



MINUTES FOR THE AUK BOARD MEETING HELD AT
EXPLORE YORK, LIBRARY SQUARE, YORK, YO1 7DS
ON 21 JUNE 2025 STARTING AT 0900.

PRESENT:

Andy Cox (**AC**) – Chair
Nigel Armstrong (**NA**)
Caroline Fenton (**CF**)
Ian Hennessey (**IH**)
Grant Huggins (**GH**)
Arabella Maude (**AM**)
John Ward (**JW**)
Andy Yates (**AYa**)

APOLOGIES:

Paul Renshaw (**PR**)
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 May 2025 meeting

The minutes of the 22 May 2025 meeting were approved.

4. Actions arising from minutes of previous meetings

Refer to Action Tracker.

5. Chair

AC noted that he was having positive discussions with some organisers about discontinuing the use of external (non-AUK) systems for rider entry and how to incorporate some of the functionality that they use into the AUK systems. It was discussed that adding in custom questions for organisers could probably be implemented using links to Google Forms.

6. Finance Director

6.a Management Accounts

NA noted that a slight amendment to the accounting method has now been adopted to the management accounts, namely using accruals rather than cash flow methods. This makes no material difference to the finances of AUK.

NA advised that he needs to know remaining stock levels of items AUK are selling. He will liaise with CF and PR.

NA noted that the finances of AUK are still looking very healthy with no issues foreseen.

6.b Accounting Function

NA advised that Pi Partners Ltd (which undertakes AUK's book-keeping and accounting function) is undergoing a managed closing down as part of **NA**'s retirement from the business. The book-keeping and accounting will be undertaken by **NA** personally going forwards.

Actions:

- **NA** to copy scanned financial records from PI Partners Ltd relating to AUK to a shared OneDrive folder.

7. General Secretary

7.a Annual Reunion delegates

AYa noted that Lucy McTaggart has stepped down from her Annual Reunion delegate role. Both Peter Davis and Laura Massey-Pugh are remaining in their roles and are continuing to organise the next Reunion.

7.b Director Identity verification requirements

AYa noted that new company director identity verification requirements are being introduced which will apply to AUK's Directors. It is anticipated that these requirements will be introduced in autumn 2025.

7.c Draft Rider Code of Conduct

AYa presented a draft Rider Code of Conduct and requested review and comments from the Board.

Actions:

- **All** to review and provide comments to **AYa**.

7.d Mandatory routing for calendar events

It was clarified that mandatory routing will be the default for calendar events from the start of next season.

Actions:

- **AYa** to communicate this clarification to organisers.

7.e AUK underwriting event costs

A discussion was held regarding AUK underwriting event costs for organisers. It was agreed that AUK could underwrite event costs but that it would be by application only and with each application assessed on its own merits. Typical examples of acceptable criteria for AUK to underwrite the costs include:

- Holding events in underserved areas of the UK
- Holding events as part of the National series
- Events with no other clubs supporting the event
- Resurrecting old / historical rides

It was agreed that applications should be for supported events and include a risk assessment. Applications can also be made to protect a specific date in the AUK calendar.

Applications should be made and decided before any expenses are incurred

Actions:

- **AYa** to communicate to organisers.

7.f Organiser payments and transition to Stripe

A discussion was held to confirm the specific agreement of phasing out of Paypal for AUK payments. The following points were confirmed:

- AUK will stop accepting Paypal at the end of the 2026 season (i.e. 31/10/26)
- To encourage organisers to transition to Stripe, validation fees will be waived for all organisers (with the exception of DIY organisers) using Stripe for the 2026 season (i.e. 1/11/25 – 31/10/26)
- All new organisers will be required to use Stripe only.
- For organisers transitioning to Stripe, and new organisers, it was stressed that they must get assistance from **CF** in getting set up on Stripe

It was also noted that waiving of validation fees for the 2026 season ties in with the 50th anniversary of AUK and could also be used to encourage a greater number of events in the season.

Actions:

- **AYa** to communicate to organisers.

8. Membership Secretary

8.a Switchover to new event system

CF noted that all event planning is now on audax.uk and it is just manual entries and validations which remain on aukweb and are ready to be moved over.

It was agreed to give **GH** access to the validations area on audax.uk and then target to switch over by the end of July.

8.b Shop/merchandise delegate

CF advised that Rob Hanwell had volunteered to undertake the merchandise delegate role, reporting to **CF**.

8.c General update on merchandise and organiser resources

CF advised that a wide range of resources and merchandise is now available to organisers via the Organiser site.

8.d 50th anniversary festivities

CF requested suggestions for celebrating the 50th anniversary of AUK in 2026. A spreadsheet to collect ideas and track progress has been added to OneDrive.

Actions:

- **All** to review and add suggestions, responsibilities and timescales.

9. Calendar Events Secretary

IH noted that the new planner (on audax.uk) is working well.

IH noted that preparations for LEL2025 are still going well and he has regular updates from Danial W.

10. Permanent Events Secretary

JW advised the Board that a formal complaint had been raised and had been dealt with, with no action required. The matter however had raised the issue that it would potentially be beneficial if there was a code of conduct for directors and delegates setting out what is expected of them.

JW also noted that it should be reinforced that organisers should follow AUK's rules and regulations, and to ask if there are any questions or if things are unclear.

Actions:

- **AYa** to prepare a draft Delegate Code of Conduct for review by the Board.

11. Event Services Director

11.a 24 hr Time Trial event

It was agreed that the 24 hr TT event should be added to the AUK calendar (as for other calendar events) and members will need to enter if they wish to receive AUK points for their participation.

11.b Brevet cards

GH noted that there have been some issues with phone numbers not being printed on brevet cards. It was noted that this field is within the

organisers profile page (rather than the event pages) and organisers should be reminded to ensure that this is filled in.

12. Non-Executive Directors

12.a Strategy group update

AM updated the Board on the progress of the Strategy group. There are 5 sub-committees (what is audax?, board structure, awards and trophies, communications, and, volunteers and helpers). A series of recommendations to the Board are coming out of the group and AM will compile and circulate to the Board, particularly for any easy-wins.

AM noted that a survey of members is planned. And possibly a separate survey for organisers.

Actions:

- **AM** to compile and circulate strategy group initial recommendations.
- **All** to review and comment on the recommendations.

12.b 2024-25 Honoraria

The Board considered the paper and recommendations for 2024-25 honoraria prepared by **AYo**. The recommendations were agreed.

Actions:

- **NA** to proceed with honoraria payments.

13. Any other business

13.a Francis Cooke

AC proposed and it was agreed that AUK recognise the huge contribution and support which Francis Cooke has provided to AUK. It was agreed that Francis be awarded the honorary position of Vice President with an announcement and article provided in Arrivée, and a suitable certificate prepared.

Actions:

- **IH** to notify Francis Cooke.

13.b Incident data

AYa noted the recent incident data which he had presented in Arrivée. It was agreed that this was very useful data and audax.uk should continue to collect this data. It was also noted that serious incidents should be reported to the Board.

13.c Online Safety Act

AM noted that she will revisit the Online Safety Act and its applicability to AUK.

Actions:

- **AM** to revisit Online Safety Act applicability.

Closure

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