	127	193
2007	3	46	109	160
2008	1	50	106	157

Progressing the forum in 2010 & beyond

The format of the forum plus the frequency it meets was discussed & agreed to continue with a meeting every 4 months, promoting motorcycling issues in Buckinghamshire through our motorcycle strategy, Be a Better Biker assessment days also including an annual motorcycle awareness day

Round the table input

Alan – Asked correct way to view mini roundabouts from a motorcyclist's point of view.

Highway Code states that "all vehicles must pass round the central markings except large vehicles". Discussion around the room was that you may go round or over for safety reasons, but the important part is knowing whether to or not.

Neil – Last open day of the year at On Yer bike – Sunday 27th September
Open day at On Yer Triumph leaflets handed out – 12th 13th September

Nigel – A413 consultation of proposed road signs, example of new material used shown to forum for signs that are lightweight & more flexible, this will be used if chevron signs are placed on bends in place of marker posts, which are damaged easily & become hidden by growing vegetation.

The Department of Transport has asked for a call of evidence regarding the new European motorcycle test.

Interested parties are invited to submit evidence by Tuesday 22nd September.

More detailed guidance on giving evidence to a select committee is available online at: www.parliament.uk/documents/upload/witnessguide.pdf

This may only be relevant to persons who run training schools.

A Motorcycle Foundation bid was discussed with funding via the TVSRP, a decision to look at P2W intervention targeted at year 11 or below, with research firstly to see what interventions may work, also what they would like.

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

Date of next forum meeting

Monday 25th January 2010 at 7.30pm, Aylesbury Fire Station, Stocklake, HP20 1BD