



BucksMTB AGM Minutes January 2012

Meeting held: Sunday 22nd January 2012, The Plough, Aylesbury 7.40pm start.

<u>Present:</u>	Chairman:	Scott Camber
	Secretary:	Mike Dalton
	Treasurer:	Mark Baines
	Members:	Various

Meeting Called to Order: 19.40pm

Apologies for absence from Polly FitzGerald due to illness.
Apologies from various Club Members for not attending due family commitments.

Chairman's Report:

Thanks for attendance and support from club members, staff & all who have helped with rides and promotion throughout the past year.

Secretary's report:

The minutes from our 1st AGM in 2011 will be sent round after the meeting so all members can read (they're online at the moment but members may want a e-copy then can read later) but in summary the Club met the majority of the objectives it set out in Jan 2011. Some we have had more success than we'd hoped for, with others we have had a little more work to do than we'd expected and some have not worked as well as we'd hoped. These will be covered in detail later on in the meeting.

Finance officers' report

Throughout 2011 the club's total income (from funding, website income and memberships) was **£2799.92** and total expenditure was **£1511.82**. Leaving BMTB with a balance of **£1288.10**.

Of this balance **£910.00** is remaining funds from the grant received from 'Bike Club'.

In 2011 Bucks MTB generated **£378.10** of its own income. This income came from local bike shop listings on the website and club memberships, with the clubs only current expenses being for stationary items, promotional materia and a club first aid kit and group shelter.

At present the production of a club calendar is looking likely to run at a loss (**£60.00-£70.00**), the specific deficit should be known by the end of Jan 2012. Current projections based on membership and advertising retention's suggest that the club should generate similar levels of income in 2012. Left over calendars will be sold at a sale price of donated to local shops for Club promotion.

Women's ride liaison's report:

Pollyanna FitzGerald had organised and lead a number of rides specifically for women interested in mtb and the club with varying levels of success. The rides originally had an emphasis on coaching but later changed to have more an emphasis on a lead ride on new trails with some coaching when appropriate too. These had a mixed result from members but we hope to organise similar rides in the coming year for women and beginners.

The group discussed the previous women's only rides that had taken place with mixed success, & liked the idea to continue trying to increase the number of female members but thought that specific women's' rides may not be the best way to do this, and that family rides or introduction rides to new novice riders may be a better route to go down.

Advisor Report(s) and/or Officer reports:

None.

Old Business Overview:

Currently there are 36 members (including 4 executive committee positions) with 32 paid Senior members 4 of whom are women.

The members gave good feedback regarding the contents of the membership packs but thought that sending the paperwork through was a waste of paper and asked for membership packs to be sent out with as much E-content as possible to reduce paper and save money. The only real priority item to post was the membership cards with a welcome letter.

It was also hoped that the 'old' routes we have on our website are turned into more up-to-date GPS routes for the public and members to use and this is an on-going project.

The number and variety of membership benefits has increased over the past 12 months and details can be found in full online and in the membership packs that are sent out.

The costs of the BMTB website were discussed and the committee were keen to separate the running costs of the website from the running costs of the club – the bike shop adverts were the main source of revenue for the website and a lot of members were surprised that they were so cheap compared to a number of large advertising websites. The committee expressed an interest in keeping the adverts costs low as not to discourage local shops from having a listing and risk damaging the relationship that had built up over the past decade. All local shops that pay are happy to do so knowing they are helping fund and run the website and club. The prices will be reviewed at the next general meeting.

Prices as follows: £20.00 for Premium listing, 12 month validity, £30.00 for PremiumPlus listing, 12 month validity.

BucksMTB's affiliation with the CTC and Bike Club is due for renewal. It was agreed that this would be renewed for the time being despite the trouble BucksMTB had had over the past year with the CTC.

Affiliating with British Cycling was also discussed and the pros and cons were to be looked into.

The annual report for BucksMTB's BikeClub grant and affiliation is due to be sent in by the end of January 2012.

As part of the clubs remit to increase the number of junior riders a possible collaboration with The Grange School in Aylesbury was discussed. The school currently have ties with Ian Warby and Firecrest MTB for coaching 30 children but some staff have explained that it was too Down-Hill orientated and they wanted to focus on more XC rides which were more accessible. Staffing was one of the key issues BMTB has and this was to be discussed at a later date.

