

## **Minutes of Two Mills CTC AGM held at Memorial Hall 15/10/2013 7.30pm**

Apologies: Andrew and Jo Whittam, Chris Byrne, Mike Knox, Gill Lamb, Margaret Blakeborough, Glennys Hammond, Ted Bradley, Jane Marshall, Mike Cross, Lowri Evans.

**Chair's opening remarks:** Bob Witton opened the proceedings. A full year's programme has taken place with led rides every Sunday. Also we now have our Secretary, Janet Gregory, currently serving on the National CTC committee as one of our North West representatives. On a personal note, Bob indicated that he would be stepping down from the post of Two Mills Chairman after six years service, at the close of this meeting.

**Minutes of AGM held** on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012: Accepted as true record

Proposed: Jill Witton

Seconded: Barbara Smith

**Matters Arising:** None.

**Secretary's Report:** Janet spoke to her report. Two Mills committee has met twice this year, on 7<sup>th</sup> March and 15<sup>th</sup> August and minutes of these meetings are available. It has been a busy year with a full Sunday rides programme plus other events we have been involved in, including monthly beginner's rides for women-only (Bicycle Belles) and social events, arranged by Barbara Smith. We also ran a well attended picnic ride on August Bank Holiday Sunday, with catered lunch and drinks at Thurstaston Country Park. We have supported Chester and North Wales events including Bob Clift memorial ride, Bert Bailey vets 100 ride and the President's ride. Grateful thanks from Janet and other committee members for help provided for all of our events over the past year. She expressed particular thanks to Bob and Jill Witton, both retiring from Two Mills committee, for all the help she had received over the years.

There had also been a full season of well supported Tuesday evening rides from May through to August ably run by Chris Harris, unfortunately not here to give a fuller account of the success of this offshoot of our activities. Janet stated that it was disappointing to report the cancellation of the annual spring Tourist Trial due to inclement weather on the days preceding. We will be running the event in a different format next year from a new venue, hopefully, and a slightly different route, but with start, lunch and finish all in one place, which should ease logistics significantly. Andy will report later on in the meeting on the financial ramifications of the cancellation. Finally, she added that a new editor for the Link was needed, following the retirement of David Ackerley, and was there anyone present who was prepared to take it over? No one came forward. She was thanked for her report.

Proposed: Sylvia Joyce

Seconded: Annabel Dickson.

**Treasurer's Report:** Andy Blomfield reported to the meeting re the finances for this year. A written statement was available for members to peruse. Our finances are in a healthy state due to the non running of the Tourist Trial as many participants did not wish to have their entry fees refunded. Next year we will be offering entries on line

with payment by Pay Pal. Other major expenditure this year was for an “event tent” which was used on our August picnic ride. Andy reiterated the healthy state of our finances and stated that he believed there was little point in building up a surplus. Any suggestions from members welcomed re worthy causes? Peter Williams asked about other CTC group’s surplus funds. Do we know if our position is echoed by other CTC groups? We do know that Merseyside CTC has six thousand pounds funds. Sonia Oldershaw mentioned Eastham cycling Hub for individuals with special needs who might appreciate a donation? Andy also mentioned that CTC national office owed us £25.00 because we submitted our accounts in time for their deadline! Andy was thanked for his report.

Proposed: Chris Lamb

Seconded: Brian Saxby.

**Membership/Rides review:** Jill Witton reported verbally that membership numbers for Two Mills CTC now stands at fifty six compared to forty four last year.

Membership has been cross checked with the National data base, but it is difficult to correlate with our own list as the list covers the whole of the Chester and North Wales area and lists five hundred members. Monthly updates are sent from National Office from Julie Rand. Jill was thanked for her report and for her contribution over the years as she was stepping down from the post of membership secretary after tonight’s meeting.

Proposed: Andy Blomfield

Seconded: Annabel Dickson.

