

CTC Cambridge
A Member Group of Cycling UK
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held on 4th November 2018 at Hauxton Village Hall

1. Attendance

Present:

The AGM was attended by 35 CTC Cambridge members

Apologies for Absence:

Peter W, John J, Sheila, Julia, Ian W, Sharon, Tom H

2. Opening remarks

The Chair (Andy) opened the meeting with remarks about a successful year for the club, with a great programme of rides and social events, and an increase in number of members.

Andy then highlighted some of the activities and improvements that had taken place, taking special note of our excellent programme of led rides, and the launch of the new website, which now works much better across both fixed and mobile devices.

Andy noted the deaths of long standing members Jacob Hassan, Simon Denney and Peter Collingwood and the way that club members had represented the club when their funerals had taken place.

Andy also noted that both Richard B and Tom H had been hospitalised earlier in the year, and wished them well with their continued recoveries. Andy mentioned the role that Angela T had played in providing essential First Aid for Richard when he fell ill on a ride.

Andy thanked the Committee members who had announced that they were not standing for re-election – Sheila, Tom H and Julia - for their hard work and respective contributions to the smooth running of the club.

3. Secretary's report

The Secretary (John S) ran through the appended report, including inputs from the Membership and Promotions Officer and the Welfare Officer. The main highlights were a continued steady growth of local members from 1124 to 1227, our programme of 225 rides over the year, and a varied programme of events including the Annual Lunch, Summer BBQ, and a Members' event at Outspoken.

John highlighted the work done by Membership Secretary John J to design and order new CTC Cambridge gilets, and by Welfare Officer Peter W to find a good source of First Aid training for Ride Leaders.

The attached report gives details of members' many and varied non-club cycling achievements over the year.

John finished by looking forward to another successful year in 2018-2019, and hoping that we will continue our core programme of rides and events, as well as exploring new events that may appeal to the wider membership.

4. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer (Mike CC) presented the appended financial report, thanking our Honorary Auditor, Alex Brown, for his help in checking the annual accounts.

The main point to report was that the Cambridge Member Group currently spends more than the £200 annual sum it receives from Cycling UK to run the group. The difference between income and expenditure this year has been around £330 this year. Extra expenditure beyond the fixed costs (room hire, web hosting etc.) this year has included a contribution to the costs of a members' event at Outspoken, and next year exceptional items are likely to include a contribution to the cost of First Aid training, and a subsidy for new club kit. This will make our spend around £500 more than income.

Geoff J asked why the central Cycling UK contribution to the Member Group was set at the fixed level of £200. The Secretary clarified that further funds are available from Cycling UK for one-off Member Group events and campaigns, but that bidding for these involved explaining why the Member Group was not able to use its own funds, where these are available.

5. Runs Secretary's report

The Runs Secretary (Rupert) presented the appended report. Overall, the programme of rides is going well, with a healthy level of support for each kind of ride the club offers. Some adjustments had been tried on the Thursday rides, including different ride speeds (an experiment which had proved unpopular and had not been pursued), and split coffee or lunch stops for Village and City rides.

Rupert thanked the Ride Leaders for all their help and support over the year, and encouraged members to consider joining the Runs Committee to help shape the new programme of rides for 2018-2019.

Rupert then went on to outline four proposals for changes to our rides. These were presented as potential discussion topics, and the meeting was asked by the Chair to choose one to discuss in more detail from the following list. Rupert invited members to discuss the remaining topics with him during the AGM tea.

- 1: Asking leaders to book coffee and lunch stops.
- 2: Having fewer of the longer Sunday rides
- 3: Thursday village starting point
- 4: Do we need a new kind of ride

Topic 3 was selected for further discussion. There had been some issues with Great Shelford Recreation Ground as a start, and one option was to move elsewhere. Averil asked why the starts

could not revert to the private address that used to be used in Hauxton, and expressed a concern that the changes had caused the club to lose a connection to its history. This proposal generated a lively discussion. Rupert explained he felt that it was important to use a public location as a start rather a private address. Sarah suggested a compromise, whereby rides would have an official start close to the private address, using the bench / village sign / bus shelter on the village green as a public landmark. The discussion revealed that there are varied views on the topic, and more careful thought is needed to arrive at a solution that best meets the needs and wishes of both long standing members and new riders.

