

Opened: 10:32

Quorum: meeting with 14 members

Apologies: Sarah Merrill, Maggy Ellis, Grace Placencio, Austin Webb, Barbara Maggs, Tony

Previous QGM minutes: Detlef moves they be accepted, Gavin Seconded, Passed.

Business from the minutes:

4Bs: Alan has been to see Grace regarding this group. There has been some progress on setting this up.

Protec Bill: This bill is now being paid off at \$500 per month.

Treasurers Report:

As submitted and attached.

Current balance: \$41.30

Liabilities \$15, 578.14

Suggestion from Damien Codognotto to organise a personal meeting with the head of Rehame regarding this bill and to discuss it to see where it is at. He is apparently a good bloke.

Alex Money:

Originally we were going to fight this. After several meetings we thought we were going to win. According to our lawyers based on the current status, we will at best end up with 50% of the bill. Alex has threatened to increase the bills. It has been suggested we settle.

The lawyer has suggested a letter to members to request a donation to help pay this debt.

Damien: Wishes to record that he strongly disapproves of paying Alex Money anything.

Some discussion about whether we should fight this and the cases of both sides as to whether they have a case. Details not gone into for legal reasons. <Settlement details expanded here>

Dale M: does this leave the previous board open for us to counter sue ? Especially around the finances.

Tres: Not sure, this is being investigated.

Discussion here about the previous reports handed to Consumer Affaires and how valid they are.

The Treasurers will clarify this issue with Consumer Affairs.

We have saved just over \$1000 a month by moving to Quist Court.

We have just about finished paying off the legal bill for the letter from the MRA to Damien.

Finances are not good and we are basically in the red.

Alex has indicated via lawyers that he will accept the settlement.

Alan Riley: Question regarding fund raising.

We got about \$1000 from expo and the proposal has gone to TAC re the Toy Run grant. Southern Classic money is yet to be totaled. We also raised \$400 by selling space on the GP Run Stand.

Dale: We have been gaining members from WMC contact and some of those have helped with raising this GP Run stand money. This is for having a pocket bike on the stand and having people there. These people are also interested in having a stand at BBtB.

Motion to accept T Report: Tony Ellis moved. Seconded: Mick – Passed.

Membership report:

538 members, question over the quality of the database and the accuracy of the reports from it.

10 new members from expo, 2 or 3 from SC, 4 or 5 from Dale, etc. The MS thinks the database is highly suspect.

Dale gives an outline of the motorcycle track in Cardinia and how we will get memberships as part of the membership to the track. Our responsibility will be to help manage the track and look after people riding etc. We have been approached because they understand we are experts in this area.

Damien: Does the membership fee for this come to us. Dale: Yes it does in full.

Damien: If he pays the costs, can the MRA give him a set of mailing labels to send to members. He wants to send a letter re Toy Run and Blood Challenge. This can be done at Quist court. The members have no problem with this.

Toy Run and Blood Challenge Report.

Damien submits maps and photographs regarding the rego labels. Photo of a police bike with an incorrect label. Shane asks for an explanation of the position of the rego label. Paul E said that he had been told that police are exempt from rego by a police officer at a show when he enquired about an expired label on a police car. Damien would like labels removed from law.

Next photo of WRBs with damage. He discusses the issue of damaged barriers and the dangers off them. He also outlines recent investigations which are in violation of what was promised. He also discusses the costs. Get more info from Damien and fill this out in these minutes.

Blood Challenge:

Damien is the authorised organizer of this. We are the originators of this challenge many years ago. A few years ago Red Cross changed their L&F. At that time the name of the blood challenge was changed and now the red cross are trying to keep us out and not to include our history etc.

Damien is organizing with other organizations to independently promote the challenge so that we do not come into conflict with the Red Cross over this issue. He wants to have a yearly trophy to be given out each year for the winner.

Are the members happy with the idea of our independent marketing and a trophy. Members accept this.

Damien proposed we organize the QGMs for the whole year. The original version of this was timed to come ahead of major events. He urges us to look into these. Gets his timetable on this.

Toy Run:

He has been sponsored by Swann to the tune of \$16,000 for looking after Toy Runs nationally and independently of charities and clubs. A generic poster and hand bill is at the printers now. A generic T-Shirt is also in production.

