

## Lechlade Pub Cycling Association - Minutes of the AGM – 24 March 2011

The AGM was held at the usual location (the Victoria, Eastleach).

In attendance:

- Ian, Director of Darts
- Simon, Logistics Director
- Paul, Chairman
- Jim
- Darren
- Vince
- Colin
- Andy, Finance Director

Apologies

- Matt (for the second year running...some kind of disciplinary required...?)
- Gary
- Steve (you may remember that 'Steve' showed up once in the year preceding the AGM in 2009, but had not been seen again in 2009-10 following that meeting. As a result, at the 2010 AGM Simon suggested that Steve should be consigned to the ranks of 'one-hit wonders'; Steve indeed has not been seen during 2010-11 either, so Simon's evaluation of the situation at the 2010 meeting seems to have been entirely justified. So we're clear? Steve hasn't been seen. *(edit - Does anyone know who the f\*\*k Steve is, and why we're discussing this bloke who never shows up...?)*

Opening quotes of this year's meeting:

"Who's running this meeting?" (Simon trying to force an early coup attempt)

"..and *that's* why we're bankrupt..." (Andy, soon to be ex-Finance Director).

**Item 1 – Previous minutes** – these were approved with no Matters Arising, but a chorus of praise was offered for the care, clarity and precision with which they had been compiled (*"Ahem..cough..cough...no really, it was nothing...all in a day's, y'know..."*)

**Item 2 – Chairman's Report** – This started well with the Chairman announcing that it had been 'a pretty successful year...' This was met with much slapping of the table in wholesome agreement; the members soon settled down, however, in expectation of the rest of the Chairman's report.....Ian was the first to crack during the ensuing period of agonising silence, as it became obvious that the Chairman *had in fact finished his report!* IH's emergency intervention took the form of praise for the Chairman's organisation of the May Lechlade-London ride and the 'superb' September ride to Salisbury; 'that one was sparkingly good' (Ian), 'there was some fantastic navigation' (Simon).

There was some general discussion about pubs reached / pubs not reached (Swan @ Swinbrook).

**Item 3a – Finance Report** – The Finance Report was, in fact, in the process of being compiled *during* the meeting, on the basis that the FD *[hadn't] added it up yet*. Interestingly, at this point, despite not having *'added it up yet'*, he nonetheless started offering excuses / explanations as to why it probably wouldn't, ahem, 'add up'. He demonstrated a remarkable ability to offer said excuses while simultaneously compiling the annual accounts. Bernie Madoff could've learned something...

FD Excuse #1 – 'Xmas dinner'

FD Excuse #2 – Birthday present for Simon, thus in a rather crass fashion suggesting that Simon having the temerity to *have a birthday*, for which the LPCA wanted to *buy him a present*, was in some way an appropriate explanation for the financial cluster-f\*\*k unfolding before the very eyes of the membership! The members decided to leave the FD to get on with his **fiddling finagling fraudulent** working on the P&L and Balance Sheet, with the (not *entirely* unreasonable) demand that he report later in the meeting (see Item 3b).

**Item 4 – Logistics** – SW stated that 25 pubs had been visited in 2010/11 – this brought a House of Commons style 'Hyah, hyah, hyah...' from the membership, but the minutes do not really record *why...*

A transcript of the Logistics Director's report follows:

"No new pubs were visited" (*cue cries of "We know that by now", "Get on with it", "Do you like my new ankle clips...?"*)

"Top pub was the Trout" (*cue lascivious 'Fnarr Fnarr' noises from certain members...*)

"Second was Old Spotted Cow" (*cue nostalgic nods of heads from members...*)

"Third was Swan at Bibury" (*cue 'Oh yes, the padded tartan walls there are SUCH a statement...'*)

**Number of miles cycled**                      840.9 (94.1 miles less than previous year, and well short of the 1000 mile target adopted at the previous year's AGM)

Pantomime 'Boooooos'

**Number of trips**                                      53 (2 fewer than previous year)

More pantomime 'Boooooos'  
(*edit – 'Jesus, what is this? Puss N' Boots?'*)

