

Minutes from the SH4 Committee Meeting held 28/4/2016

**Those present:**

U Bend, Piddler, Hekkel, The Jerk, Jyde, Goolie, Traffic Jam

**Apologies:**

Barbie, Damp Patch

	Action
<p><b><u>Minutes from the last meeting:</u></b></p> <p>Minutes from the meeting of January 7<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> 2016 were agreed.</p> <p><b><u>Matters Arising:</u></b></p> <p>The 1000<sup>th</sup> run (1010) celebration weekend was discussed and it was agreed that it was a great success. Many thanks to Goolie for all his hard work in achieving this. The date for the next post-xmas bash which will be at the same venue, i.e. the China Fleet Club in Saltash has been set as the weekend of the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Whilst most details are yet to be arranged, Goolie stated that Marti has a friend who may be able to provide the disco for the price of a meal and accommodation for the night, i.e. approx. £150.</p> <p><b><u>Hash Finances:</u></b></p> <p>A financial summary had been provided by Piddler in an email sent 6/4/16. Briefly, there is approx. £2500.00 in the hash funds, which will rise to approx. £2900.00 once subs owing have been paid. A discussion on how these funds should best be spent ensued, with the principle that any spending should be for the benefit of the hash and its members at its core.</p> <p>It was agreed that based on an estimate of a possible maximum of 10 BBQs and 40 beer stops, funds should remain available for any hares wishing to offer a beer/sweet stop (up to a maximum of £20) and a maximum of £50 for those offering to host a hash BBQ. This to be publicised through the usual channels, (verbal announcements, website, Facebook, email). In the unlikely event of more than the estimated number, the committee will meet to decide what action to take. Hares need to apply to Piddler to recompense costs of beer and sweetie stops.</p> <p><b><u>Other uses of hash funds:</u></b></p> <p>In reply to an email sent asking for suggestions, the following were discussed:</p> <p><b>Website software:</b> The Jerk asked if the committee would consider purchasing software at a cost of approx. £200-£300 to enable further development of the new website in terms of increased storage capacity and to make information more transparent to members. Other facilities include an ability for</p>	<p><b>The Jerk</b> to place announcement on website &amp; FB</p> <p><b>U-Bend</b> to announce at circle up</p> <p><b>Barbie</b> to place on the Words</p> <p><b>TJ</b> to ensure hares are aware</p>

online payments for membership, events and clothing to be linked directly with the website, ultimately saving time and effort for those involved in administering these, also a facility where members would be able to view their run totals and other statistics as and when they become available. A words archive and an archive of all hashes, venues, hares etc is currently being compiled and will be available to view for those interested.

There was a lengthy full and frank discussion with some strong views expressed as to the use of computer systems and with some understandable resistance to changes to the status quo. Some committee members wish to see further development of a move towards increased use of IT and electronic communication and interaction, whilst others are more hesitant, seeing little or no need for the hash to become more IT reliant. This formed part of a wider discussion regarding the ethos of SH4.

Piddler asked The Jerk if he intends to remain as webmaster for a number of years in order to see through any developments and changes to which the reply was yes. He is also happy to offer IT help and support to those who would like to learn more. A vote took place as to whether hash funds should be spent on the software which was carried in favour.

**Wednesday hashes incurring additional costs:**

Piddler offered canoe and ferry hashes which have taken place in previous years (cost £200-£250). It was agreed that this was a good use of hash funds.

**A reduction in the annual membership fee:**

This was discussed but it was eventually agreed that since the price had not changed since the hash was founded, £35/£10/£1 for annual/quarterly/weekly payers represented extremely good value and the suggestion of a reduction was rejected.

**Hash weekends other than the post-xmas bash:**

It was agreed that these should not be subsidised by hash funds. Any costs to be borne by those attending on the principle that not every member may be able to, or indeed want to attend and therefore should not be expected to contribute via their subs.

**In the event of a pub refusing to supply free down-downs:**

Another wide-ranging discussion regarding the ethos of this, particularly in the current climate, i.e. pubs closing at an increasing rate. The policy is maintained as being the hares' responsibility to ask the landlord if they would be kind enough to offer 6 half-pints gratis. Two recent scenarios were discussed, one where the pub had previously agreed to offer free down-downs but then retracted on the night, and one where the landlord stated at the time of booking that they would not offer free down-downs. It was agreed that if the hares were 'stung' as in the first case, then the hash funds would pay, but in the second case, where the hares knew in advance that the pub would not be offering free down-downs but continued to arrange a hash from that venue, then the hares shoulder the financial responsibility.

This policy also to be circulated to members of the hash. A reminder that hares are responsible for arranging free down-downs.

**The Jerk** to purchase and install software; training and IT support also available.

**Piddler** to organise.

**The Jerk** to place announcement on website & FB  
**U-Bend** to announce at circle up  
**Barbie** to place on the Words

**Traffic Jam** to make hares aware

**Any Other Business:**

**Forthcoming Changes to the Committee:**

Piddler announced that he will not be seeking re-election to the post of Treasurer at the next AGPU, and U-Bend also announced that his tenure as GM will come to an end at the same time. Publicising of appeals for volunteers for these important posts to begin asap.

**Use of the hash email distribution list to publicise non-hash related materials:**

Discussion about requests to use the hash email distribution list was based on its use on a number of occasions in the recent past for publicising of commercial and political materials. A previous Words editor (Hekkel) had refused a request for this on the grounds that it was inappropriate. It was agreed by all that this constitutes spam email and further, may be in breach of the Data Protection Act, even when members are blind copied into email messages.

**Website Demo:**

The Jerk offered a demo of the website which some members of the committee accepted after the meeting had closed.

All committee members

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Date of next meeting TBA