

Minutes of WBCCC Annual General Meeting
Monday 11th December 2017
St Mary's Church Hall, Lower Ince

Present: Jim Taylor (Chairman), Phil Brown (Treasurer), Paula James, Paul Boffey, Joyce Southern, Ray Southern, John Sills, Eric Dailey, Phil Bradley, Dave Holden, Tony Gerrard, Jim Heyes, Pete Hudson, Clive Chatterton, Paul Broad, Thelma Willmer, Steve Brittle.

Apologies: Margaret Green (Secretary), Mark Holland, Harold Hampson, Carole Johnson, Alan Gough, Jean Clemence, Geoff Eubank, Keith Gore, John Bower, Len Winnard, Phil Bithell, Joy Lummis, Roy Unsworth, Sue Bradley.

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Jim welcomed Members to the AGM and thanked them for their attendance on a bitterly cold evening. Apologies for absence were recorded.

2. Minutes from 2016 AGM

The minutes of the 2016 AGM were read and passed as a true and correct record, proposed by Tony Gerrard and seconded by Clive Chatterton. This was unanimously agreed.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. Chairman's Review of 2017

Jim highlighted numerous important changes and achievements that had taken place during the Club's 4th year of operation. The Club has:

- Established a Steering Group which has dealt with numerous issues during the year
- Reviewed the Club constitution which now reflects how we as a club wish to operate.
- Completed a full membership review resulting in 14 members relinquishing their membership. We now have 77 members.
- Membership that continues to grow though slower than in previous years.
- Begun to use Facebook to promote our rides, rather than the Trails4Us website, with encouraging take up from many members.
- Continued to provide a varied ride programme with several exceptional rides such as the Mersey Gateway and Beatles Landmarks rides.
- Held a Xmas Do which was generally viewed as a great success.

Jim then shared some impressive statistics relating to the rides undertaken by the Club during the year. Those statistics are attached as an addendum to the minutes. He thanked Paul Boffey for producing the statistics and pointed out that Pete Hudson had offered to collate this information following the AGM. Members were reminded of the importance of completing an attendance register for every ride. John Sills suggested that the statistics be shared with Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles which Jim agreed to action.

Jim also commented on the continued maturity of the Club with many Members now confident to travel abroad and cycle independently. He also mentioned our positive relationship with Gearing Up and The Brick and welcomed the formal launch of the Lock 87 Cycling Café expected in February/March 2018. We continue to work with Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles (IHS) though probably on a lesser scale than in previous years but we continue to benefit from the partnership with access to TfGM training opportunities to enable members to improve their riding and leadership skills. IHS has recently launched a closed Facebook group for all Wigan and Leigh cycling groups. Jim ended his review by thanking everyone in the Club who have contributed to the ongoing success of the Club and for giving him pleasure from their conversations, banter and friendships throughout the year.

5. Finance Report

Members were provided with copies of the balance sheet for the year ending on 31 October 2017. Phil began his overview by thanking Thelma Willmer for auditing the accounts. Phil explained that the year end balance was skewed by income received for the Xmas Do which has since taken place. The Xmas Do generated a very small profit though that had been unintended. He then pointed out the main items of income and expenditure during the year and the upcoming expenditure items. He advised Members that the Club currently holds £649.39 in the bank which is around £20 more than at the end of the 2016 financial year. He considered that the Club's finances remain healthy with limited future liabilities.

John Silks proposed and Thelma Willmer seconded that the accounts be accepted. This was unanimously agreed.

6. Club Membership Fee

Jim advised Members that the Steering Group did not consider it necessary to change the existing one off £10 membership fee at the present time. Following a lively debate, during which various funding options were considered, Pete Hudson proposed and Phil Bradley seconded that the current membership fee arrangements should continue in the next financial year. The proposal was unanimously agreed.

7. Steering Group Membership

Jim informed Members that Mark Holland and Keith Gore had decided to resign from the Steering Group for differing reasons. He acknowledged the work that they had undertaken on behalf of the Club and reported that, in response to an e-mail from the Secretary, Clive Chatterton had put his name forward to join the Steering Group. Dave Holden also expressed his interest in filling the other vacancy. Jim explained that since the Steering Group had been elected at an Extraordinary General Meeting during the year it was proposed that their 3 years term of office should commence from the 2017 AGM.

Paul Boffey proposed and Paula James seconded that Phil Bradley, Steve Brittle, Clive Chatterton, Jim Heyes, Dave Holden, Pete Hudson, Doreen Pukitis, Roy Unsworth and Thelma Willmer along with the 3 club officials be appointed to the Steering Group for a period of 3 years. The proposal was unanimously agreed.

8. Membership Review

Jim reported that the Club now has 77 Members and indicated that a number of longstanding inactive members had now relinquished their membership. He pointed out there were still a few Members who were not currently cycling but retained an interest in the Club.

9. Ride Programme Planning

Jim informed Members that the Steering Group is proposing that we provide a longer ride every 4 weeks in 2018 instead of every 2 weeks. He explained the amount of work involved in planning and reccyng rides then producing a ride description, risk assessment and placing information on Facebook and the website. It was considered that Members could arrange their own social rides and suggested that the longer gap would allow more time for preparing new rides. He also indicated that it was proposed to continue with Sunday and Monday rides. Numerous members expressed their views on the revised arrangements.

Steve Brittle proposed and Tony Gerrard seconded that the 4 weekly ride programme be implemented in 2018. The proposal was unanimously agreed.

10. Ride Calendar – Favourite Rides

Members discussed their favourite rides, their favoured terrain and distances. It was apparent that Members enjoy different terrain with general support for both on-road and off-road rides. Members felt that around 30 miles was manageable on most terrain and that around 50 miles was manageable for many Members on road rides. The point was made that rides with numerous points of interest such as the Beatles Landmarks ride would not necessarily need to be as lengthy.

The Carbon Trail, Lavender Farm, Beatles Landmarks, Anglezarke Loop, Cheshire March Hare and Mersey Gateway rides were all mentioned as enjoyable rides during the last year. The ride planning sub-group will consider the comments when planning the 2018 ride planning programme.

11. The Brick Cycling Jersey

Jim explained that a cycling jersey had been designed for The Brick and Simon is working with Optimum Sports, Ince to establish how much the jersey might cost when produced. He added that it may be possible to secure sponsorship to subsidise the cost of the jersey and indicated that we could also have our Club name on the jersey. Members discussed the potential benefits of a jersey or other alternatives such as a cycle jacket. Whilst there was general support for a Club jersey, Members were unsure about the potential take up from the wider membership. It was noted that road riders wear base layers beneath their club jersey and don't carry rucksacks so their jerseys are more exposed to public view. It was agreed that Jim should continue to explore options with Simon and Optimum Sports and report back to the Steering Group.

12. Christmas Celebration Update

There was general agreement that the Xmas Do had gone really well and it was suggested that the Club should do something similar next year.

13. Any Other Business

Clive mentioned three items that he thought may be of interest to Members:

- Manchester Velodrome Cycle Jumble, Sunday February 11th 10-2pm admission £3 – an interesting event and a great place to get cycling supplies really cheaply.
- Members welcomed Clive's offer to arrange a taster session on the velodrome track. He will follow this up.
- Clive suggested that the Club might consider doing an event for Comic Relief. It would support the charity and might also bring some positive publicity for the Club. Members supported his idea and the Steering Group will examine this further.

Jim reminded Members that in 2016 we purchased small Christmas gifts for Simon at Gearing Up and the café staff at The Brick. Members unanimously supported his suggestion that we again spend around £30 on gifts this year.

14. Next Meeting

Jim stated that the date and time of the next General Meeting and of the 2018 AGM would be circulated to Members in due course.

Wigan Borough Community Cycling Club

Cycling Statistics 2017

- Rides organised – 133 (but only 122 had attendance records)
- Total route miles 2631 (based on 122 attendance reports)
- Average of just under 22 miles per ride
- 76 different individuals attended our rides
- Of the 76 attendees, 17 completed in excess of 1,000 miles with one Member competing 1,929 miles.
- Aggregate number of participants on all rides was 1,777
- The total miles covered by all participants was 39,530
- The average attendance for each ride was just under 15

Average Attendance by Day

Sunday – 13.9

Monday – 12.1

Tuesday – 18.5

Thursday – 10.7