Title	Podium	Member	Distance
Mileage	<b>Gold medal</b>	Ian	713.7
	Silver medal	Vince	566.7
	<b>Bronze medal</b>	Colin	509.3
Title	Podium	Member	Attendances
Attendance	<b>Gold medal</b>	Ian	45
	Silver medal	Simon / Vince	40

Title	Podium	Member	Dist / Attend
Wooden spoon - trips	Biodegradable Plastic Medal	Paul / Matt	18 trips
Wooden spoon - miles	Papier mache medal	Gary	318.6 mls

Vince received an honorary mention for having cycled to the Vic on one occasion *on his own*, but the Association Rules do not make clear whether eye-witnesses are required for corroboration, so on at least one occasion in the following year, it was agreed that the rest of the membership would gather on one Thursday evening to wave Vince off, so that he could repeat this feat in a verifiable fashion.

**Item 3b – Finance report redux** – the FD started up again, by reporting that there was £67.00 in the kitty, set against 23.5 credits, indicating a deficit of £11.25. This report sparked a period of confusion regarding the progress of the meeting, which ended with the FD offering a single-finger salute to the out-going Chairman, for reasons which remain obscure. The FD pointed, in a rather pathetic fashion, to various ‘added-value’ services (his term) paid for from the kitty in the previous two years. At this point, FD excuse #3 was rolled out, which was ‘Gary’s wedding celebration’, thus in a rather crass fashion, suggesting that Gary having the temerity *to get married*, for which the LPCA wanted to *buy him a present*, was somehow an appropriate explanation for the...oh...what’s the point FFS...

## Item 5 – Objectives

### Objective 1 – Possible revision of pub scoring system.

The first item for discussion under ‘objectives’ was the pub scoring system - this proved controversial, with SW wanting to cease voting altogether. After much heated discussion, the Chairman called a vote on the issue, which resulted 6 – 2 in favour of continuing with the existing pub scoring system. The two votes against were SW and JC, the latter voting against mainly because of the ‘Oooooohhhh...’ reaction he gets every year when he votes (then rants) about that crappy Swingball pub with the dodgy lighting system. “I’ve said it before...if you’re relying on Swingball in your car park to draw in the punters, yer pub’s in trouble...).

8.15pm – Time out for beer (*bloody hell, has this meeting really only been going on for 15 minutes...?*)

The meeting recommenced with SW biting IH’s head off (*it was only a matter of time*), about whether IH had said that he (IH) wanted to go back to the original pub scoring system or not: the ensuing debate was too sophisticated and technically complex for many of the other members to follow:

SW: “Yes, you did...”

IH: “No, I didn’t...”

SW: “Yes, you did...”

IH: “No, I didn’t...”

This went on for a while, but ended with SW and IH renewing their vows, and booking a second honeymoon in the Seychelles.

### **Objective 2 – LPCA apparel**

The issue of new apparel raised its zombie head at this point. IH (*for this is his responsibility*), explained that the design was on his old computer, and for a bit it looked like he was going to provide a quite convincing explanation of why the new apparel had not been forthcoming. He gave that up though, offered a formal apology that he ‘couldn’t really be arsed’, and promised that he did still regard it as an ‘on-going project’. To this end, he asked for the umpteenth time for T-shirt / Polo-shirt preferences and sizes. The minutes record that when IH asked AG what GE (not in attendance) might prefer, AG said he would ask him before they both went to bed that evening...

IH claimed to have a supplier already lined up, “and they have ISO9000”, thus putting members’ minds at rest regarding the Quality Assurance procedures in place at the manufacturing plant concerned, and assuaging any ethical concerns that may have existed regarding the 8-year-old Bangladeshi textile worker’s human rights...

### **Objective 3 – Weekend rides**

For some reason, this gave rise to a discussion about the Royal Wedding, but I haven’t a clue why. All that was decided was that weekend destinations and dates would be confirmed at a later date. IH suggested a coastal run from Lechlade. The velodrome at Calshott was mentioned for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running, but none of the members even pretend to be interested in the old ‘track-day’ chestnut anymore.

The 1000 mile annual target was re-stated, and the Logistics Director was charged with responsibility for providing benchmarks / targets based on monthly progress. Simon gamely accepted this commission with the expected enthusiasm.

