

# Agenda & Committee Reports for the 2023 Annual General Meeting of Cycling UK Reading

Date	Sunday 16th April 2023
Meeting starts	3:00pm for a 3:30pm start. Ends at 5:30pm.
Location	<p>Function room upstairs in the Griffin Public House, 10-12 Church Road, Caversham, RG4 7AD.</p> <p>There is cycle and car parking behind the pub; access is to the right-hand side of the pub. Car vehicles MUST be registered with the pub to avoid a parking fine. Alternative parking available behind Waitrose and Caversham Library.</p>
Voting	<p>Only full members (not affiliated members) can vote. There are no proxy votes allowed. Bring your Cycling UK Membership card to the meeting.</p>
New motions	<p>It is now too late to formally submit any further motions for debate but we may have a question time at the end if time permits</p>

# Agenda

1. Note of apologies for those unable to attend
2. Election of Chair for meeting
3. Approval of 2022 AGM minutes and any corrections accepted.
4. Secretary's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Appointment of Auditor
7. Off-road rides report
8. On-road rides report
9. Rides Secretary report
10. Campaigns Officer report
11. Webmaster's report
12. Election of officers of the club
  - Secretary – Sel Dixon, standing for re-election.
  - Treasurer – Mike Hardiman, standing for re-election.
  - Welfare Officer, Mick Simmons, standing for re-election.
  - Off-Road Representative/Liaison – Ian Doyle, standing for re-election.
  - Webmaster – Al Neal, standing for re-election.
  - Campaigns officer - Karen Robertson, standing for re-election.
  - Rides Secretary – role vacant.
  - Events Secretary - Jeanette Jeans, standing for re-election.
  - Publicity Secretary – Pete Nightingale, standing for election.
  - On-Road Representative/Liaison – Edwin Raj, standing for election.
13. Agree date of next AGM
14. AOB
15. Question time (at Chair's discretion)

# Secretary's report

## **AGM 22/23 Secretary Report**

I am very pleased to be able to report on a normal year. Most of our cycling activities have become re-established; each week we arrange 4 On Road rides and 2 Off Road to the cafes and pubs around Reading. We also held 11 Audax events and arranged 8 weekends away to explore further afield.

I would like to particularly thank our Runs Secretary, Simon Bird, who is stepping down after many years in the role. His input will be much missed by myself and other members of the Committee.

52 new Members joined the club over the last 12 months. We now have over 900 members in the Reading postcode areas. It would be great to see some more new faces on our rides. New riders are always welcome, and we never leave anyone behind!

Our Cycling UK Reading Facebook Group continues to grow and has 580 followers, up from 398 a year ago. Please feel free to post there on any cycling related topic.

We also have developed our Strava page which now includes details of our reoccurring rides. 162 cyclists are on there and it's a good way to see where our members are riding.

So here's to some great cycling in 23/24; if the summer is anything like last year we are in for a treat.

Sel Dixon

# Treasurer's report

## **Cycling UK Reading - Financial Report for 12 months ended 31 March 2023**

### Overview

The Accounts show a net operating surplus of £6.60 (see Ref G of the Income & Expenditure statement). Accumulated balances amounted to £2,342.47 (see Balance Sheet), after allowing for Debtors and Creditors at the year end.

### Matters of interest

#### *Cycling Promotion*

The Committee decided against participating in the Reading Cycling Festival of 2022 which meant that the £100 identified for that was not spent. This enabled the Club to break-even rather than generating a loss, which would otherwise have been the case.

#### *Dinton Audax*

This was the first year the event had been run since the Covid-19 restrictions and, like many other AUK events, the number of riders was below that previously experienced. Nevertheless, the event generated a surplus of £63. The Club added a further £37 to make a donation of £100 to the Thames Valley Air Ambulance.

#### *Review of accounting for Audax events*

In order to comply with the National Office requirements relating to the transparency of financial transactions carried out in the name of Cycling UK the Committee has reviewed the arrangements determined locally, some years ago, and has made some essential changes.

