

OPEN LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN.

In an attempt to make everything open and clearer to **ALL** the membership I shall be sending out an open letter after each meeting, that is both of the National committee meetings, the members meeting and the AGM to inform everyone what is going on and to pass any pertinent information and ask for feedback from you.

We held a National committee meeting on Sunday 10th Sept. in which we discuss anything we feel necessary as well as anything you ask us to think about via your regional representative. As this is the first report I'll give you a quick run down on how the day goes, we meet up about 10.30 for a coffee and biscuits ready for an 11 am start, the time up to lunch is usually all reports from the Chairman, Vice-chair, secretary, treasurer, web-editor and president. There is usually some discussion on things mentioned within those reports which takes up to lunch. After lunch there are the rep's. Reports and any resulting discussions followed by any special issues. We then hear reports on past, current and future weekends, this is finally followed by any other business and the close of the meeting which is usually mid afternoon.

At this meeting the main item on the agenda was the re-writing of the constitution after some discussion this evolved into two debates ;

1-Rather than changing the constitution having a document called 'standing orders' which would run along side the constitution and deal with things not covered in it like presidents and vice presidents, issues to do with new high-tech. things and adding to the use of co-opted members, this got over run into another debate.

2- Regional rep's and their role in the structure and also there effectiveness. This is an issue we have discussed before the problem is poor rep. representation at meetings, with usually only 2 attending out of 8 and they are voting members of the committee. I know there are reasons why this is but it does make life difficult and we are not really hearing what the members really think, yes they do send reports in but nine times out of ten they are on what groups have been up to and not what people feel about Country Link and how we could make it better.

To this end we would like to extend an invitation to any individual member to attend our next meeting on Sunday 18th March to see what happens and to see if they may be interested in being on the committee in one form or another, if you are please e-mail me at antonympaul@live.co.uk.

Finally in any other business we discussed cross border events and late entry events and publicising them, to this end there is now on the national web site a section where anyone can announce an event that may interest people in neighbouring groups just mail Maria and she will put it in this section also don't forget our Facebook page to let people know about things.

Hugs Tony Paul (Chairman.)

