WBCCC Steering Group Minutes

12th February 2024 at 2.00pm

**Present**

Jim Taylor, Phil Brown, Sue Bradley, Phil Bradley, Pete Hudson, Allan Ricketts, Allan Finch, Paul Boffey, Graham Cooper, Paul Broad ,John Murphy and Richard Bradley

**1. Welcome-New Members**

A warm welcome to our two new members, John Murphy and Richard Bradley.

**2. Apologies for absence**

None

**3. Minutes of the Meeting 16th October 2023**

The minutes of the Steering Group meeting on the 16th October were agreed.

**4. Tuesday, Thursday and Weekend Rides- Review**

Tuesday and Thursday rides are to stay the same at present. It was agreed that all last minute ride details, either through media and more than one rider should be passed on to Pete Hudson for his ride statistics. These will be classed as a club ride with all club rules adhered to and including insurance. Confirmation of participants before the ride start would be appreciated by the ride leader. Jim mentioned he would speak to Richard Smith regarding the Be Well celebration ride in April and May to Burscough Wharf to see if we could join them to show our appreciation of their work. It was considered a good idea to make this our first long Tuesday/Thursday ride if possible.

**5. Membership Review Update**

Sue Bradley reported that there are 60 members at the end of 2023. Two new members joined the club last year. 16 e-mails were sent out to non- riders asking them to confirm they still wished to stay a member. A second e-mail was sent out to remind the non-riders that a £10 annual membership fee will be introduced this April. The replies were as follows; 2 to stay, 4 to leave and the rest did not reply. Therefore, there are now 46 members in the club.

**6. Issues from Annual General Meeting**

a. There were no issues to report.

b. Phil Brown will contact the club bank to set up on-line banking so that members can pay by Standing Order or bank transfer (to be decided). There will be an annual review of the £10 membership fee. Phil proposed that an e-mail be sent out to all members at the end of March to remind them that the payment will be required by the end of April.

**7. First Aid Kits**

Phil Brown has purchased 100 sterile wipes to be issued to all First Aiders but also to any of the riders who would like to carry some with them on the ride. It was also proposed that a second throw line be purchased.

**8. Any Other Business**

Paul Boffey asked a number of questions, “what is the purpose of the club?” and “why do we need to operate as a formal club with all the issues around meetings, membership forms, membership fees, club rules etc?”

He also expressed concern that, as a club we did little to promote ourselves to a wider audience, with little or no representation of female members, nor indeed, of younger members. A lengthy debate then took place regarding these issues with a number of members outlining the benefits of having a formal structure to the club on how it continues to meet their needs. There was a general consensus that the club met their particular needs and that there was no immediate pressure to change either the structure or status of the club.

Other issues and concerns raised during this debate, included:

a, the increased use and popularity of e-bikes

b, the lack of volunteers for ride leading,

c, the lack of new and/or fresh ideas on the WBCCC website

In closing the debate the Chairman was of the view, that it would be sensible at some time in the future, to explore our options that of how we may wish to promote the club to a wider audience.