Badges – Damien will organize generic ones if the MRA cannot handle them. He would prefer MRA ones.

Stickers may be coming from bikesales.com.au

Canberra country TV station organizer have jumped on the Toy Run and will distribute ads across the country mainly to country areas.

Maps, these have been available and widely distributed to interested parties.

The previous EMP is full of holes. We are working on a much better one which is well researched. The route plans have been well received by all parties approached so far.

The Calendar:

Outlines how certain parties are being investigated by the Police for selling space on the MRA Toy Run Calendar which is not being produced this year. Asks members to keep an eye out for people trying to sell this scam and to either tell the police or him.

The whole issues of this calendar and the funds from this calendar is being investigated by both us and the police.

The advertiser was introduced to the MRA by Simon R. Damien requested to be faxed a copy of the letter from the MRA authorizing it. He requested proof that the money from the calendar went to either us or the charities. The money went to the advertiser, some \$9000 in total.

Shane: We were the ones who distributed these after finding them in the corner with no details of where they came from. If it wasn't for us this would never have happened.

This year, stores have been paying money for this calendar under the understanding it was us. This is being corrected.

Dale and Lee O'Mahoney rang around dealers on the calendar. At least one dealer was lead to believe that it was a MRA Calendar.

Gavin Rang the guy doing it: He said he rang Alex and got a go ahead, but to change the name to the Victorian Toy Run Calendar. He has since been told that the MRA officially has nothing to do with this and he cannot sell it as such.

Apex raised money the last couple of toy runs, this money was handed to Marcel and Alex. This money has disappeared.

Damien is not happy that the VMU have copied his Toy Run introduction without permission and stripped his name from it.

The board's opinion on the calendars, We had assumed that some of the money had gone to a charity. We knew nothing of the origin of them. We thought nothing of them until we heard advertising was being sold. Then we started investigating. We are not taking this further because it is already in the hands of the police.

Tony Ellis: should we put out a media release?

We will have to investigate this with the police etc as to what we can do.

Alan Riley: Talks about the rego stickers who recently was booked on this issue. The advocacy committee has to do some work in this area. The regulation 223 covers rego labels. All the regulations come from section 95. The label always has to be visible. There is confusion in the regulation about this.

Advocacy are proposing a policy change for government about the position of rego labels and their format for motorcycles.

Alan has been investigating things such as the American system of number plates, etc to see how they work and what we can get from this. The best alternative to the current situation is to change the format of the sticker and allow it to be placed below the number plate.

A discussion of this issue ensued as well as State vs Federal laws and what is currently acceptable for placement of regos.

Pink Ribbon Ride:
Discussion of our participation in this ride.

GP Run:
Earlier in the year we had to sign a non-disclosure agreement with the City of Casey re the GP Run. Part of this was keeping Dale out of the loop. There has been discussion between Casey, MRA and Dale about how things are running and at this point in time, things are running pretty smoothly.

Shane makes comment that a number of important opportunities were missed due to the presidents absence.

Shane also notes that we need to advise participants in the ride of police who may be external to Casey being present and booking riders for obscured number plates etc.

He discusses that last year we had a free stand at the start and it was not used. This year we have to pay for the stand because Casey was not impressed with the lack of use of this stand. Dale mentions that the cost has been covered by the money coming from his work to sell space on the stand to the pocket bike guys who are also now MRA members.

Shane outlines the bonus of being a marshal.

Michael C: If Brian has resigned, what is to stop us from selecting a new Pres?

Anton: Is working with Casey regarding safety stuff for ride to PI. This stuff is to be included in the speech by DJ at the start of the run.

Dale given a flyer for the MRA Cranbourne GP Run Dress Up Competition. Details as attached. He informs us that they have had 4 entrants so far.

Brian Beardon.

We have tried to contact, etc, etc. Fill in details and statements here.

DJ has read the letter into the minutes on request of members.

Detlef: Who is responsible for the effective running of the board ?

Was any of the political stuff brought up at board meetings.

Gavin and DJ: no these were never brought up at board meetings.

Discussion by members about whether these federal issues are something with which we are being involved.

