



MINUTES FOR THE AUK BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE IBIS HOTEL, BIRMINGHAM
on 11 January 2017 STARTING AT 09:00.

PRESENT:

Chris Crossland (“CC”) (Chairman)
John Ward (“JW”)
Mike Wigley (“MW”)
Martin Foley (“MF”)
John Sabine (“JS”)
Chris Boulton (“CB”)
Graeme Provan (“GP”)
Ged Lennox (“GL”)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Richard Jennings (“RJ”) (in part)

APOLOGIES

Peter Lewis (“PL”)
Paul Salmons (“PS”)

1. Opening

The Chairman reported that due notice of the meeting had been given and that a quorum was present. Accordingly, the Chairman declared the meeting open.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Minutes of previous meetings

3.1 Board Meeting – 23rd March 2016

JS reported that these minutes were still in draft form and would be circulated for approval as soon as they were ready.

3.2 Board Meeting – 12 October 2016

Approved

3.2 Board Meeting by teleconference– 19 December 2016

Approved

4. Matters arising from minutes of previous meetings

4.1 Complaint between members

JS reported that the matter was now resolved.

4.2 Honoraria

Action Point: CC to draft an email for directors to circulate to their delegates to gauge opinion on the current system and other options. CB and JS to review the draft email. Directors are to report back to the next board meeting with the outcome of the emails to their delegates.

A backdated claim had been received via the Event Services Director. No honorarium had been specified for the year in question for the role but had been so in subsequent years. A review had been undertaken but this role had been missed out. As a board we do not backdate honoraria but in this exceptional case CC was authorised to make an offer of a payment equivalent to one year of the current honorarium.

4.3 NGB Status

MF tabled his status sheet.

It was agreed that the list represented good practice even if the NGB status was not achieved.

GP reported that he had already commenced work on various policies using the Club England resources as a base wherever possible.

Action Point: GP to circulate drafts for next board meeting.

4.4 Audaxifying

Deferred to MF's report.

4.5 Appointment of AAA Secretary

JW reported that various discussions had taken place with interested parties.

Oliver Iles was recommended for the role and it was resolved that he be appointed.

Francis Cooke will arrange the technical side of the handover.

In future AAA will be calculated as a more technical rather than bespoke process. When available, information on the new system will be circulated to DIY Organisers and riders.

Action Point: JW to review procedure for claiming AAARTY and other AAA related awards that require specific claims.

4.6 Dates of future meetings

It was generally agreed that the board should continue to meet four times each year. The remaining meetings for this year would be scheduled for April, July and October with the first meeting in 2018 taking place in January. Exact dates would be agreed after the meeting.

GP explained that with the forthcoming review of the Articles of Association, it was an appropriate time to review the structure of the meetings more generally.

CB felt that executive directors should exercise devolved powers in relation to the majority of business matters leaving the board meetings free for wider strategic issues.

It was generally felt that with the continuing increase in membership numbers, serious consideration would have to be given to future strategy.

It was agreed that the board would move towards splitting the meeting between business and strategy with effect from the next board meeting.

Action Point: GP to form a steering committee also comprising the non-Executive directors to review the meeting structure and corporate governance generally.

5. Business

5.1 AGM Resolutions

The draft agenda and resolutions were approved subject to further input as discussed.

Action Point: GP to produce ballot papers for use at the AGM. In the event that proxies other than the Chair were appointed, some account would have to be taken for the purposes of the meeting. CB and GP to liaise with mi-Voice to determine how to deal with proxies.

It was agreed that votes would be counted from the floor. The Returning Officer will then add these to the proxy votes given to the Chair and declare the final result.

GP will take the AGM minutes.

Action Point: GP to advise the venue of numbers and catering requirements.

5.2 AGM Reports

CC is finalising the Annual Report with a view to submitting a complete set of papers to mi-Voice by Friday.

The OCD representative had been asked to produce a report by the 6th of January but nothing had been received so far.

5.3 IT Update

RJ joined the meeting to present his report.

Progress has been better over the last 6 months compared to the previous 6.

We are near the point at which we can select a supplier. This will have to be done without a full set of requirements which will mean an amount of soft evaluation of costs in the absence of directly comparable cost quotes.

In addition to the appointment of suppliers, there are a number of practical and transitional matters to be dealt with before a go live date can be set.

MF stated that he was keen to see the development of route verification software.

It was resolved to approve the continuation of Andrew Lord's paid role.

It was further resolved to move towards the transition of organisers who accept Paypal towards Paypal Trader accounts by the start of 2018.

RJ reported that there was a groundswell of opinion that the development of the website needed to go hand in hand with AUK strategy. In particular, the material that AUK publishes in whatever medium should adequately reflect AUK's diverse membership and the diversity of society generally.