New Business

The members were happy with the current allocation of club committee members so the Chairman, Treasurer & Secretary remain in their current roles.

Committee posts open to interest club members are:

- Events organiser/liaison
- Social Officer – interest expressed from Steve Richardson **now confirmed**
- Club Members only ride organiser
- Aston Hill Committee liaison
- Down Hill coordinator

An events coordinator is required to coordinate events for BMTB – planning regular rides and organising recce rides and confirming details of rides. The overall plan is to have a minimum of 4 rides a month with a mixture of member only rides, open rides

and special rides such as family rides when possible. A lot of BMTB members organise casual rides via Facebook or the BMTB Forum and it was agreed that it would benefit the club's members if these were formalised to an extent. The amount of notice required to advertise these as rides for club members would need to be approx. 2 weeks but it is hoped that members would still advertise personal rides at short notice if they wanted company or to try a new area. It was also hoped that having rides based in the areas the majority of BMTB's members reside would reduce the amount of travelling for members and increase the range of locations we use.

Future ride locations were discussed as well as use of a BMX track in/nr Milton Keynes as well as members leading a ride in their "back yard".

A consensus was met to reduce the number of free rides for non-members were allowed to attend before having to pay for membership to be covered by BMTB's insurance. The number is being reduced from 3 rides to 2 rides.

The Members agreed to keep the membership prices as they were (£15.00 per annum) for senior members and to drop the membership for juniors (under 18) riders to £5.00 per annum and also to introduce a Family membership pack for £30.00 per annum for 2 adults & 2 children living at the same address. This reinforces the clubs' aims to increase the number of juniors and female riders on events and as club members.

It was agreed that BMTB should look to continue increasing the number and frequency of family/junior and novice rides. The term for these has not yet been decided but the consensus was to continue providing events for new riders to the sport and an avenue for current or new members to bring family along as well. Clear advertising of group and members only rides should help people to choose events that are more suitable for them and their levels of fitness and skill.

The club agreed that it should aim to continue with running 1 open event a month at least but would do more if the staff were available to lead. A number of members expressed an interest in helping lead rides in future to enable BMTB to increase the number and frequency of all types of events.

Club Kit was discussed and Adele was volunteered to draw up a few trial designs alongside Scott's current designs. The majority of members were keen to buy the club kit so it should be possible to draw up an order of 30 items (the minimum order for personalised kit from Endura is 15). We also discussed the possibility of a 3rd party company (not a bike shop/brand) sponsoring the club (such as a brewery or local company?) to help reduce the cost of the club's kit and it may also help give the club a little more exposure in return for a logo on the jerseys.

The name of BMTB was discussed as some members thought it did not currently reflect the size of the club nor the location of it's members. The issue with renaming the club was that all of the work done to make BMTB a brand would be lost and new websites would also need to be made. With the club's 10th birthday coming up it was decided this was not an option but that the logo and tag-lines on the website and literature could be updated. This will be reviewed again in the future.

Three CTC qualified leaders have contacted the club recently who are based in Halton and it is hoped that they are able to help lead rides in the new year with the club. These leaders will go through Club “standardisation” before leaving rides solo.

Any Other Business:

Offer from a local organisation for use of a stock of used bikes – issues surrounding these include storage, maintenance and transport of a fleet of bikes so it was not decided we should take these but it is a matter for further discussion for use on family events.

Recce rides were discussed with some members keen to help with the recce rides to make the group/open rides a smoother event. It was agreed that having more riders who knew the routes in advance could only be a good thing and if possible it would be helpful to have a couple of members to help. However it would not be possible to pre-advertise these recce rides as it may result in a large number of people attending which would turn the recce into a full ride raising concerns with slow progress insurance, risk assessments etc. In the future emails may be sent out to local riders who may be able to help providing they are free for the event itself.

The number of locations the club use is to be increased where possible to keep the riding ‘fresh’.

Scott will send round a CD with the pics from The BMTB Dales Trip to those who attended.

It was suggested that the club put together a promotional video for use on the website to further promote the club.

Club Awards will be confirmed in the next meeting in May 2012 with nominations for club member and staff awards welcome from all club members and staff.

Meeting closed at: 10:50pm