

LPCA AGM minutes – sometime around the end of March 2014

So, we had Andy, Vince, Colin, Simon, Ian, Da Management, and Jim (on his now annual outing – Christ knows I had to show, who else would be stupid enough to end up doing these feckin' minutes again – Matt knew this, which is why he sent his Apologies, and is nowhere to be seen, and neither is Paul (Director of Attendance), who attends even less than Jim, and Gary...who takes the award for attending least of all).

The minutes of the previous meeting (submitted, as is now traditional, a minimum of 350 days after the meeting) were unanimously approved, and congratulations were offered to Matt for 'accuracy' – at this point, and as his main rival for the august title of 'LPCA official recorder', I feel obliged to point out that his record of 2013's meeting included such gems as 'Someone mentioned Colin in Lycra', 'Someone else mentioned women in lycra', 'Someone mentioned Alice Roberts' and 'Darren moaned all the way to Great Yarmouth' – not really that *accurate* eh? – I mean, what could Darren have been moaning about all that time, eh?...just sayin'...

Anyway, someone made the mistake of asking if there were any 'matters arising' from the minutes. Spirits were raised by a hearty cry of 'No!', and then equally cruelly dashed by a one-voice 'Yes' – now the record does now show who emitted this 'Yes', but see if you can guess who went on to say 'Darren *didn't* moan all the way to Great Yarmouth...he moaned all the way to Brighton – moan, moan, moan the whole f***** way, the ungrateful bastard!'

Chairman's Report

At this point the Chairman cleared his phlem, (respectful hush descends on the assembled...), unravelled 18 pages of stapled A3 sheets (confused, panicky glances exchanged by the assembled...), and declared his intention to deliver his report (assembled stand up en masse and head for the bar...). In fact, his entire report consisted of 'Good season.' (...a moment's silence, followed by lusty cries of 'hear hear', 'good show', 'fine report' and 'why are we paying him?')

The words 'the hotel was shite' were uttered...

Some new pubs had been visited – specifically The Woodman (Fernham), Swan (Swinbrook), The Inn for All Seasons and The Brice (? – I'm having trouble reading my own handwriting here, so The Brice might not even exist, but whether it does or doesn't, apparently the considered judgment of one of our members is that it is a 'shit-hole').

At this point, and at an agreed signal from the Chairman, all present donned hats, wigs and moustaches as disguise, and briefly moved outside the Victoria – in whispered voices, members agreed that the Xmas dinner at the Keepers was a 'great improvement'. All members then removed their disguises, and moved swiftly back into the Vic to continue the AGM.

The Chairman concluded his report by congratulating himself on a fantastic year with himself in charge - nobody bothered to argue.

Director of Finance Report

Simon reported that 'Money has been spent', and a £29.21 'profit' recorded...

Ian (feeling that twitchy way that each member of the LPCA royalty suffers when the other one has more than a few seconds in the limelight), chose this moment to interrupt, by asking if the Association required what he referred to as a 'crisps, nuts and pork scratchings strategy'. This was initially met by a stony silence, suggesting that members had not in fact spent much of the previous

11 and a half months considering this pressing issue. Ian persevered, but with an almost intangible, but nonetheless discernible, reduction in his sense of purpose – ‘Is it sustainable?’ he asked. Simon said No, but Ian had clearly been expecting this, because at this point he subtly changed tack by suggesting that perhaps a ‘different credit policy should be adopted depending on the number of members present’, thus revealing his true, dastardly agenda to marginalise any members of a slightly left-wing persuasion!! – divide and conquer, oh Yes! Simon’s response was that there are no ½ credits (25p) any more. I have no idea how that is or was relevant, but to the relief of most, it seemed to draw an increasingly aimless line of discussion to some sort of conclusion, and so it was agreed that a ‘crisps, nuts and pork scratchings QUANGO’ be formed to take the agenda forward; a new post at the head of this important new sub-committee would be created, with the provisional title of ‘Director of Solids’.

Director of Logistics Report (Ian)

(glasses on at this point...Simon’s in fact...). In the pub survey, the Trout came in at #3 (score 63.4%), the Plough Kelmscott at #2 (66.3%) and Chequers at Charney Bassett @ #1 (66.52%).

On mileages, total covered on trips in the year was 969.9 miles, an agonising shortfall on the highest total so far of 975.3m in 2011. Lowest total covered was Matt who took 15 trips to cover 1.5 miles (eh?! Can that be right...?) Highest was, of course, Vince, on a total of 847.5 miles – he wins this year’s prize of an all-expenses covered date with Holly from the Tro..Oh, what’s that? You didn’t organise the prize Ian? Oh, sorry Vince, you’ll just have to take the unalloyed appreciation of the rest of the LPCA at your stalwart performance (How many years is that he’s won? Surely Holly would agree that he’s earned a night out with her? Ian was tasked with arranging this for the following year’s winner as a minor incentive to create some competition for Vince).

Director of non-core activities (Matt)

Christmas night and the curry night – Matt had nothing whatsoever to do with organising these events.

Director of Recruitment (Jim)

There hasn’t been any.

Director of Attendance (Paul)

He’s not here.

Director of Smut (incorporating Quote of the Week) (Andy)

(chips recess 8.40pm)

Third place: ‘Is that my clothes peg?’

Second place: ‘The women will probably lie on their backs and you’ll just squirt sperm on them’

First place: ‘It would take more than a jet-ski to take out Alison Moyet’

Election of Officers

Everyone continuing in post.

2014-15 objectives

Ian has another new strategy suggestion. Part 1 of a 2 part plan is that the bottom 10 pubs be ditched at the end of each season. Part 2 is that instead of continuing to visit pubs we know to be crap, we instead replace these with 'carefully selected' town pubs (...many sharp intakes of breath at this...cries of 'He can't be serious', 'Heresy!', 'Infamy' and 'D'you think there's any more chips on the way..?'). This sparked a debate, the details of which are lost to the mists of time, but Darren pronounced its conclusion: 'We should keep visiting the crap ones, because they are closing down.' The members thought quietly about this for a while, saw the logic and nodded their assent, all except Ian who at this point advanced part 3 of his 2 part plan...

There was general approval for the principle of visiting town pubs – "times change; we need to modernise". General debate about whether Lechlade is a town or a village. General debate about what is the definition of an official LPCA ride – decided that there has to be a minimum of 2 members present and it has to include a pub visit.

Another objective related to overall number of pub visits. This motion began as 'Visit as many pubs as possible', but following democratic discussion was amended to 'Visit as many pubs as possible, as long as Ian likes them.' This motion was carried unanimously.

Spring ride decided on Lechlade – Minehead, a distance of 128 miles, on 17-18 May.

Autumn ride decided on Lechlade – King's Lynn

Overall distance target = the usual 1000 miles

AOB – Ian congratulated Jim on 'upping the bar' in terms of personal injury sustained while cycling, and revealed the newly-coined term 'Clearius Maximus' – Ian offered Jim his congratulations FFS...a true CM must involve broken bones, and therefore is not to be attempted by anyone who has not received the appropriate training.

Meeting closed 9.21pm