**CTC EAST MIDLANDS REGION**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD AT THE SWAN IN THE RUSHES, LOUGHBOROUGH**

**ON SATURDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2022**

Present: Ray Clay (Leics & Rutland CTC) – Chairman

Tim Newbery (Cycling UK Lincs) – Secretary

Jean Lakin (Leics and Rutland CTC)

Ian Hill (Derby and Burton CTC)

Ian Prince (Notts CTC) (via Zoom)

John Catt (Leics & Rutland CTC) (via Zoom)

Jean Deacon (Minutes Secretary)

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Lauren Baker, Tom Fox, Reg Tuckwood

**2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The minutes were signed as a true record of the meeting of 9 July 2022.

**3 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**4 CORRESPONDENCE**

4.1 Information from Ian Prince about the Tom Simpson Memorial Retro Cycling Weekend – information on the web site.

4.2 Cycling in Bassetlaw leaflet would now have a cycling champion, Cllr John Shepherd, a Cycling UK member and Cycling Advocacy Network representative.

4.3 Information from Lauren Baker with updates on all East Midlands Bike Revival events etc, many of which were particularly targeted at families and children.

**5 TREASURER’S REPORT**

The funds currently stood at £1,988. The next accounts would be due on 31 March; a new auditor would now be needed following the death of Richard Daniells and Ian asked if anyone had any suggestions for auditor. This to be carried forward to a future meeting.

**6 REPORTS ON EVENTS HELD**

The Lincoln Imp Audax in September was fairly successful with about 35 riders.

Nottinghamshire CTC Autumn Day Out Audax was a successful event with £782 being raised for the Notts and Lincs Air Ambulance.

**7 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Mince Pie Meet, 18 December** – John reported that most people were fairly happy for this to go ahead, maybe with the windows open, and Jean and Leila Lakin were willing to help. John reserved the right to cancel the event at the last moment, either for Covid or the weather, but otherwise he was happy to organise it as usual. Publicity would be needed, and Tim said he would put it on the web site on 1 December. It was suggested that any potential profit should go to Rainbows as usual, but the final decisions to be made after the event.

**Other Events in the Region**

The Lincoln Imp Audax would be on 14 April in 2023.

Lincolnshire Cycling UK Bike Week would be promoted as part of the Lincolnshire Wolds Outdoor Festival, 10 June.

Moira Village Hall had been booked for the Audax on the first Sunday in September.

**8 CYCLING UK GOING FORWARD**

Ian Prince had sent an email to Tim stressing the need to encourage families and young members to be more involved in what Cycling UK did and he had various ideas about this. Nobody should be excluded, and he felt Loughborough University students should be encouraged because it was a sports university and many were cyclists. He suggested holding events like Dr Bike in Loughborough market place or in any of the cities within the region, and also setting up family rides within the six member groups, although active volunteers would be needed for this. Maybe something could be done in Loughborough after a meeting to promote the region. However, all events needed someone to run them and someone who could mend bikes would be needed for a Dr Bike event. Other things such as DBS checks would also have to be in place. This was all discussed.

Tim pointed out that Lauren Baker was involved with Cycling UK East Midlands which was a body involved in behaviour change and putting on community events, including ones targeted at families, children and young people.

Ian Prince wanted to get a cycling group going in Retford. He had been looking at cycling in Europe etc and felt that this culture should be recreated in England. John Catt explained what would need to be done to form an informal group – mainly publicity. Tim said he would pass these comments on to John Shepherd in Bassetlaw.

Ian mentioned the Giant Cycle Café at Doddington Hall which he said was very popular with cyclists from Lincoln who met there every weekend, and for many other groups, and this would be a good place to promote Cycling UK. He was thinking about setting up a small club in Retford. He felt people should be made aware that this is a national club.

**9 TOUR OF EAST MIDLANDS ROUTE**

There was nothing to report on this at the moment; John said he would carry on and see what he could come up with. He said if anyone had ideas for their areas, he could link these together. This to be put on the agenda for the next meeting. Tim had some routes lined up for Lincolnshire and Ian Prince said that the Tom Simpson Memorial Ride route went into South Humberside and back into Nottinghamshire. Other routes and areas were mentioned. Cycling UK were very keen on long-distance routes at the moment and this would all tie in.

**10 PUBLICITY**

There was no publicity officer at the moment. Tim confirmed that the Tom Simpson article was on the web site. With regard to the newsletter, he had contacted all committee members and group secretaries across the areas for articles, news etc; he had received an email from Alfreton member group and very little else. He said he would publish the winter newsletter on 1 December to highlight Christmas and New Year festivities – some areas already had events published running up to December and if any others wanted to promote particular rides to give Tim details by the end of November. Ian Prince said Audax used to run an event in January the “Goodbye Christmas Pud” 100k ride. This no longer took place but he thought it would be nice to do a ride like this. Ian Hill thought these events needed to be a local initiative run by people who lived locally. The Leicestershire carol service was on Tim’s list and he would put in a link to Cycle Chat.

**11 MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

Visit North Lincolnshire Tourism: Tim went to a partnership networking event in November which discussed new cycle routes etc. This promoted Greater Lincolnshire becoming a cycling-friendly programme. Several pubs, hotels and other venues etc had recently been given the attribute of being cycling-friendly.

**12 LOCAL GROUP INITIATIVES**

To promote Cycling UK in Lincolnshire, Tim would be putting on an event in South Lincs as part of the Lincolnshire Wolds Festival to encourage new people to join.

**13 CAMPAIGNS AND POLICIES WITHIN THE REGION**

Ian Prince told the meeting about a cycle bridge adjacent to the A46 near Lincoln which he said was the worst cycle bridge ever. He felt Cycling UK should be campaigning about the fact that Lincs County Council was incapable of designing a functioning bridge. Tim asked Ian for details and said he would pass these on to the Lincs Advocacy Network. Ian said he would also send them to National Office.

**14 NATIONAL OFFICE MATTERS**

Tim had been to a Time with Tom webinar about rewards and recognition. The Roll of Honour page on the website had been changed and revamped. Emphasis was laid on the fact that cycling was for all with emphasis on diversity and inclusion. Ian Prince thought these were just words which people liked to hear and the need was to change attitudes.

**15 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Ian Prince had pointed out that the East Midlands Region had the same initials as the East Midlands Railway and maybe this could be a means of promoting cycling and possibly tying up with the Railway. Just a few days before the railway had opened a £1.3 million upgrade to a Lincolnshire station which had included provision for cycles. Maybe this would be a way of connecting with them. Ian Prince had been to the station and said the refurb had made it much more popular. He knew of a manager at the Railway, Alexa Stott, and suggested it may be worth him contacting her.

Ray reminded the meeting of the Leicestershire and Rutland carol service on 4 December at 1.30 at Nanpantan Church near Loughborough. There would be refreshments after the service. Ian Hill said he would put it on their Facebook page.

**16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

11 February 2023. It was agreed that a different venue for meetings should be found as soon as possible and everyone was asked to think about this.

The meeting ended at 1.52pm.