It was agreed that our publicity, social medial and online presence should be designed to appeal on an inclusive basis with a view to promoting long distance cycling to as diverse an audience as possible. This approach would also be part of the upcoming strategy review and should help inform the process of achieving NGB status

GL sees the AUK brand developing with a strong focus on cycling long distances.

5.4 Annual Accounts

Having carefully reviewed the annual accounts, it was resolved to approve the annual accounts and to present them at the AGM.

The current policy on reserves was discussed. This had been set out in PS's annual report.

Action Point: PS to add some estimated figures to the items listed against the reserves policy to provide greater clarity for members.

It was agreed that the current policy and level of reserves was appropriate.

5.5 Richard Ellis

It was noted that the criminal proceedings had now concluded.

The board reiterated its condolences to Richard's family.

Action Point: GP to include an appropriate statement in the next issue of Arrivee and to direct members towards the existing campaign being run by CTC.

5.6 Appeals against non-validation

Two further appeals had been received regarding the validation secretaries' decision not to validate their rides on a long brevet.

Using the basis agreed at the last board meeting (ie to make as full an allowance as possible, based on the evidence provided, for any time lost

that justified an allowance and then deduct that amount of time from the actual time to see if the rider was then brought back into the permitted time limit), it was noted and agreed that neither rider would be brought inside the time limit. It was therefore resolved to refuse the appeals against non-validation.

Action Point: MF to write to the riders setting out the decision.

5.7 Directors' access to information

CC reported that at present there are various levels of access afforded to different directors. In principle, all directors should have the same levels of access. However editing rights should only be granted on an as needed basis.

Action Point: CC to contact Francis Cooke to see what can be achieved.

6. Reports

6.1 Chair

CC presented a verbal report.

CC had been approached by a randonneur in Thailand who wanted to set up AUK style events in Thailand. It was agreed that AUK was unable to assist directly for a number of reasons including insurance.

CC tabled his report on the Reunion. He felt that the new format had been a success overall and that ACB had run an excellent event.

The open session had been constructive and it was generally agreed that this should be repeated at the next Reunion.

Action Point: GP to contact Paul Rainbow to start the process for the 2017 Reunion.

MF mooted Stirling as a potential location.

CC tabled his LRM report. He particularly noted that the variable minimum speeds issue had now been resolved.

6.2 General Secretary

GP referred to his report.

Action Point: GP to approach insurers about extending third party liability cover.

6.3 Finance Director

The report was taken as read.

6.4 Events Secretary

MF tabled his report. He noted that he was undertaking a review of the procedure for approving and upgrading organisers.

JW noted that permanent organisers did not automatically become calendar organisers but the opposite was true. He suggested that as part of the review, they should be treated in the same way.

MF pointed out that being an organiser was a privilege not a right. This extended to representing AUK in the wider community and being seen as such.

MF had given further thought to the concept of “audaxifying”. He explained that there was a precedent for this with an annual ride organised by the Huntly & District Development Trust. This had been running successfully for some years. He also noted that most of the requests he received were for BP length events.

The principal difference between the existing AUK events and the audaxified events would be group organisers, albeit with a nominated AUK member.

As part of the preparations for LEL, it had become apparent that there was a purported requirement for a Temporary Event Notice for selling hot food between 11pm and 5am. MF will make organisers aware of the potential risks, however unlikely.

A member had proposed that a new award be created for riding 5x50 km. brevets – a “Brevet 250”.

It was resolved to approve the new award and that the patch be awarded at no cost to junior riders.

Action Point: GP to amend Regulations by including award at Appendix 13.2.5.1 and re-numbering pending final approval at the 2016/17 AGM.

It was resolved that event registration fees be waived for future national events.

6.5 Permanent Events Secretary

JW gave an update on progress with the GPX validator. This was now ready to launch on a trial basis with a selection of organisers.

6.6 Events Services

Annual report tabled.

6.7 Membership

Report tabled.

6.8 Communications

GL tabled his annual report.

GL raised a point for future consideration about where and how we communicate. For instance, if ride reports were published on the website it would allow potential riders to look at the rides in more detail before entering them. He also asked people to consider, in particular, what we want to feature in Arrivee.

GL asked that anything that is produced using AUK branding should be passed via him.

Action Point: GL to circulate blanks of headed paper.

7. Any other business

A vote of thanks was recorded for Allan Taylor in recognition of the work that had gone into the new badges and the shop.

CC thanked CB for his efforts during his terms as a non-executive director.

CC reported that Sheila Simpson is stepping down as the winter editor of Arrivee. CC noted her many years of service in this position and her pivotal role in the development of Audax UK. He would be contributing a short piece to ARRIVEE on this, and the Board indicated that this should be noted as on its behalf.

8. Meeting dates

19 April

July 12th

October 11th

January 10th

9. Closure

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 4.15pm.