Tony Ellis; Says that he has been to most meetings. He has never hear anyone bad mouth the Pres. He has only heard people asking where he is and why there is no contact from him ?

So fair discussion of Brian's activities.

I address two points: issue of people who didn't get their notifications and the 3 missed opportunities.

Dale: Prior to Shane and Sarah being involved in the GP run, Dale was already involved in starting out the organising of the run. He reads the letter from Brian and Derek supporting him in Events related. This explicitly includes the GP Run.

Detlef: He looks on things as being done in good faith regarding.

Discussion of setting dates for things such as QGMs, etc. Brian stopped Sept 11 because they did not suit him. Part of the issue was the re-editing of the newsletters which held it up.

DJ: outlines attacks on toyrun.org.au web site and how all of these attacks point to Brian's IP. We have to assume that Brian is not necessarily involved.

Gavin gives details of Brian's interaction with Kwiklink.

DJ; at the moment he is Pres is in-lieu of electing a new one.

MC: The board is empowered to elect a new one if they so wish. He thinks that maybe we should ask Dale because of the tremendous work he has done on behalf of the MRA.

Detlef: At the moment there is a vacancy. It is the right of the members at this meeting to appoint a president if they wish to. If MC wants to put a motion it can be voted on.

Dale would accept until the AGM if the members wish it.

DJ: We can continue without a pres, we can fill it by shuffling the board, or we can add.

MC Motion to appoint Dale as Pres: Seconded by Detlef

Alan Riley: He thinks it is important that the MRA has a stable President and supports Dale.

Detlef: When is the AGM ?

DJ: First part of the year.

Wendy: Would DJ be interested in the Presidency?

DJ: He does not really have the time, etc. He cannot get out of work to do things and is not as flexible as someone like Dale is.

Vote: Passed.

Advocacy:

Michael C: Outlines Advocacy group. Discusses ATSB meeting, VMAC, Current looking at off road riders. Last year they were 37% of hospitalisations. The hospital bills are paid for by TAC, but as most of these people are un-registered it is us registered riders are paying for this. They are looking at this issue and the \$50 levy, etc.

VMC, MC encourages us to work with the VMC. Discusses the AMC meeting which occurs once a year. MC is on the the sub committee.

Get summary from MC for inclusion here.

MC: last meeting talked about Albert Park, Bythe Osbourne came along and discussed the AMC. Mick D talked about the Expo. MC Presented to the Road Safe Committee on road side objects. Hands out some examples of issues and protectors for road side objects. The committee was not aware of a lot of the issues.

They have a guy who wants to do work related to trikes for the MRA. MC has sent a lot of emails to various groups and people regarding issues and to clarify things for them.

Wendy talked about the Geelong Safety forum.

Tony Ellis submitted policies on Learner Approved motorcycles and Training. Alan Riley has a policy in development on the placement of rego labels.

MC wants at least one MRA policy to be printed in each magazine for members to discuss.

He has a pre-release of the TAC's info sheet for people to look at. This goes in the next newsletter.

Gavin: when is the TAC \$50 info going to be published?

MC : It was meant to be soon but is still being looked at.

MC: The sunset clause on the \$50 needs to be addressed with the minister and the board needs to look at this. He thinks the minister is ready to support us on removing this levy. Board to try and arrange a meeting with the minister in regards to \$50 levy and 4B's funding.

Detlef: VMC has been looking at the un-rider situation and how registered riders are paying for people who are not registered. He is looking at the mini bike issue which is a rapidly growing section of the market which is slipping under the laws because of their size. Sellers are not disclosing power ratings because this way they can get away with not having to register the bikes. There are issues developing with the riders of these bikes not complying with the road rules and causing problems. The police cannot do anything about them because of the current laws.

Secretary: suggest we come up with a policy regarding the use of these bikes. MC: says that Advocacy needs people to help work on all polices as they are all very busy.

Dale: Makes comment that councils are working on ways to start controlling these bikes. Also that the bikes we are supporting are 110cc and therefore do come under the present road laws as opposed to the under 50cc bikes which are the bulk of the problem.

General business:

DJ: Media release going out yesterday regarding the GP Wave off.

Closed: 1:37.