

CYCLING UK TWO MILLS (WIRRAL)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

29 April 2021

Held using Zoom

MINUTES

<p><u>Meeting opened 19:30</u></p> <p><u>Present:</u></p> <p>Brian Joyce (Chair); Janet Gregory (Secretary); Sonia Oldershaw (Auditor); Janet Atherton (Cycling UK Chair); Margaret McNelis; John & Eve Ferguson; David Collinson; Glen & Helen Grant; Chris Smith; Sylvia Joyce; Neil Ross-Jones; Tricia Seddon; Paul Mills; Peter Williams, Ian Ritchie; Jane Marshall; Cheryl Barry; John Walker and Jo McKeon (Minutes).</p> <p><u>Apologies:</u></p> <p>Ian Taylor; Margaret Smith; Martin Cartwright; Colin Simms and Lowri Evans.</p> <p>The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming the Attendees and thanking them for use of the new platform and format. It is hoped that Zoom will not be necessary for next year's AGM.</p> <p>The Chair paid respects to John Smith, Colin Taylor and Reg Ward, long standing Members and supporters of the Group. A Minute's Silence was observed in their honour, prayers and thoughts offered in their memory.</p>	
<p>1. <u>Update from Cycling UK National Office</u></p> <p>Janet Atherton (Chair of Cycling UK) was in attendance and provided information about the national strategy that will be circulated to all members by Janet Gregory.</p> <p>Cycling UK News</p> <p>Janet was elected Chair at the start of 2021, Sarah Mitchell is the new Chief Executive, Trustees are attending a few of the AGMs across the country. Most of the Groups have struggled to co-ordinate Volunteers this year, it is hoped this will improve once Groups are able to ride out more and have the opportunity to speak in person. It is good news that this is now becoming a possibility as Government guidelines are now being eased.</p>	<p>Janet Gregory to circulate Strategy/report after this meeting.</p>

<p>A large piece of work has been updating Groups with the ever-changing rules in different parts of the UK, Tom Page the Volunteers Officer, has done a great job tackling this task.</p> <p>Events World's Biggest Bike Ride is on 30th May, kicking off Bike Week 30th May – 4th June 2021. Cathedrals Challenge Route will include a leg from Chester to Liverpool, starting in Newcastle on 30th May 2021. Women's Festival of Cycling is 17th July – 1st August 2021, the Group should give some thought of what we want to do locally.</p> <p><u>Campaigns</u></p> <p>Gear Change falls within the Government's Comprehensive Funding Review, to secure funding and support. Local Council, Liverpool Mayoral and Merseyside Police Commissioner elections next week present the opportunity to seek the Candidates' pledge to support cycling initiatives. See Cycle Clips for pledge information.</p> <p>Temporary cycling infrastructure has been a mixed bag. Cycling UK is challenging Sussex County Council, bringing a Test Case to challenge the removal of a cycle lane which is believed to be popular, but was the subject of a petition objecting to its installation. Chester City Centre has also seen an example of cycling infrastructure being paused due to dissenting voices. It was commented that Residents and Commuters in support of a project are often not heard, "the silent majority".</p> <p>Climate Change event is being held with 4 of 5 Wirral Borough Council's local MPs on Friday 30th April 2021. It will be interesting to hear their position both locally and nationally.</p> <p>Funding is available for specific projects e.g. Big Bike Revival. But a pot of money for local CUK groups to channel as they feel best, is not available.</p> <p>The size of HQ's Volunteer Group has increased, providing more support, if not funding. This will be a key part of the Cycling UK's new strategy, which is currently being formulated to ensure Groups have the support needed.</p>	<p>Committee to consider how to publicise these events, and what local events the Group can organise for Women's Festival of Cycling?</p> <p>Members asked to request Electoral Candidates pledge to support cycling initiatives</p>
<p>2. <u>Minutes of Last AGM 31.10.2019</u></p> <p>Accepted by everyone present. No amendments requested.</p> <p>Proposed: Chris Smith Seconded: Sylvia Joyce</p> <p>Matters Arising: None</p>	

3. Secretary's Annual Report

The Secretary's written report was circulated, and Janet highlighted some aspects verbally:

NB the accounting period has changed from 12 to 18 months ending 31.03.2021. So, our AGM scheduled originally for October 2020, was postponed. A list of Volunteers will be lodged with Head Office as part of the Annual Report process. The Committee will assume Volunteers will continue as Ride Leaders, once our rides programme gets going, unless individuals contact Janet to advise otherwise.