### **Objective 4 – Recruitment**

IH proposed as a final objective a ‘more active recruitment drive’ (*this was met with complete silence*). IH explained his concerns regarding in-breeding and a consequent reduced gene-pool (*yet more apathy on the part of the members, who are obviously quite happy in-breeding...*). AG did, however, suggest an ad in Londis might have the desired effect, and that wording should be along the lines of “Hurry now – just 1 place left!!!! A joining fee was also discussed, which Vince suggested should be set at £11.25; this was assumed by all present (except Vince himself of course) to be a formal application by Vince to be the next Financial Director.

### **Item 6 – Election of Officers**

IH nominated AG as new **Chairman** – cries of “No, no, it should be a virgin...”

SW proposed CT as new Chairman, and this was seconded by IH, thus demonstrating how strong his support for AG had, in fact, been. This proposal was accepted, at which point IH took the floor, and started a rambling speech he had ~~clearly devised while having a dump that morning~~ spent many arduous hours preparing; the speech will be published for posterity in a separate document at a later date, but it ended with the presentation to the new Chairman of a red box containing...containing...

*(an eager hush fell over the assembled members; the excitement was tangible as the new Chairman accepted the red box, smiled with pride, and slowly opened it to reveal...HOLY MOTHER OF CHRIST! WHAT IS THAT?! A NAZI INSIGNIA?!!! What happened next is important in the light of developments through the rest of the meeting; while most members of the LPCA gasped in astonishment that the new chain of office resembled nothing less than an antique emblem of the Third Reich, the new Chairman himself said nothing. A sharp gleam came to his gimlet eye, however, and a barely perceptible smile to his lips; his hitherto friendly, humble demeanour began to fall away as he pondered the possibilities and power granted by his new office. This was made stronger once the chain was placed around his neck, and can be seen in the face of the new chairman in the photograph at [www.lpca.me.uk](http://www.lpca.me.uk) , his eyes fixed on a vision of the future only he understands, where the LPCA expands its ambitions and territories, crushing opposing PCAs with a ruthlessness never before seen. In CT's mind, he was no longer in the calm surroundings of a quiet Cotswold pub, but was rather preparing to address his followers in a Munich beer-hall about the need for the LPCA to have more 'cyclesraum'.*

*The new chain of office has a little-understood power over the office-holder, and members must be vigilant never to underestimate its dark influence...*

**Finance Director** – Vince was chosen pretty much unanimously for this position.

SW is re-elected to the position of **Logistics Director**

IH is re-elected **Director of Darts**

JC still the **Minutes Secretary**

**Director of Punctuality** – office remaining unfilled (again)

At this point a vote of thanks was offered to the outgoing Chairman; 'outstanding', 'leadership', 'direction' were just some of the terms used to describe his tenure.

#### **Item 7 - AOB**

- a variety of new kitty-funding schemes were discussed..
- (Pork-kebab break)
- Decision – AG claimed that the funding system he bequeathed to VW was 'absolutely perfect'. Vince said he would sort it, and made his first substantive decision by appointing Darren as 'mini-Vince'
- Someone (I'm guessing PW) proposed an event at Blenheim on 21 August involving TTs, Audax, Cyclo-cross and beer tent. There were some vague mutterings of interest, clearly indicating that this was a non-starter
- LPCA Killer – 'The darts game for those who are shit at darts'<sup>TM</sup>
  - o A re-vamp of Killer was discussed, on the basis of games going on too long – the discussion itself took longer than a melting Andean glacier, but finally concluded with IH committing to considering a 'shortening strategy', perhaps involving a new 'doormat' rule, where there would be only 1 dart in the doormat at a time, with each new

doormat dart replacing the existing one. Fewer lives at the start was also considered as a possibility.

- IH tried to spark a discussion regarding using the collected LPCA knowledge of the area to tap the Cotswold tourist market, but...

...at this point the new Chairman started slamming a glass on the table in an 'I'm in charge now' manner, before going round the table and asking in a frankly aggressive manner if anybody had anything else to discuss. If they did, they were far too scared to say so...

### **Date of next meeting – TBC**

9.23pm – Chairman called the meeting to a close.