**CTC EAST MIDLANDS REGION**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING**

**HELD AT THE SWAN IN THE RUSHES, LOUGHBOROUGH**

**ON SATURDAY 18 JANUARY 2020**

Present: Ray Clay (Leicestershire and Rutland CTC)

Tim Newbery (Lincolnshire CTC)

Ian Hill (Derby and Burton CTC)

John Catt (Leicestershire and Rutland CTC)

Reg Tuckwood (Notts CTC)

Richard Daniels (Northampton CTC)

Jean Lakin (Leicestershire and Rutland CTC)

Melanie Carroll (National Office)

Jean Deacon (Minutes Secretary)

Tim Newbery introduced Melanie Carroll of Lincolnshire and a trustee of CTC.

He also remembered absent friends: John Allen and Keith Lakin, two members of the East Midlands Region committee. He spoke about John and Keith and Richard Daniells remembered the support given by John and Keith when the Birthday Rides were held in the East Midlands in 2009.

Everyone was welcomed to the meeting by Tim, who was chairman at that point. He read through the annual report, mentioning the various events which had taken place and thanking those who had organised and worked on them, and also those who had attended Regional meetings.

**1 NOTICE OF MEETING**

This was no longer advertised in *Cycle* magazine, but a notice had been put on the web site.

**2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

Volunteers were asked for. Tim was proposed by Richard Daniels and seconded by Ian Hill. Ray Clay volunteered as he wanted to step down as secretary, a post he had held since the start of the Region. He would be happy to be chairman if someone else would be secretary, and Tim said he would be willing to do the job. Tim was proposed by Ray, seconded by Jean Lakin, and all were in agreement. Tim handed over the chairmanship of the meeting to Ray.

**3 APPOINTMENT OF MINUTES SECRETARY**

Jean Deacon was appointed minutes secretary; proposed: Jean Lakin; seconded: Ray Clay.

**4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Jeff Burton, Alex Cuppleditch, Tom Fox, Terry Scott, Dave Waldram

**5 MINUTES OF ARM HELD ON 26 JANUARY 2019**

The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting. Proposed: John Catt; seconded: Richard Daniells

**6 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were no matters arising.

**7 CHAIRMAN’S ANNUAL REPORT**

This had been covered earlier in the meeting when Tim was still chairman.

**8 TREASURER’S REPORT**

Ian Hill explained the figures.

The loss made by the Beaumanor Rally was caused partly by the reduction in numbers attending and the change in the charging system by Leics County Council, which included additional charges which had previously been charged separately. Campers were charged £10 per night but this did not attract enough attendees to make a profit and Ian felt the charges needed to be discussed.

The donation to the Cyclists’ Defence Fund had been paid in previous years from the profits of the Mince Pie Run, but this had not been paid in time this year. £300 had been donated to the Fund since the year-end and this would appear in next year’s accounts. Had it been paid this year, there would have been a deficit of £568.

The £300 grant from Leicester City Council had been received for the film show. Ray said that in the beginning the Beaumanor Rally used to make a profit; charges of £15 per person would now be needed to break even. It was suggested that Region funds should not be used to subsidise people’s holidays, although this would be acceptable if it encouraged new people to ride. Ian was thanked for his work.

**9 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS**

Chairman: Ray Clay (Leicestershire and Rutland)

Secretary: Tim Newbery (Lincolnshire) Proposed: Ray Clay Seconded: Jean Lakin

Treasurer: Ian Hill (Derby and Burton) Proposed: John Catt Seconded: Reg Tuckwood

Auditor: Richard Daniels (Northampton) Proposed: Jean Lakin Seconded: Reg Tuckwood

Member group representatives: Terry Scott, Tim Newbery, Richard Daniels, Jean Lakin, Ian Alexamder, Tom Fox.

General members: John Catt, Reg Tuckwood, Dave Waldram

Right to Ride Reps: Jeff Burton, Roger Hill

Dave Waldram had indicated that he wanted to resign as a member.

Tim Newbery would still be able to represent Lincolnshire as well as being secretary.

John Catt proposed electing the above en bloc; seconded: Jean Lakin; all agreed.

**10 NATIONAL COUNCILLOR**

No report had been received from Jaki Lowe, but she had stood down from being on the national council; Melanie Carroll would act in her place. She thanked everyone for the hard work they had done. She explained that she was involved in the committee in Lincs and appreciated what was done by the Region. She thanked people for their work as volunteers. The CTC’s emphasis this year would be on volunteers and looking at committees etc, where there were a lot of older people rather than younger ones; this included the rides themselves. They would be focusing on new volunteer access with better communications between groups and individuals, and raising the profile and appreciation of volunteers. Melanie’s main reason for attending the meeting was to assure people that National Office recognised and appreciated what they did.