For events run under the name of Cycling UK the following arrangements are to apply with immediate effect:

*“Members wishing to run a cycling event under the name of CUKR must first inform the Committee Secretary and Treasurer of his / her intention and identify the name(s) of any charity(s) that the organiser would like to support from any surplus. The Committee will check that the proposed charity(s) meets CUK acceptance criteria and reach an agreement with the Organiser on where any surplus is to be paid. After the event the organiser must present a detailed account of income and expenditure for review / audit by the Club Treasurer and pay any surplus to the club accounts. The Treasurer will make any agreed charitable donation(s) to the agreed charity(s).”*

If a member wishes to organise an event that does not comply with the above procedure, then such an event can be organised, but it must not be run under the name of CUK, and CUK Reading will carry no responsibility for the event. The name of CUK Reading must not be linked to any promotional material or social media relating to the event.

#### *Use of the national contribution from subscriptions of £200*

We are required to inform the National Office of how our share of the national contribution from subscriptions has been utilised. Details are as follows:

<b>Nature of expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>
Website maintenance	50
Bank charges	60
Cycling promotion	44
Committee expenses	12
Contribution to Air Ambulance	37
<b>Total</b>	<b>203</b>

## Recommendation

The accounts require formal adoption by the AGM. They will be subject to audit before submission to the National Office.

Mike Hardiman  
Treasurer, Cycling UK Reading  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023

PERIOD:		1 April 2022		to	31 March 2023		
<i>Income and surpluses are shown as positive figures; Expenditure and deficits are shown as (negatives).</i>							
				Column 1		Column 2	
				Full Year		Full year	
				2022/23		2021/22	
Ref	Income and Expenditure headings			£	£	£	£
A	Net interest received				10.10		0.31
B	Donations received				0.00		0.00
Net surplus / (deficit) from Events							
Cycling events							
		Kennet Valley 100k/200k Audax	0.00		0.00		
		Dinton 100k Audax	63.20		0.00		
		Rural South 300k Audax	0.00		0.00		
		Alan Furley Memorial 100k/200k Audax	0.00		0.00		
		Henley Hilly Audax	0.00		0.00		
		Willesden CC Audax	0.00		0.00		
		Total of cycling events		63.20			0.00
Social events							
		Summer BBQ	0.00		0.00		
		Mince pies & mulled wine	0.00		0.00		
		Total of social events		0.00			0.00
Other events / items							
		Cycle Jumble	0.00		0.00		
		Reading CTC cycling tops	0.00		0.00		
		Total of other events / items		0.00			0.00
C	Total surplus / (deficit) on events				63.20		0.00
Running costs							
Routine operating costs							
		Website	(50.40)		(50.40)		
		Bank charges	(60.00)		(20.00)		
		Cycling promotion	(44.00)		(318.20)		
		AGM	0.00		0.00		
		Total operating costs		(154.40)			(388.60)
Depreciation of fixed assets					0.00		0.00
Other expenditure / income							
		Trophy Engraving	0.00		0.00		
		Miscellaneous expenses	(12.30)		0.00		
		National Office (membership contribution)	200.00		200.00		
		Total other expenditure / income		187.70			200.00
D	Net running costs [surplus / (deficit)]				33.30		(188.60)
E	Net surplus / (deficit) before donations, etc				106.60		(188.29)
Subscriptions and donations to other bodies							
		Cyclists Defence Fund	0.00		0.00		
		Air Ambulance	(100.00)		0.00		
		Other donations (not yet determined)	0.00		0.00		
F	Total Subscriptions and donations paid out				(100.00)		0.00
G	NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR PERIOD				6.60		(188.29)
NOTE:		The above figures take into account the best assessment of sums due to and from Cycling UK Reading as at the above date, even though the amounts may not actually have been received or paid out at that date. Details of these assessments are shown at the foot of the Balance Sheet.					

