



Ross-on-Wye & District Cycling Club

Minutes of Annual General Meeting, held Wednesday 1st November 2023

Venue: Ross Sports Centre. Time: 7.30pm

Agenda for the Meeting:

1) Those present and apologies

Apologies from; Paul Stephens, Julie Stephens, James Wilson, Carol Usher, Jerry Roberts, Richard Allen, Steve Millard
22 club members present

2) Minutes from 2022 AGM

Agreed to be a true record

3) Membership Report

83 Members, 15 women, 68 men
49 have already renewed for next year

4) Treasurer's Report

Balance as of Nov 22 £10495

Balance as of Nov 23 £10215

Income was from:

The opens (+£337)

Subs (+£1148)

Outgoings are from:

The speaker at the club dinner(-£630)

Food at the holly run and TT (-£260)

Time trials (-£89)

Sponsorship (-£150)

The community bike pump is waiting on approval by the council and is expected to cost £1100 approx

3 items had been sold from the stock held by the club

5) Racing Secretary Report

Local TT's

We ran 13 TT's this year. A total of 13 club members attended. The attendance was very low this year and there was ongoing difficulty getting members to marshal.

It was proposed that we should cancel the events for 2024 in their current format. This was put to a vote and 19/22 members agreed. Members that voted via email were 3 for 3 against

It was proposed that we should run 2 or 3 special events in the summer months. These would take the form of a team relay or 2 up and include a social event after. This was voted on and 17/22 members agreed

Comments:

Rachel Woods suggested promoting the TT's in the press etc, the feedback on this was it may work better online as not that many people buy newspapers. Others comments there may be better ways to encourage people to come along

Richard Wilson suggested there was a general apathy towards TT's and many people seem to join the club but not take part in any of the activities

Bob Davies stated we shouldn't keep the current club time trials on in there current format

Several members articulated their desire to keep the tradition going as our club is traditionally a racing club and was how many were introduced to the club in the first place

Dave Harwood said TT's had been a pillar of the club, he was concerned that people are put off attending by the pointy hat and disc wheel image rather than looking at it as a social event

Richard Harrington and Catalin suggested that we could do 3 events in May / June on the different courses to keep them "live" There is a thought that we need to use the courses at least every 2 years to keep them "active" to the CTT (TBC)

Bob Hill questioned the need for the new summer events to be run under the CTT but the general consensus was we need CTT approval to remove any liability from the club.

Club opens

The club open 10 was canceled due to bad weather. The 25 ran successfully, 75 riders in total.

Comments:

Richard Wilson has offered to run the 25 next year and has reaffirmed the need for volunteers for this event as it's the main source of income for the club and pays for the club speaker and food at several club events.

6) Affiliations

British Cycling, Cycling Time Trials and Cycling UK

7) Proposal: Membership fees

Stay the same as 2022

8) Election of Club Officers and Committee

New Members proposed and seconded

- i) Rachel Woods - Club secretary
- ii) Will Beven - Race secretary

Retain Existing:

- i) Chair: Rick Harris
- ii) Treasurer: Richard Wilson
- iii) Welfare Officer: Carol Usher
- iv) Social Secretary: Paul Cooper

Thanks to Adam Spector for his role as Race Secretary

9) Social Events

Paul Cooper requested people use Teamup to sign up for the Holly run. He also mentioned we'd booked the Corn Exchange for the club dinner.

Comments:

A few members commented on the poor audio at the last event and they couldn't hear the guest speaker. Paul and Richard Wilson mentioned that we are aware of this and we'll be sure to get the CE to test this all out in advance of the event. Paul pointed out that the other venues have a minimum spend, in some cases £1500, and so would require a high attendance from members 45+ and so we could incur hire charges

Some members commented that they didn't know how to use Team up. Rick Harris will send out instructions for this and how to join the Club WhatsApp

10) Any other business

Female riders:

Carol Usher wants us to find ways to encourage more female riders to the club. It was suggested we should put a women's only ride. Though there was concern on finding a member that would be prepared to take this on.

Rachel Morgan said how encouraged and supported she has been as a female rider of the club. Rachel Woods seconded this. Others commented how new riders have a fear of riding on the road due to the traffic.

Bob Hill suggested that using the new Hereford Track to host events for new riders in a traffic free environment

Encouraging new members

There was quite a lot of discussion on how to encourage / find new members. Dave Harwood proposed we set aside a marketing budget and pay an outside company to promote us via social media. (£1k budget) It was generally agreed that this was a good idea. Richard Harrington pointed out that we need an overall strategy for the club. It was generally agreed that bringing new members into the club would be a good idea.

Others mentioned that we should communicate our activities better to the current membership as only around 30% of the club members are actively involved

Club rides

Bob Hill said he didn't join in with the club rides as he feels they are too disjointed and we should ride in a better group structure.

Adam Matchette Said perhaps we should have some training in this area, we do attempt to keep to smaller groups when riding on the main roads to allow traffic to pass but this sometimes falls apart.

Rachel Woods commented on how newer drivers were better than the older ones as they are made more aware of cyclists with the new rules in the highway code.

Meeting closed at 9pm