- Head Office has been very helpful with advice regarding the Rides Programme, given the circumstances of this last year.
- 10-year anniversary of Wirral Bicycle Belles was marked with the design of new tops, and a photo opportunity which was fortunately timed just prior to the first national lockdown in March 2021. Some Group Rides have taken place, with the requirement that Belles pre-register for a place and that café arrangements have differed according to Government guidelines, throughout the period Rides have been possible. The feedback has been very positive, Belles have been grateful for the group opportunities offered.
- Spring 50/Early Season Challenge - cancellation was very disappointing and frustrating as arrangements and purchasing of supplies were well underway. The insurance company were particularly unhelpful. Janet will step back from organising future events on this scale but will offer advice to anybody performing this Role in the future.
- A Zoom licence has been purchased, to allow the continuation of Group meetings during the ongoing circumstances.

Two key points for consideration by the Committee over the next year, to ensure the continuation of the Group:

1. Recruitment of Committee Members, the reintroduction of Group Rides may assist in communicating the requirements of Roles and identifying new Members.
2. Repurposing the Group as an Affiliate or Transfer to a Neighbouring Group – there are several issues to consider such as insurance cover and transfer of our bank assets etc.

Secretary's Report was accepted

Proposed: Sylvia Joyce

Seconded: Glen Grant

Volunteers unable to continue as Ride Leaders, to contact Janet

Glen Grant offered to review insurance policy, in the hope that the claim can be revisited.

Committee Members to give thought and schedule further discussions regarding Points 1 and 2

<p>4. <u>Auditor's Report and Statement of Accounts</u></p> <p>Sonia Oldershaw acted as Auditor, as Andy Blomfield, the long-standing Treasurer, stepped down in August 2020, to prepare for moving from the area. Sonia provided a comprehensive Report and highlighted verbally some aspects.</p> <p>NB The accounting period is for 18 months, up to 31.03.2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cancellation of the Tourist Trial resulted in a deficit of £469 (check figure), rather than the usual profit of around £2000. • The Miscellaneous items include Welfare Officer's costs such as cards and a photo album that was presented to the outgoing Treasurer as a gift from the Group. <p>The Chair thanked both Sonia and Andy for their work on the Group's behalf. Sonia has kindly offered to meet with the as yet, un-appointed, new Treasurer, for a handover.</p> <p>Treasurer's Report was accepted</p> <p>Proposed: John Walker Seconded: Cheryl Barry</p>	
<p>5. <u>Re-start of group ride programme</u></p> <p>Two Mills Sunday Rides dates and venues have been scheduled for May and June 2021. The routes are shorter and easier, to allow Members to ease back into Group Rides after an absence and given possible concerns around Coronavirus. Ride places are limited, and consideration must be given to both English and Welsh COVID guidelines. Leaders will receive a list of sign-ups, by email or WhatsApp, the day before the ride. The list will include the Riders' emergency contact details.</p> <p>Glenn Grant commented that this is a great start and thanked the Members for the work undertaken thus far. It was suggested that Riders should consider bringing packed lunch as planned café stops may be full or unavailable. The previous expectations of café or pub availability may not be possible, as yet.</p> <p>Increasing Group Rides places from 6 to 15, in accordance with Coronavirus guidelines in relation to sporting activities to be marked for future consideration, once the scheduled Rides in May and June have taken place.</p>	<p>Members to be encouraged to be flexible about catering arrangements on Group Rides, perhaps bring packed lunch, should planned stop be unavailable.</p> <p>Increasing the number of places on Group Rides to be considered as restrictions are lifted in accordance with the Government Roadmap.</p>

<p>6. <u>Election of Officers</u></p> <p>The following Roles were elected, using Zoom's Polls functionality.</p> <p>Chair – Brian Joyce Secretary – Janet Gregory Treasurer – Helen Grant</p> <p>COVID officer – meeting welcomed nomination of Margaret McNelis</p> <p>Paul Mills to continue as representative for Two Mills at C&NW committee meetings.</p> <p>John Walker offered to continue as social secretary for time being</p> <p>Agreed: To appoint the following roles at a later date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welfare • Registration/Membership • Diversity <p>Proposed: N/A Zoom Polls Seconded: N/A Zoom Polls</p>	<p>The Committee will look to recruit new members once Group Rides recommence. Members will be invited to attend a meeting to see the requirements of a role in operation. The Committee will seek to appoint the four remaining roles once face to face conversations can be undertaken, perhaps on Group Rides.</p>
<p>7. <u>Any Other Business</u></p> <p>Respects were again paid to the Members who had tragically passed away since we last met, and those currently experiencing poor health.</p> <p>The Attendees discussed the difficulties experienced as an organisation, and on a personal level, over the last year. It is hoped that the next year will be positive in terms of the activities available and an increase in Committee Membership.</p> <p>The Meeting closed at 20:45</p>	
<p>8. <u>Next AGM</u></p> <p>The date and format, yet to be announced, expected to be in April 2022.</p> <p>Cheryl Barry noted that attendance via Zoom was preferable, as she is unable to travel from North Wales to Port Sunlight for an evening meeting. This may also be helpful for Members who do not have access to transport by car. Perhaps thought could be given to blended delivery?</p>	<p>Date and platform to be decided.</p>