		As at: 31 March 2023			
Liabilities and deficits are shown as (negatives)					
		Column 1		Column 2	
		Full Year		Full Year	
		2022/23		2021/22	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Value at start of year		0.00		0.00	
Additions		0.00		0.00	
Disposals		0.00		0.00	
Depreciation		0.00		0.00	
Total fixed assets		0.00		0.00	
Current Assets					
Debtors (see footnote 1)		0.00		0.00	
Cash at Bank					
Deposit Account		2,162.94		2,352.84	
Current Account		194.53		12.03	
Total		2,357.47		2,364.87	
Cash in hand		0.00		0.00	
Total current assets		2,357.47		2,364.87	
Current liabilities					
Creditors (see footnote 2)		(15.00)		(29.00)	
Net current assets		2,342.47		2,335.87	
Total net assets		2,342.47		2,335.87	
Represented by:					
Accumulated surplus b/fwd		2,335.87		2,524.16	
Surplus / (deficit) for year		6.60		(188.29)	
Accumulated surplus c/fwd		2,342.47		2,335.87	
NOTES:					
Estimated or known amounts due to or from Cycling UK Reading, but not actually received or paid at the above date, are shown below and have been included in the Income and Expenditure Statement:					
1 Debtors:					
0.00				0.00	
Total Debtors		0.00		0.00	
2 Creditors:					
Dinton Organiser (AUK fee)		0.00		10.00	
Bank charges (charged in arrears)		5.00		5.00	
Rdg Cycle Campaign (March Qtr)		10.00		14.00	
Total Creditors		15.00		29.00	

# Off-road rides report

## **Offroad report for AGM 2023**

Since the last AGM, we have continued with our regular offroad rides on Wednesday evenings and Sundays. We also had a few gravel rides last summer.

We've enjoyed a number of offroad tours both camping and in more luxurious surroundings over the last 12 months.

In Easter 2022 Ian and Karen finally took us on a tour of the south Lakes that had been postponed since 2020. We rode some excellent tough rocky trails in the sunshine; some "local" pubs were quite far away though.

Carol & John led the Early May Bank Holiday weekend to the ever-excellent Six Penny Handley campsite for some classic route around Cranbourne Chase.

For the Jubilee weekend Paul arranged a bike packing tour along the West Country Way from Plymouth to Taunton taking in Dartmoor, Exmoor and the Quantocks.

Paul then organised a camping trip to Grafham on the South Downs in July where we enjoyed glorious weather and some steep climbs!

In September Pete led the over-night adventure across the Hampshire Downs to Andover and back.

Becky & Phil took us to Haslemere in early November. Mother nature gave her finest rain but it didn't deter us from enjoying the beautiful surroundings and stunning autumn colours.

Jason arranged our Christmas Party at Pepe Sale, moving onto the Butler to rock the night away.

We stayed at Betws y Coed in Snowdonia to see in the New Year, organised by Sel, and splashed around a good mix of trail centres and moorland bridleways.

In mid-February Sel took us on another tour, this time in the dry, to the Forest of Dean and uncovered some great trails into the Wye Valley.

Thanks to all of our ride leaders, and the riders for supporting the club.

Ian Doyle, Offroad Secretary  
02.04.23



## On-road rides report

I organised Tribute Audax in April 2022 which attracted good number of cyclists from the club and also from other local clubs, in addition to those who travelled from London, Bristol, Birmingham – to name a few. A total of £5945 was raised through the event for Launchpad Reading and Thames Valley Air Ambulance charities. Big thanks to Team JM cyclists and Nick Jones who led JustGiving-fundraisers for Launchpad and Air Ambulance, respectively. Thanks are also due to Nick, Simon, Tim, James, Agnes and volunteers from Launchpad for their support.

A one-off Audax was organised by Edwin Raj in Phil Russell's memory in June 2022. Two routes traversing through North Wessex Downs and Chilterns (50 and 100km), aptly named as Pint for Phil, with a pit stop at an appropriate place.

Edwin Raj, 21/3/23

## Rides secretary report

Before the establishment of our web site this club used printed rides lists to communicate with members the rides for the forthcoming season.

