

Steering Group Meeting
Monday 12 November 2018
Highfield St Matthews Parish Hall

Present: Jim Taylor (Chairman), Phil Brown (Treasurer), Pete Hudson, Clive Chatterton, Paul Boffey, Jim Heyes, Doreen Pukitis, Phil Bradley, Dave Holden.

Apologies: Margaret Green (Secretary), Roy Unsworth, Thelma Willmer.

1. Apologies for Absence

Jim T. welcomed Steering Group Members to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance. Apologies for absence were recorded.

2. Minutes of Meeting on 16 April 2018

The minutes of the Steering Group meeting were read and unanimously passed as a true and correct record.

3. Matters Arising

- Paul reported that Michael Boffey was continuing to host the WBCCC website on his server. The group considered that the Club should recognise this and also Michael's assistance in resolving any technical issues with the website. It was agreed that the Club should purchase a £30 gift voucher to give to Michael.

Action: Phil Brown

- Jim T. informed the group that Joyce Southern had indicated that she would like the commemorative ride for Ray to be held during Summer 2019 and that a Wirral route would be her preference.

Action: Ride Planning Sub-Group

4. Leigh Cycling and Walking Opportunities

Jim T. outlined details of a large scale initiative designed to improve cycling and walking opportunities within the Greater Manchester area. Chris Boardman is involved in the initiative. A meeting of cycling and walking groups in the Wigan and Leigh areas is being held at Leigh Sports Village on Thursday 29th November. Jim T. will be attending on behalf of the Club. Steering Group members pointed out several cycling routes that Jim T could highlight as needing improvement if funding is available.

Action: Jim Taylor

5. Annual Membership Review

Jim T. provided statistics from Margaret Green showing the outcome of the 2018 membership review. Prior to the review the Club had 84 members. 2 members asked to be removed from the members' register and 8 others failed to respond to her email and their memberships have, therefore, lapsed. We now have 74 members although we have only had a small number of new members in the past year.

6. WBCCC Ride Programme 2019

Phil Brown advised that the ride programme had been arranged up to the end of January. A meeting of the ride planning sub-group is planned for early January.

Action: Phil Brown

7. Ride Protocols

Doreen highlighted the continuing issues with riders failing to ride in a safe manner when we are cycling on the road. Overtaking without warning the rider ahead is quite commonplace and riders occasionally overtake on the inside which can be dangerous. The group discussed the different ways of riding safely on roads that have been suggested by members, trainers and cycling organisations. It was agreed that this issue should be discussed at the Annual General Meeting where we will endeavour to get a consensus from members on safe riding protocols. Riders should be reminded of these protocols by the ride leader at the commencement of each ride.

Action: Jim Taylor

8. Future Direction of the Club

Jim T. asked for members views about the direction of the Club given that the number of new members had reduced significantly in the past year and a number of riders had begun to ride separately or with other groups. Members commented that it was natural for riders to look at further cycling opportunities if they feel that the Club is not offering the type of rides that suit them. The number of members participating in Tuesday and Thursday rides remains fairly consistent bearing in mind the number of members who are retired and in the older age group. The group considered that there was enough variation in the type of rides and routes that it is possible to undertake from Trencherfield Mill on morning rides. It would, however, be helpful if ride leaders were able to inform members through the Club Facebook group if a road ride is planned as this would enable members use a road bike, if desired.

Action: Ride Leaders

9. Christmas Celebration Update

Phil Brown provided Members with an update on numbers for the Christmas event on 7th December. He reported that 53 people had confirmed their attendance which is well above the break even point for the event. He envisaged that around 60 would be in attendance which would be similar to 2017.

10. Date of Annual General Meeting

Jim T stated that the Annual General Meeting will take place at 7.15pm on Monday 17th December at Highfield St Matthews Parish Hall.