



Fellowship of United Kingdom Clubs

Annual Meeting

24th July 2010

Held at *The Bakers Arms*, Commercial Road, Bournemouth

The meeting commenced at 10:15. The Chairman was John Grimshaw, FUKC Coordinator.

Representatives from the following clubs were present:

MSC Bournemouth:	Mike Casban
East Mercia MSC:	(Proxy held by MSC Scotland)
Essex Leather MSC:	Richard Bunker
MSC Hallamshire:	Andy Cunningham & Tim Bates
MSC London:	Dave Martin
Manchester Superchain MSC:	Mark Wiseman & Ian Allan
Rubber Man's Club:	Martin Corbet & Austin Flynn
MSC Scotland:	Robert Anderson
Sixty-Nine Club	Roger Blanter

Also present: Peter Chapman (FUKC Webmaster), David England (Secretary, MSC Bournemouth & Minute-taker), and the following observers: Ian Stewart and Richard Allen (MSC Hallamshire).

Mike Casban, the President of MSC Bournemouth, welcomed everyone to this year's FUKC Annual Meeting, and called for a minutes silence in memory of absent friends. He then handed the meeting over to John Grimshaw.

Minutes of the 2009 Annual Meeting

Acceptance of the Minutes of the last year's meeting as an accurate record of the meeting was proposed by Roger Blanter and seconded by Andy Cunningham. This was agreed unanimously.

Matters Arising

Dave Martin pointed out that the London Pride Bus did in fact run with the help and co-operation of other FUKC clubs, despite the extra costs.

FUKC Coordinators Report

John Grimshaw summarised his report which had been circulated. He highlighted the invitation to attend this meeting that was sent to Daniel Dumont, ECMC Secretary. Unfortunately Daniel was unable to attend, but it was hoped he could pay a visit to the UK soon, possibly to MSC Scotland's "Burns Night" event at the end of January 2011.

Acceptance of the coordinators report was proposed by Mike Casban, and seconded by Martyn Corbett. This was agreed unanimously.

Financial Report and FUKC fee for 2010

The financial statement had been circulated. The balance held as at 22nd July 2010 was £191.43. Expenditure, on postage and printing, this year had been low. Peter Chapman pointed out however that there would be some additional expenditure in moving the FUKC website to a new provider in the meeting agreed (see below). Andy Cunningham thanked the FUKC Webmaster for keeping the costs of the website down to a minimum.

Acceptance of the financial report was proposed by Austin Flynn and seconded by Roger Blanter. This was agreed unanimously.

John Grimshaw proposed that FUKC clubs should pay a levy of £7 per year, rather than the current £10 every 2 years. Mike Casban supported the proposal; saying it was better to have a regular annual contribution.

Acceptance of the revised FUKC fee was proposed by Mike Casban and seconded by Austin Flynn. This was agreed unanimously.

FUKC Website

Peter Chapman explained that the current host of the FUKC website was planning to increase the charges from £50 to £72. The meeting agreed to Peter looking for a cheaper alternative for next year.

Peter asked that all clubs should notify him promptly of any changes to their details on the website, especially e-mail and postal addresses.

The meeting expressed its thanks to Peter for the excellent job he does in running and maintaining the website.

Future FUKC Conferences

2011: MSC Hallamshire confirmed their willingness to host the meeting next year. This would be over their event scheduled for 17-19 June.

2012: Manchester Superchain MSC hoped to be the host club, but requested a backup club be available. Sixty-Nine Club agreed to act as backup.

2013: Possibly MSC Scotland.

FUKC Bike Runs

2010: MSC Hallamshire, 17th-19th September, "Golden Frame" Weekend.

2011: MSC Bournemouth, 22nd-24th July, "Hide 'n' Sea" Weekend.

Leather Lottery Visits 2009-10

Most clubs had yet to make their visits. MSC Bournemouth had visited MSC Scotland, and had been visited by East Mercia. Sixty-Nine Club had been to RMC, and MSC Scotland would be visiting MSC London in October.

ECMC Matters and the Secretariat

FLC Frankfurt who are hosting this year's ECMC AGM had now removed the surcharge on the delegates/observers fees for the weekend, and these were now in fact €5 cheaper than the ordinary rate.

At last year's ECMC AGM two motions proposed by FUKC were debated. The first proposed that the Mr Leather Europe (MLE) competition be bid for separately from the AGM and that it should be self financing with

no subsidy from ECMC. It was pointed out that this was in fact already the case and the club hosting the AGM was under no obligation to host MLE. The motion was therefore not voted upon.

The second motion proposed that in view of the €1000 subsidy from the ECMC to the host clubs delegates should never have to pay a premium over other guests for the weekend. This was voted upon and passed with a large majority.

The meeting noted that East Mercia MSC had formally withdrawn from ECMC earlier this year. There was no East Mercia MSC representative at the meeting and Robert Anderson who held the proxy for EMMSC said he had not been briefed to speak on this matter. However EMMSC had said that they did not want their decision to influence any other UK clubs. John Grimshaw had attended their meeting when they decided to withdraw and he outlines some of their reasons, including cost and lack of contact or visits from other clubs in the rest of Europe.

Roger Blantern suggested that their withdrawal implied a breakdown in communications between UK clubs and the rest of ECMC, and also that their decision weakened the FUKC in the eyes of ECMC. He said we must work together.

Turning to the ECMC finances, Andy Cunningham said that ECMC was “broke”, and the €1000 subsidies to the clubs that hosted the Bike Run and the AGM were OK when there was a large surplus, but not now. Richard Bunker felt that many of the current problems were due to mismanagement by the previous ECMC Secretary from Oslo.

David England said he thought it strange that the ECMC constitution did not require a separate Treasurer in addition to the Secretary. Andy Cunningham added that the current Secretary, Daniel Dumont was very capable, but felt that we should approach him to get his views as to whether he thinks having a separate ECMC Treasurer would assist the situation or cause more difficulties. This was unanimously agreed, and John Grimshaw would contact Daniel to raise the matter and, if thought appropriate, the UK Clubs would then submit a motion to that effect in Frankfurt.

Motions for the ECMC AGM

MSC Hallamshire proposed that the following two motions should be put forward by FUKC to this year’s ECMC AGM:

1. In view of the ECMC’s financial situation, the 1000 euro subsidy given to the host club of the ECMC Bike Run should cease with immediate effect.
2. In view of the ECMC’s financial situation, the 1000 euro subsidy given to the host club of the ECMC Conference should cease with immediate effect.

It was agreed that from a practical point to amend both motions so that “...with immediate effect” be replaced with “...from 2011”, since those clubs hosting events this year would already have received or would be about to receive the subsidies.

All clubs were in favour of motion 1, except MSC Bournemouth who abstained because they had benefited from the subsidy when they hosted the Bike Run in 2004. Motion 2 was supported unanimously.

UK Venue for an ECMC AGM

MSC London suggested that the UK clubs should consider jointly hosting a future ECMC AGM in Blackpool. They said that it was unlikely that any one club in the UK could consider hosting the event on its own. Richard Bunker asked, “Why Blackpool?” and Martyn Corbett felt that London was the obvious choice with its large

number of venues. Roger Blantern said that since there was no local club in Blackpool this could be difficult. Andy Cunningham agreed that London was the only realistic choice.

John Grimshaw said that finding suitable venues for this in the UK would be difficult. He asked clubs to take this suggestion back and discuss within their own committees.

Any Other Business

The provisional FUKC Calendar of Events for 2011 was discussed and updates made. This would be distributed shortly.

John Grimshaw concluded the meeting by thanking delegates for attending and MSC Bournemouth for hosting this year's event.