The onus was on the Rides secretary was to assemble as many rides for the forthcoming three months as possible before the publication date. To make this job easier a number of rides co-ordinators was established to cover the wide variety of different rides this club offers. So we have the off-road and on-road co-ordinators, currently provided by Ian Doyle (for many years) and Edwin Raj. Less well known are the roles of Lesley Adams who co-ordinates the Wednesday day rides, Rob Butler who arranges the Tuesday make-your-own way rides and Jeanette Jeans who co-ordinates the Wednesday evening rides (soon to be taken over by Alex Watson). My heartfelt thanks to these co-ordinators for their efforts.

On the on-road side we have had a sharp drop off in the number of rides offered on Sundays. By way of re-assurance the off-road is healthy. I'm not absolutely sure why this is but since the end of the Covid-19 pandemic there has been very little response to my three-monthly appeal for rides on the on-road side. I recognise that a number of long-serving ride leaders have done their time and moved on from offering Sunday rides but we are in real danger of losing the well-established Sunday ride slot for on-road rides. What's to be done?

Having served on the committee for just over 10 years as Events Secretary, On-road co-ordinator and now Rides Secretary I've done I think all I can in trying to keep the ship afloat. However, I've run out of ideas. I will keep leading rides and supporting the club where I can but it's now over to the committee to keep the hand on the tiller.

My recommendation to the committee is to consider abolishing the role of Rides Secretary and to give publishing rights to the ride co-ordinators (or even to ride leaders themselves) so that rides can be added by a wider spectrum of people. We are no longer required to package rides of three months for print purposes and it is now largely the practice now for on-road Sunday rides to be added as and when.

Finally, a criticism for Cycling UK. Where is the common IT platform to support member groups so they don't have to run their own websites? To keep our rides leaders covered by Organisers Liability insurance we as a club are obliged to do two things; publish a rides list and register ride leaders. I'd like to see Cycling UK provide this platform. To be fair parts do exist but they are woeful. By comparison British Cycling make it far easier to manage a club. I will attempt to raise this as an agenda item at the Cycling UK AGM this year.

Simon Bird  
Rides Secretary  
5/4/23

## Publicity Office report

Since being elected last year my main focus has been to experiment with Social Media with the aim of publicising the club and attracting new riders. Some small success has been seen with a trickle of new riders joining us.

So far, no funds have been spent on these activities however the Committee is agreed to spend a small amount in the new year on social media advertising.

Breaking down by platform;

- The Website is still a useful platform and some new riders have reported that it was their initial contact with us.
- Facebook.  
The main Group page continues strongly, with new members and an increasing number of new contributors lending different voices.  
A new Facebook Page was created to publicise club rides and events. This will be merged into the existing Page when permission issues are resolved.  
I have engaged with some local groups to publish our rides.
- Instagram  
An Instagram account was created and enjoyed lively contribution until Instagram decided it did not like our shared login and locked us out. A new one will be created and access managed as Instagram pleases.
- Reddit  
I have engaged with some local groups. Posts well received but not resulting in new riders to my knowledge.

Pete Wilkinson, 2/4/23

# Campaigns Officer report

## Campaigns Report April 2022 - 2023

I have held the post of CUKR Campaigns officer for nearly 3 years which combines many of the local networking and PR activities I carried out jointly with Reading Cycle Campaign together with CUK HQ larger Campaign programs (such as Big Bike Revival / Space for Cycling / Highway Code changes etc). This role also includes external liaison with Reading Borough Council (RBC) and other transport related bodies (DfT / Sustrans etc); Quarterly Cycle & Transport Forum; communicating key topics back with CUKR committee / share consultation information with members Representing CUKR at Reading Cycle Campaign meetings, co-ordinate with local Environment and other similarly supportive groups and facilitating member attendance at appropriate events.

The primary aim is to ensure a voice for CUKR representing “every day” / commuting cyclists at as many outlets as possible and lobbying for increased share of RBC transport and environmental funding to be spent on suitable cycling facilities. It also enables the Publicity Officer to focus energy on direct publicity and marketing – including recruitment of new members primarily to join rides.

There have been several local transport/ green spaces consultations in the last 12 months and members have been encouraged to input views – either individually or in support of the Committee / Reading Cycle Campaign responses. The latest Tranche 2 Active Travel funding consultation resulted in minor modifications to the plans to implement a 2-way cycle lane on Shinfield Road, and some changes to layout on Redlands Road / Sidmouth Street rather than many other much higher priority cycle infrastructure improvements where alternative plans are being assessed.

Most RBC meetings are now quarterly at the Council offices with the addition of the Cleaner Air, Safer Streets (CAST) forum which brings in a wider participation schools and community groups which is a benefit for gaining Council airtime and investment to support cycling and walking initiatives; as well as the Cycle / Transport Forum. Reading Cycle Campaign have held several “inclusive” rides around Reading’s best – and worst - cycling infrastructure to highlight the good, bad and ugly of transport planning – aim to link participants with CUKR for the more “leisurely” side of cycling.

Cycling UK Central HQ has continued to deliver its annual schedule of events; including further rounds of the **Big Bike Revival Campaign** (specifically focussed on encouraging new or returning riders through free bike repair workshops; beginner lessons and leisure rides / plus Dr Bike sessions at , Women’s Festival of Cycling and **Bike Week**. I have continued to support these through partnerships with Reading Bicycle Kitchen and Avanti Cycling – gaining funding for the Reading area and encouraging a source of potential new members for CUKR.

This year **Bike Week** runs from **5-11 June 2023 will mark the 100th annual Bike Week**, marking a century of celebrating everyday cycling for everyone. The aim is for local clubs to put on additional rides during the week - specifically aimed at new members / more leisurely – so if you’d like to volunteer to run a ride please do! We will put on additional publicity and register all events on the central site to try and help gain new riders/ members

The annual **Reading Cycle Festival is on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023** in Christchurch meadow. I very much hope CUKR will be able to take part with our own stand to promote the club locally. More volunteers are needed to help man a stand on the day and/ or lead leisure rides (on and off road) to end up at the event. The Festival Organising Committee are also looking for additional volunteers to

help with the overall festival logistics/ marshalling on the day etc. please contact me on [campaigns@cyclingukreading.org.uk](mailto:campaigns@cyclingukreading.org.uk) to express interest or find out more.



### RBC Active Travel Funding

A Council supported plan to create a **“Cycle Hub”** in the town centre – effectively secure Bike parking with information / tools etc (old Primark Building) has been significantly delayed due to issues with the lease/ landlord etc. However, we are hopeful this will be open later in Spring this year. I have requested opportunity to have CUKR publicity material on display when this opens (and ideally visible branding on walls/ banners etc). Joe Edwards (Chair of Reading Cycle Campaign) and I are involved along with various other interested parties including Sustrans/ the Bicycle Kitchen & Ethical Reading.

RBC are funding programme of Adult cycle training from beginner to road commuting skills, being run by Avanti Cycling and Bike maintenance workshops; being run by Reading Bicycle Kitchen. <https://avanticycling.co.uk/well-give-you-the-confidence-to-ride/>

Both these activities are potential good sources of new CUKR members. I've put lots of people in touch with the CUKR Club website & FB groups and have has some new riders (and two members!)

Still need the offer of leisurely / sub 20-mile rides to encourage more newcomers at this level as I'm frequently asked for the next step after someone has completed several road based confidence sessions.

You may also be interested in supporting / following **Kidical Mass** monthly events which have gone from strength to strength during 2022/23. Kidical Mass rides are a worldwide initiative, where



children of all ages take to the streets of towns and cities, on bikes, adapted cycles, wheelchairs, balance-bikes etc, under safe and properly marshalled conditions. The aim is to encourage others to consider making short journeys by bike, or other active travel choice, rather than taking a car. To find out more follow them on FACEBOOK.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/familycyclingreading>



FINALLY, anyone interested in participating in Campaigning activity please let me know!!!

## Webmaster's report

There have been no major developments of the website in the past year.

As in previous years, the website receives an average of 100 visitors per day, and each visitor views, on average, 2.5 pages.

Some minor technical changes have been requested for the website, which I plan to implement in the coming year.

Al Neal  
Webmaster