

Wigan Borough Community Cycling Club
Minutes of the General Meeting 1st August 2019

Members present

Jim Taylor, Phil Brown, Pete Hudson, Pauline Taylor, John Bower, Geoff Smith, Dave Parry, Gill Parry, Mark Holland, Denis Marsden, Alan Clarke, Jim Heyes, Chris Longden, John Sills, Sue Bradley and Phil Bradley.

Apologies

Clive Chatterton, Margaret Green, Chris Jones, Graham Cooper, Doreen Pukitis, Julian Trigg, David Pullford, Paul Broad, Paul Boffey, Phil Bithell, Stuart Conway, Roy Unsworth and Tony Gerrard.

1. Jim Taylor welcomed and thanked those present for their attendance.
2. The minutes of the AGM held on 17th December 2018 were agreed to be an accurate and correct recording.
3. There were no matters arising from those minutes.
4. Feedback from Bolton Ironman.

Jim thanked all participants who gave up their time. Members felt it was a real experience and the majority would do it again. Jim said he would thank Chris Evans, who was very grateful for our feedback, and for inviting WBCCC to participate. Phil also mentioned that it gave £33 per member towards club funds, which will be allocated soon. Jim said that he hoped Chris would ask the club to participate again next year.

5. Finance Report.

Membership has slowed down to 5 new members this year. We have a balance of £458.41 but with Ironman income pending in 30 days of £396 (12 x £33), it would give a healthy balance of £854.41

6. Proposed WhatsApp Group.

Graham Cooper suggested that he would run a WhatsApp group as another form of communication within the group for passing on messages, particularly for urgent cancellations of rides. It was agreed that this would come into force soon. No member is forced to use Watts App. WBCCC Facebook forum will also be used as usual.

7. Tuesday Ride Start Time.

It was agreed unanimously that the Tuesday ride start time will change from 9.30 to 10 o'clock to help ride members who travel from a distance to avoid early morning traffic. The ride will still take approximately 2.5 hours and therefore finish about 12.30. This arrangement will be tried out until the next AGM in December. This new start time will begin on 13th August.

8. Big Bike Revival –Celebratory rides

This has been overtaken by Tour of Britain, so no ride is needed.

9. Tour of Britain via Wigan – Saturday 14th September 2019

Jim explained a little of the background to this item. Following representations from IHL, British Cycling had agreed that the final stages of the 2019 Tour of Britain would pass through much of Greater Manchester. Consequently, the ride was scheduled to pass through the Wigan area via Haigh Hall, Aspull, Hindley, Atherton and Tyldesley before the final finish in Manchester city centre. In order to maximise the local interest in the race IHL were organising a Velo Village in the Haigh Hall courtyard, with opportunities for local groups involved in cycling to showcase and promote their clubs and organisations. Richard Smith from IHL had invited WBCCC to be involved in this celebration and promotional event and had been offered the opportunity to have a promotion stand in the Velo Village free of charge.

There would also be a large screen showing live coverage of the race and it was anticipated many of those attending would stay and watch the closing stages and final sprint to the finish in Manchester.

Richard had also asked whether or not we would be interested in organising a local ride as part of the overall event.

Following very positive discussion on the matter it was agreed that:

- a) WBCCC would organise a 15-20 mile off-road ride on the Saturday morning and that the ride should finish no later than 1.00pm to allow members the opportunity to catch the riders coming through Haigh and also follow the latter stages of the race.
- b) the ride is promoted as a HSBC Ride Social with a view to attracting additional riders and potentially new members to the club.
- c) the club have a promotional stand in the Velo village with a number of club volunteers helping to man the stand. It was also agreed that if possible we should request a stand close to any Gearing-Up presence in the village.

10. Monthly Rides.

Phil put forward several questions about the continuation of both Sunday and Monday rides, where numbers have dwindled recently. Several suggestions were

made to try and analyse what members are looking for and what reasons there were for not attending. Overall it was agreed that monthly rides would start again and hopefully numbers will increase. A programme will be sent out immediately on WBCCC facebook page.

11. Weekend Ride 2019

The weekend ride of 80/85 miles was confirmed by Jim to take place on 21st and 22nd September from Kidderminster to Worcester. There will be limited spaces available as usual and a deposit of £50/£60 (£125 approx. total per head) would be required to secure a place. Unfortunately the bike hire company has changed its policy and no longer does group bike hiring. As an alternative, members could use their own bikes and alternative transport arrangements for the bikes using self-drive hire vans or trailers would be explored. The use of a large coach or self-drive 15 seater coach will also be explored.

12. Christmas Celebration

This year's Christmas Celebration will take place once again at the Ravine Club on 16th December at a cost of £10 per head including buffet. The artist is a singer called Neil Ross who has been highly recommended. Phil has tickets available.

13. Any other business

a) Pedal Smart - John Bower brought to our attention that Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service are launching Pedal Smart. This is the product of a two year collaboration between Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service's Road Safety Team and British Cycling.

For more information, the link is: <https://www.cheshirefire.gov.uk/public-safety/road-safety/pedal-smart> and the email address is: pedalsmart@cheshire.gov.uk

b) Personal 3rd Party Insurance - Phil Brown also brought to our attention a very interesting article on a court case concerning a cyclist who was passing through a green light and hit a pedestrian who was staring at her phone. Phil has already posted the article on WBCCC facebook page. It's well worth having a look at. It makes you aware that members are covered by WBCCC 3rd party liability insurance only when riding with the club. Members may wish to explore obtaining their own personal 3rd party liability insurance – both British Cycling and Cycling UK offer this type of cover for around £40 per year.

c) Bickerstaffe MTB Trails - John Sills told us he had called in at Bickerstaffe Cycle Track, which is a MTB facility with various skill level trails. More information can be found at Jubilee Wood, Bickerstaffe, Ormskirk, L39 0EH

14. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be confirmed later.