The campaigning element of CTC continued to seek better funding from Government and was continuing to push for the provision of good facilities for cyclists. They were talking to train companies etc about carrying bikes to improve the capacity for touring. Information was available in *Cycle* magazine and *Cycle Clips* on email, giving an insight into the wider cycling world. Melanie was keen for everyone to encourage all in their groups etc to act when asked by National Office, such as contacting MPs etc, as this showed government that cyclists and the CTC were serious.

Tim thanked Melanie for attending the meeting and she thanked the Region for inviting her as a trustee.

**11 RIGHTS AND CAMPAIGNING ISSUES**

John Catt told the meeting that Cycle Nation seemed to be defunct with nothing new on the web site leaving Cycling UK as the only national body doing campaigning work. Many groups were run on shoe strings and local authorities had little money and were not spending this on liaising with cycling groups or changing road systems. In Leicestershire they no longer had much in the way of meetings with cyclists, although Derbyshire still had their cycle forum. The Derbys council was wanting to make it the most cycling-connected council in the country but did not have much money. Sustrans now received no money from the government. John Catt suggested trying to get to know local MPs to get and give feedback as it would be more personal this way, and MPs and local councillors were discussed. It was pointed out that local councillors had quite a lot of authority in their local area – more than government – and would have most effect with regard to local highways. Local radio could also be very useful.

**WORKING WITH OTHER CAMPAIGNING GROUPS**

John Allen had been keen to have someone from Sustrans to join the group. Gwyneth McMinn had been to Tim’s group in the past and he said he would ask her if she would come to a Region meeting. Melanie gave the names of various other people within the area. She said most of the officers for the region were based at Peterborough; Sustrans East Midlands worked out of Leicester but everyone was on short-term contracts. Tim said he would ask her for contact details.

**12 2020 EVENTS**

**Beaumanor Rally** – Ray had not camped here for some years but he had set it up originally with Peter Hopkins. The Rally was booked this year for the August bank holiday. John Catt said that in the 1920s/30s there was a cycling rally at Normanton on Soar and these went on to about the 1960s. Visitors could camp but people could also ride in for the day. He suggested inviting every cycling club to the Rally for the day, just providing them with refreshments etc. This could also still be done at Normanton. It would be a cycling rally rather than a camping one; maybe this would appeal to younger riders. He suggested thinking about this for Beaumanor next year, perhaps inviting clubs on the middle day. People could use it for a coffee break and meeting point, like the Mince Pie Run. Melanie said that young people were more interested in ‘micro adventures’ and were more likely to come to something called this; events had to be made exciting for them. Sustrans did radial rides, all coming in to one central point for food and a chat and then going home. Ian Hill thought cycle camping was dwindling all over the country, but maybe it should be called micro adventures, or a cycling festival with camping. This could then feed in to John Catt’s idea of inviting people in for the day. Ian Hill to talk to Ian Alexander about prices and different ideas, and this to be discussed at the next meeting

**Audax UK** – this had been booked for 6 September and details woud be on the web site. Jean was thanked for the great help with the catering.

**Mince Pie Run** – John Catt gave out the figures and explained how he ordered food etc. Numbers always fluctuated with the weather. The tombola raised £800 and he suggested topping this up to £1,000 – Ray said the tombola was a master stroke – much less trouble than a raffle. Reg had received a complaint that someone had not got any food; this had happened on other years and was a problem which varied according to the weather: if the weather was good the food ran out. This year it ran out quite late in the day. John proposed donating £200 to Rainbows.

**Other Events** – there would be an Audax in April –Terry Scott would have details and would be on the Audax UK list, as would be the Audax in Lincolnshire.

Tim said that the original North Lincs DA would be 90 this year and were having a celebratory do on 24 May at Ludford.

**13 WEB SITE ETC**

At the last Regional meeting the East Midlands web site was discussed and whether the annual subscription should be paid. This site had now been taken off line and was defunct. John Catt thought it would be better to take space on the Cycling UK web site, although the Region is not currently recognised as a group. This to be deferred to the next meeting. Melanie said National Office would set up a group with a web page if they were asked to do so. It was suggested that a Facebook page would also be easy to set up.

**14 NATIONAL FOREST**

Ray was not up-to-date with their plans and there was nothing to report as there was currently no rep.

**15 MOTIONS**

There were no motions.

**16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Jean Lakin told the meeting about a cycle run to remember John and Keith last October. Three trees were planted for them. Jean was presented with a picture at a recent dinner and thanked everyone connected with this.

**17 DATE AND VENUE OF FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING**

11.30am, Saturday 7 March, at the Swan in the Rushes PH in Loughborough.

The meeting ended at 1.45pm.