6. Election of new Committee

The Chair then conducted the election of the elected posts on the new Committee. He informed the meeting that Committee Members Sheila, Julia and Tom H were not standing for re-election, and that the remainder of the Committee had indicated that they were happy to stand again. The Chair informed the meeting that he had not received any other nominations before the meeting. The meeting then voted as follows:

- Chair – Andy Carlyle – Proposed: Mark Troll, Seconded: Edward Elmer. Elected unopposed.
- Treasurer – Mike Culnane – Proposed: Mark Troll, Seconded: Tony Holmes. Elected unopposed.
- Secretary – John Seton – Proposed: Mark Troll, Seconded: Sarah Carlyle. Elected unopposed.
- Runs Secretary and Campaigning – Rupert Goodings – Proposed: Mark Troll, Seconded: Susan Goodrich. Elected unopposed.
- Registrations and Promotions – John Jackson – Proposed: Mike Culnane, Seconded: Susan Goodrich. Elected unopposed.
- Webmaster – Nigel Deakin – Proposed: David Secher, Seconded: Alan Tullett. Elected unopposed.
- Welfare Officer – Peter Wilson – Proposed: Mike Culnane, Seconded: Mike Pearce. Elected unopposed.
- General Committee Member – Richard Broomfield – Proposed: Averil Martin, Seconded: Tony Holmes. Elected unopposed.
- General Committee Member – Susan Goodrich – Proposed: Sarah Carlyle, Seconded: Mark Troll. Elected unopposed.

7. Campaigning

The Campaigning Officer (Rupert) highlighted the importance of Greenways as the driving force for cycle infrastructure projects in Cambridge over the next few years, and encouraged members to get involved in their local projects and engage with the various consultation events that are taking place. The Greenways projects have the scale and ambition to include facilities like underpasses for cyclists (e.g. at Coton Roundabout and M11 slip road). The time to get involved is now, when the consultation and plans is fairly broad in scope, rather than in later phases of the project, when options have already been narrowed down.

Averil asked about plans for Barton Road, where the cycle paths are narrow and poor quality. It was clarified that the plans would also involve widening and smoothing existing paths.

Rupert then reported that Chisholm Trail project is progressing slowly, in the face of concerted opposition and changes to the contractors who are involved.

In response to a question, Rupert confirmed that the A14 development will result in some new cycling infrastructure, giving much better cycle access to the Crematorium, and from there on to Dry Drayton, Bar Hill and Fenstanton.

8. Talk by Julian Huppert – Cycling UK Trustee

Julian gave an interesting talk about the role that CTC / Cycling UK had played in pushing for better facilities, including better road surfaces and signage, for all road users since it was founded 140 years ago. He went on to compare cycling uptake and infrastructure provision in the UK and Denmark / The Netherlands, and at the way UK policy makers need to consider the £18Bn in health benefits that a Dutch/Danish levels of cycling uptake would offer in the UK. Julian noted that cycling projects tend to develop in small steps, so there are no media-grabbing big “new things” for politicians to open.

Julian then went on to discuss the way that deaths of cyclists tend to go relatively unpunished, citing an example from Bournemouth where a cyclist death had resulted in a £250 fine for a driver, whereas another cyclist had been fined £300 for riding along the seafront. 5/6 of motorists who kill cyclists do not receive custodial sentences, and less than one in three lose their driving license

Julian then highlighted some current Cycling UK campaigns, including the roll out of Close Pass across police forces across the UK, with West Midlands police now going online to correct ill-informed anti-cycling posts on social media. “Bike Week” was another successful campaign, with over 350000 cyclists involved across the UK.

In a Q&A session, Geoff J and Michael S challenged the £200 annual funding that Cycling UK puts into Member Groups like CTC Cambridge. Julian highlighted the difficulties that some clubs have in getting going from a start with no members, compared to clubs in areas where there is already a lot of cycling activity, and suggested that Cycling UK may need to offer more help to groups that are struggling to get off the ground, or struggling financially. Julian suggested that a funding formula that recognises and rewards continued growth in membership numbers, rather than absolute numbers of members might be a compromise that was worth exploring.

John S asked about the perceived competition between British Cycling and Cycling UK for leisure / commuter members. Julian suggested that we should welcome any organisation working to promote cycling, and should worry about doing the right things for cycling, rather than being distracted by labels and names of organisations.

9. Len Nice Award

The Chair then informed the meeting of the nominations he had received for the Len Nice Trophy Award, and invited Members to vote, either on the day, or by email up until 23rd November. The result will be announced at the annual lunch in late February.

The nominees this year are:

- Sue Howell
- John Jackson
- Ray Miller
- Angela Taylor

The Chair then closed the formal meeting, and discussions continued over tea. The Chair thanked Sue Howell and all the people who had helped prepare the AGM Tea, or who had provided cakes and other items for the tea.