

# WBCCC Annual General Meeting

## Held at Wigan Central Bar

9<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Present:** Jim Taylor, Phil Brown, Stuart Conway, Denis Marsden, Frank Malley, Dave Holden, Tony Gerrard, Peter Hudson, Allan Finch, John Sills, Richard Bradley, Gerard Moore, Alan Clarke, Cary Blackburn, John Murphy, Paul Broad, Graham Cooper, Sue Bradley, Phil Bradley, Allan Ricketts, Jim Millar.

**Apologies:** Roy Causey, Julian Triggs, Geoff Smith, Len Winnard, Jim Heyes, Bridget Gray, Paul Boffey, Ian Burton.

**Welcome** The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting.

### **Retirement of Secretary**

Sue Bradley has announced her retirement from the role of Club Secretary. The Chairman expressed his thanks for her contribution to the effective running of the club and gave her a token of appreciation on behalf of all the members.

### **Appointment of Club Secretary**

Allan Ricketts was proposed as Club Secretary by Tony Gerrard, seconded by Pete Hudson. This was unanimously agreed.

The minutes of the AGM held in 2023 were agreed as a true record and there were no matters arising.

### **Chairman's review of 2024**

Jim gave a general update of events during the year and hoped to be back riding with the group in the New Year. He reported the year had been a positive one with the club having nine new members raising the total to 45. The Tuesday and Thursday rides continue to be popular, but there has been an increase in ride cancellations due to bad weather. The WhatsApp group has been useful in letting members know in good time when rides have been cancelled. The longer rides, which were started this year, have been well received and there will be more in the coming year. In 2024 the club introduced an annual membership fee which has resulted in a consolidation of members who ride more regularly. Ride statistics indicate strong participation by members and it is encouraging that most of the new members have bought club jerseys. There has been an increase in the

number of members leading rides during the year and even more ride leaders would be welcome. Jim thanked Graham Cooper and Paul Boffey for managing the club website and Michael Boffey for hosting the website during the year. Michael's contribution has been recognised by a gift of £50. The Club will also recognise the contribution of Gearing-up, the Red Pepper Cafe and Simon by giving the usual Xmas gifts.

## **Financial Annual Report**

Phil gave an overview of the current balance sheet and the income and expenditure items were explained. The Steering Group proposed that items of a value of less than £10 should be removed from the balance sheet. This was seconded by Richard Bradley and unanimously approved by the members. There were no questions raised about the financial report.

## **Ride statistics**

Peter Hudson explained the data in the ride statistics report. During the year 93 rides have been completed, with 15 rides cancelled. The total mileage for riders on all rides was 27,486. The number of different riders for the year was 45 giving a total of 1226 participants for the rides. On Tuesdays 45 riders covered a total of 1008 miles with an average of 22.4 miles per ride. The total riders were 609 giving an average number of 13.5 riders per ride. On Thursdays 45 riders covered a total of 1021 miles with an average of 22.7 miles per ride. The total riders were 575 with an average of 12.8 riders per ride. There were two Sunday rides covering a total of 75 miles with an average of 37.5 miles per ride and with a total of 33 riders there were 16.5 riders per ride. One Wednesday ride covered 24 miles by 9 riders. The riders with the most miles covered in the year were

Frank Malley	77 rides	1778 miles
Phil Brown	71 rides	1623 miles
Denis Marsden	73 rides	1621 miles

## **Constitutional issues**

The Steering Group recommended that the membership fee should remain at £10 per year for the next year. This was proposed by John Murphy, seconded by Sue Bradley and unanimously agreed by the membership.

## **Club Rides Review 2024**

There was an exchange of views concerning the club rides. It was noted that although more members had led rides this year more ride leaders would be welcome. There is a copy of the ride leaders guide on the club website for those who are interested.

There was general agreement that the ride protocols for leaving sufficient gaps for traffic to pass on busy roads should be reinforced, with reminders given at appropriate times. It was suggested that when there are more than 12 riders participating consideration should be given to selecting a middle marker as well as a back marker: at the discretion of the ride leader.

The use of the WhatsApp group to inform members that a ride is to be cancelled has worked well during the year and it was generally agreed that consideration should be given to delaying the start time of some rides where the weather could improve and cycling would be safe. In these circumstances a message would be posted on the WhatsApp group by the ride leader by 8.00am with a request that replies be posted no later than half an hour before the revised start time in order that the ride leader could determine if there is enough interest in riding.

## **Membership Update**

Current membership is 45

## **First Aid Training**

Those members who qualified as first aiders 3 years ago are now required to re-train. The club pays for 12 members to attend the one-day course which is held locally. It is intended to arrange the training for March next year. Most of the existing first aiders have agreed to take the refresher course but there are two, possibly three, places for other members. John Murphy has agreed to take one place. Anyone interested is requested to confirm their interest to either Jim or Phil.

## **Police Bike Marking**

Jim has discovered that the Police offer free security marking for bicycles, which involves placing a security marker on the bike and registering it on a national database. Arrangements can be made for them to attend the Red Pepper after a regular ride where they can mark and register members' bikes. Those interested will be advised when this will be taking place next year. It is possible that more than one session can be arranged for those members with more than one bike.

## **Steering Group Membership**

Jim reported that there were 5 vacancies on the Steering Group due to existing members standing down after their term of three years. The following members were proposed by John Murphy and seconded by Pete Hudson.

Roy Causey, Cary Blackburn, Stuart Conway, Tony Gerrard, Jim Millar.

The appointments were unanimously agreed by the membership and raise the number of Steering Group Members to 12.

## **Any Other Business**

Jim Millar announced that there was a bike sale at Gearing-up.

Richard Bradley proposed a vote of thanks for the Chairman, Jim Taylor and Treasurer Phil Brown for their commitment in keeping the club running well. This was unanimously endorsed by the whole meeting.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting