



MINUTES FOR THE AUK BOARD MEETING HELD
AT THE PRIORY ROOMS, 40 BULL STREET, BIRMINGHAM
ON 5 APRIL 2025 STARTING AT 0930.

PRESENT:

Nigel Armstrong (**NA**)
Andy Cox (**AC**) – Chair
Caroline Fenton (**CF**)
Grant Huggins (**GH**)
Arabella Maude (**AM**)
Paul Renshaw (**PR**)
Andy Yates (**AYa**)

ATTENDANCE:

Dave Allison (**DA**) – part

APOLOGIES:

Ian Hennessey (**IH**)
John Ward (**JW**)
Anne Young (**AYo**)

1. Opening

The Chairman reported that due notice of the meeting had been given and that a quorum was present. Accordingly, the Chairman declared the meeting open.

2. Declarations of interest

None.

3. Minutes of previous meetings

3.a Minutes of March 2025 meeting

The minutes of the 6 March 2025 meeting were approved.

4. Actions arising from minutes of previous meetings

Refer to Action Tracker.

Business

5. Finance

NA presented the Management Accounts (to Feb 2025). It was also noted that the finances of AUK are in a healthy position and monies (above that required for reserves) should be spent for the benefit of the members.

NA noted that a bequest from Chris Davies was still unspent within AUK's accounts. Suggestions were asked for how this could be spent, but also **NA** requested that **AY** review historical emails etc to see if any specific wishes had been noted with the bequest.

AM noted that a Job Description for the Finance Director position was not available on the website and that one should be provided.

Actions:

- **AY** to review historical emails etc. for any information regarding the Chris Davies bequest.
- **NA** to prepare a job description for the Finance Director role.

6. IT

6.a Progress update for audax.uk and aukweb

DA noted that the website data upgrade is ongoing. Work has been carried out on sorting out the back office items first.

Moving of the results archive from aukweb to audax.uk is also ongoing with the older data needing more tidying before migrating.

E-brevet has now been moved into the organisers' site.

The next development is the moving of calendar event starter lists to the new organisers' site. A decision is required regarding how much membership data is provided to organisers for manual (non-online) entries.

Actions:

- **AY** to add to agenda for next meeting a discussion regarding membership data and access.

6.b Brevet cards opt in option

DA advised that it was possible to build in the option for entrants to opt out of having a brevet card and requested the Board's guidance on whether to include this option or not. The Board agreed that the facility to opt out of brevet cards should be built into the system whether or not it is activated or implemented in the future.

7. AUK Merchandise

Quotes for additional AUK merchandise are being sought and it is intended to offer these for sale via the website store, however a delegate would preferably look after the merchandise. It was suggested that Allan Taylor could maybe take this on, **PR** to discuss with Allan.

A discussion was held regarding providing a 50th anniversary jersey. This could be subsidised by AUK and should be made available to members in autumn 2025.

PR will circulate to final designs for event banners. It was agreed that banners should be sent to organisers on request, and they will stay with the organiser. **CF** will obtain a quote from printers for control signs which can also be sent to organisers.

GH presented initial design for volunteer thank you certificates. It was agreed to make these available for organisers to print at home but also to print some on card for postal distribution.

A discussion was held about sourcing branded polo shirts for Directors, especially for visibility at events etc. **GH** will develop a design and obtain quotations.

CF reported that new buffs (2 designs) have been ordered and should be available for purchase on the store shortly.

Actions:

- **PR** to approach Allan Taylor to additionally look after AUK merchandise.
- **PR** to develop design for 50th anniversary jersey
- **PR** will circulate to final designs for event banners.
- **CF** will obtain a quote from printers for control signs.

- **GH** to publish volunteer thank you certificate template/
- **GH** to develop a design and obtain quotations for branded polo shirts.

8. Communications

PR noted that alternative quotes for producing Arrivée have been obtained.

It was suggested that the Strategy Group should include asking members for their views on AUK communications, including Arrivée, AUK forum, Facebook (and other social media) and website content.

Actions:

- **AM/AYo** to include views on communications via the Strategy Group.

9. Communications

CF reported 8354 members which is slightly behind the same point last year.

CF still provides discount codes for temporary members converting to full members, and provides Arrivée back copies but would welcome additional ideas for membership promotion (links with Cycling UK? BC Breeze groups? Targeted advertising? Publicity at other long distance events?).

10. Event Services and Recorder

GH reported an issue with overseas DIY events and the calculation of AAA points. It was agreed that overseas DIY rides should have their AAA points determined from using OpenRunner to assess the amount of climbing. This approach aligns with that taken by ACP.

GH raised a query as to whether AUK should provide an Ultra R10,000 award and a 2 x R100,000 award. The Board agreed that awards should not be made for these achievements, rather that they are recorded in the Hall of Fame and results pages.

GH proposed that validation and brevet card fees should be taken as a single payment on entry. It was agreed to implement this.

A discussion was held on moving organisers to Stripe payments only. It was agreed that AUK would stop accepting Paypal payments at the end of the current season. A discount for validation fees for those using Stripe

would be applied as an incentive for organisers to move to Stripe. This discount would apply from when aukweb is switched off for validation.

Actions:

- **AC/AYa/IH** to discuss how to best communicate these changes to organisers.

11. General Secretary

11.a Online Safety Act

AM referred the Board to the work she had undertaken regarding the applicability and implications of The Online Safety Act 2023 to AUK. The Board's assessment was that the AUK Forum is a user-to-user service provided by AUK as an internal resource for AUK and is only available to a closed group of people (i.e. AUK members). This makes the AUK Forum exempt from the Online Safety Act 2023 (under Schedule 1, Part 1, paragraph 7).

Actions:

- **AYa** to post a response to the AUK Forum regarding the Online Safety Act 2023 on behalf of the Board.

9.b Easter Trail Regulations

AYa referred the Board to the *Easter Trail Regulations* paper.

The proposed amendment to the Regulations was approved and it was noted that this will require ratification by members at the next AGM (February 2026).

Actions:

- **AYa** to publish the revised Trail Regulations.
- **AYa** to prepare Resolution for the next AGM for ratification by members.

12. Calendar Events + ACP/LRM

IH unable to attend – no matters to report.

13. Permanent Events

JW unable to attend – no matters to report.

14. Any other business

14.a E-bikes

AYa noted that he had received correspondence from various members about having electrically assisted pedal cycles (EAPCs) incorporated with AUK's events. It was agreed that the Strategy Group would look into this.

Actions:

- **AM/AYo** to suggest proposals for EAPCs via the Strategy Group.

Closure

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed.