

Minutes for Wigan Borough Community Cycling Club

Steering Group Meeting 1ST June 2020

Virtual Meeting via Zoom at 7.15pm

Members present:

Jim Taylor, Phil Brown, Sue Bradley, Phil Bradley, Allan Ricketts, Graham Cooper
Dave Holden, Paul Broad, Clive Chatterton, Pete Hudson and (Jim Heyes).

1. Apologies for absence

Allan Finch. Jim Heyes initially joined the meeting but had to leave as he was unable to make audio contact.

2. Minutes from 10th February

The minutes of the Steering Group meeting on 10th February 2020 were agreed to be a correct and accurate record.

3. Matters Arising

a. Zurich Insurance has confirmed that ride leaders do not need formal training but do need to follow Club ride protocol. The group agreed that Club Members should be encouraged to undertake training if it was free.

b. It was mentioned that first aid certificates expire after three years. Clive advised that IHL are planning refresher courses which include use of defibrillators. It was proposed that we should establish and maintain a record of members who hold a certificate with the expiry date. Sue Bradley agreed to email members and feed back to the Steering Group.

c. The Kidderminster weekend ride has so far only had 14 interested but it is hoped that the ride could still go ahead with further interest and also depending on how the Covid19 situation develops.

d. It was agreed that the planned Summer Day outing should be deferred until next year.

e. A warm welcome to our two new steering group members...Allan Ricketts and Allan Finch.

4. Finance Update.

Phil Brown reported there is little change to Club finance other than £20 income from two new members (Frank and Freda Woods) and expenditure of around £35 for canal/water safety equipment. This leaves a healthy balance of £866.

5. Ride Programme

Only three rides have been completed this year due to Covid 19. The Hayloft was the last one. It was agreed that Phil Brown should produce a provisional ride programme commencing on 6th July with Pete Hudson's Carbon Trail ride. Rides will be mostly on road and reprogrammed until the end of September. However, until the government announces that cycling can be undertaken in groups it was agreed that the Club should abide by these rules before going ahead with any of our weekly rides or the ride programme.

6. Lockdown – increased cycling activity and WBCCC response

It was agreed that before we take advantage of the increased interest in cycling and advertise for new members etc., we should concentrate on getting the Club back to normality first. Clive mentioned that Gearing Up has been overwhelmed with sales and maintenance of bikes and this provides an ideal opportunity to encourage new members in the future.

7. Extra Government funding for walking and Cycling (in response to Covid 19 crisis)

Having attended meetings, Jim and Clive have both been disappointed with vague responses from Wigan Council representatives to implementing new initiatives with the £500K Government funding. They feel that the representatives did not give any clear indication how it is intended to spend the money. There has been little response in terms of progress of any initiatives being carried out in our region. Clive said he would try and push for further information from Christine Bainbridge.

8. Greater Manchester Mayor Challenge Fund – Current Status

Clive and Jim Taylor have had disappointing responses to debates and discussions.

9. Gearing Up and The Brick

Jim Taylor thanked Simon and his team for all their efforts to keep cyclists on the road during these difficult times. He also thanked those members of the Club who had helped with food bank deliveries. Clive stated that he has drafted a positive news article that he hopes will be of interest to Cycling UK and the local papers regarding the efforts made by staff and volunteers at Gearing Up and The Brick during the covid 19 crisis.

10. Any other business

A follow up from item 5. It was agreed that we should take advice from British Cycling with regards to when we restart our club rides.

Phil Bradley stated that the government has announced that cyclists will be entitled to a £50 voucher towards refurbishing / repairing cycles. These will probably be able to be spent at cycle repair shops such as Gearing Up. We are awaiting full details but would encourage Members to take advantage and spend the voucher at Gearing Up to support Simon and The Brick. Clive mentioned that he thought there was also a limit of £2 million funding from the Government.

11. Date of next meeting

The next Zoom meeting for the Steering Group will be on Monday 29th June at 7.15pm.