**Rides report:** Janet Gregory spoke to this item. We had a varied rides programme with led rides every Sunday. We do need more ride leaders to support existing leaders to lessen the strain. We also hope to offer easier paced shorter C grade rides on some summer Sundays as an alternative to longer A and B grade rides taking place the same day. Janet pointed to the success of Bicycle Belles, women only, monthly rides for beginners, but stated that she believed that there was too big a jump between these rides and our summer programme and this needs addressing if we are to grow our numbers and increase participation.

Programme for 2014: A more varied rides programme is planned for 2014, two camping weekends in May over Bank Holiday weekends in pipeline. CTC Birthday rides will be run in August although the venue has yet to be decided. Our 2014 Early Season Tourist Trial is booked for 13 April. The Venue will be Farndon village hall, which is larger than Kinnerton and we will run the whole event from one site which should improve logistics. The Welsh festival of cycling will be based in South Wales (Llandovery) next year. 2014 will be Chester and North Wales CTC 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and celebratory events are planned, which we will be supporting. The major national cycling event of summer 2014 will be the Tour de France Grand Depart in Yorkshire, on the first weekend in July, which members may wish to support. The annual Bert Bailey Vets 100 ride will be moved forward by one week, so that it does not clash with the Tour de France. An evening meal and social event possibly at the Hooton Arms will be arranged for March.

Janet was thanked for her report.

**Election of Officers: The meeting elected the following:**

**Secretary: Janet Gregory**

Proposed: Brian Saxby

Seconded: Tricia Seddon

**Treasurer: Andy Blomfield**

Proposed: Brian Joyce

Seconded: Barbara Smith

**Chair: Brian Joyce**

Proposed: Brian Saxby

Seconded: Tricia Seddon.

Nomination supported by Janet Gregory and Andy Blomfield. No other nominations.

**Welfare Officer: Andy Blomfield**

Proposed: Jill Witton

Seconded: Chris Lamb.

**Membership Secretary: Sylvia Joyce**

Proposed: Barbara Smith

Seconded: Annabel Dickson

**Social Secretary: Barbara Smith**

Proposed: Annabel Dickson

Seconded: John Fergusson

**Chester and North Wales Rep: Janet Gregory**

Proposed: Graham James

Seconded: Jill Witton (Janet attends C&NW committee meetings in her own right as North West councillor).

**Link/Web ride reports:** No nominations – left open.

**Rides committee:** Sylvia Joyce, Brian Joyce, Andy Blomfield, Roy Bunnell, Brian Saxby and Chris Lamb.

Barbara and John Smith, Jill Witton, and Annabel Dickson will be retiring from the rides committee for 2014.

**Guest Speaker Ross Adams (Development Officer CTC)**

The Chairman introduced Ross Adams, who spoke about his role based in Sefton, going around and meeting North West groups and speaking about current and future developments, including the rebranding and repositioning of CTC with its new-found charitable status, whilst also being aware of history and heritage issues. Campaigning issues are important as we try to get Britain cycling and continue building up a cycling culture in this country. Affiliate membership is the way to go in driving up

membership numbers and to appeal to other cycling groups such as off road users as well as road groups.

Ross was thanked for his input.

Proposed: Barbara Smith

Seconded Annabel Dickson.

**Any other business:**

1. Peter Williams reported that the bid for funding for upgrade of the A540 footpath/cycle way between the Eureka Café and Chapel Lane had failed. It was not a commuter route and not enough footfall. However it may be resurrected some time in the future via a Sustrans sustainable transport funding. On a more positive note work had commenced on cycleway/footpath on Lever Causeway. Peter is also due to attend Neston Transport committee meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2013.
2. On behalf of the Membership Andy Blomfield gave a vote of thanks to retiring Chair Bob Witton for all his work over the years, which was endorsed by all present.

There being no further questions the Chair thanked members for their attendance and the meeting closed at 9.12pm.

**Date of next AGM Tuesday 21/10/14 at 7.30pm**