Welcome

From the chair

Present

Linda Body (LB)  David Gibson (DG)
Kaye Lynch (KL)  Janet Kerr (JKe)
John King (JK)  George Berwick (GB)
Nan Shepherd (NS)  Ian Nicol (IN)

Apologies

Dougie Latto (DG)  George Shepherd (GS)

Minutes of previous committee meeting

DG sought clarification re. the ‘right to ride’ paragraph...

Fife Council has no funds and land owners don’t want to contest as there are no funds for core paths.’ GB explained that landowners have been putting up gates, etc., and that Fife Council didn’t have the resources to contest.

IN raised, ‘matters arising’, point 2; should read that Dougie booked Portsoy Hotel, rather than IN.

Linda Body proposed that Janet Kerr becomes Secretary. Janet was co-opted at the meeting with the intention of being voted in at the next AGM. John advised that George Budd expressed an interest but Linda advised that he didn’t get back to her. It was suggested that perhaps George Budd could still join the committee.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 May 2017 at JK’s home, Strathmiglo were proposed by Kaye lynch and seconded by David Gibson.

Matters arising

Actions points –

1. Janet Kerr was co-opted onto the committee.

2. Changes to Cycling UK/CTC Fife & Kinross Facebook page:

LB highlighted that the FB page had seen an increase in ‘traffic’. The formats of how the Facebook page could look were discussed and comparisons were made using the CTC Highland’s page.

After discussion at the recent ladies cycling weekend, Kaye advised that the general feedback was that the FB page was not set up in a way that allowed members to be fully interactive with it. Although, George McDermid (GMcD) has since changed administration rights the page is still not entirely meeting the needs of the group. The possibility of a Facebook ‘group’ page may be an option where members can post freely. GMcD has expressed a willingness to discuss possible options with interested members.
Kaye shared GMcD’s response (below) regarding his availability for offering Facebook advice and training to the committee members and LB asked which committee members would like to attend. KL, LB, JKe, DG, ?? to be notified of dates.

Reports

Registration Officer - DG

1. The Data Protection Act 1998 is a law designed to protect personal data stored on computers or in an organised paper filing system. It was announced earlier this month that legislation is to be introduced to update and strengthen the original Act.

As Registration Officer for our group I receive, from HQ, a monthly list of members resident within the Fife & Kinross postcode area. Their email includes the following statement:

“The data in these lists must only be used to publicise your group’s events and activities. There have been serious breaches in the past which could lead to large fines.”

Information must not be used for any other purpose. Bear in mind that individual members can explicitly state that they do not wish to be contacted by email. Cycling UK’s full policy can be read on their website.

During a conversation around the table at a recent club meet, I realised that not everyone necessarily appreciates how onerous the legislation is. Some of you may recall that at a meeting last year, I briefed the committee about a call I received from Cycling UK’s Compliance Officer. He was investigating a complaint from a member from our area who had received a spam email to an email address he used exclusively for Cycling UK correspondence. His email address included the letters ‘ctc’. Although, the apparent ‘leak’ was not demonstrated to have come from our end, it does illustrate the need for strict compliance with Cycling UK’s guidelines.

2. Monthly Members’ List

After a dip in numbers during recent months, the latest return showed that our group’s membership had recovered to a total of 307.

3. Official Events

I flew the Club’s colours at a couple of recent events. Firstly, I was joined by John King and Alex Robertson at a small ceremony held at Lochgelly High School to mark the start of the construction of the new Fife Cycle Park. Secondly, I was invited by RSPB Loch Leven to attend a presentation to promote the proposed new underpass to improve access between the Loch Leven Heritage Trail and the Reserve Centre, continuing on to the core path to Lochore Meadows. Sustrans have pledged half of the projected £800k cost, subject to match funding.

Secretary – KL (acting)

1. It was agreed that Janet is going to shadow Kaye up until the AGM. Unfortunately, Janet will be absent at the next meeting and the AGM due to holiday and family commitments.

2. All relevant incoming information was circulated to committee by email on receipt.
Webmaster – GMcD (by email)

- Web site visits a little up on normal, and performing around the 2015 peak. Most of the access seems to be on the New Members section and I noted that a lot more people are visiting the site by linking to us via the CyclingUK website (it used to be our Facebook Page or via Google). I've not been out with the club for such a long time now so I don't know if you've been getting new members but it would be interesting to note if you have.

- Facebook had a massive spike towards the end of June and beginning of July. I guess down to the new access allocated to some users. That's tailing off though. Now that the Fringe is over, I will try to allocate time for David and Linda to run a session on using Facebook. However, I'm off for a fortnight's holiday soon, so it might have to wait until I get back from that.

- Twitter followers continue to rise slowly and interaction remains low. However, the work this involves is minimal.

Report from DL (by email)

Portsoy

I confirmed numbers with the Portsoy Warden, Ian Tillet this morning (27.08.17). At present we have 8 members booked for Portsoy:
Kaye Lynch (single room)
Lin Jones (triple room on her own)
Maureen + Dougie Latto (double room)
Janet + Gary Kerr (double room)
George Budd + A.N. Other (presumably Rod Lawson, double room)
(for information only... Linda Body has cancelled and has no deposit to pay)
I think it may be an idea to get something on the 'Latest News' part of our Website to let members know that there are still places available (Ian Tillet tells me there are vacancies in the Hostel)
I will do it if the Committee agree.

It was agreed that DL will advertise the holiday on FaceBook and contact GMcD to put on website.

Treasurer

IN advised that we have £1,867. We received £15 income from hut rental and outgoings are £28.95 for hut miscellaneous expenses. (A further £5 was handed to IN at the meeting from GB for club hut rental)

Newsletter

Via email, DL reported that there are currently not enough articles to justify the work involved in producing a newsletter. He is saving the articles he has received with the intention of producing a 12 to 16 page newsletter when more are submitted. The committee urged each other to submit an article each as many of them had been on cycling adventures over the summer. JKe suggested that Lin Jones' poems could perhaps be published. LB is going to request her permission.

Runs

Ian, Nan & Linda - Ian felt that the numbers, at club runs, have been decreasing and discussion took place regarding how to encourage cyclists. Discussion also took place regarding current destination ‘meets’, in particular, Victor’s Bridge, whereby it no longer held any attractiveness. IN felt that the Wednesday weekly runs and led runs had not been particularly successful. Comparisons were made as to how other groups organised their rides. DG felt that the type of
rendezvous rides our group offers were not appealing to new members. A variety of options were discussed, i.e., perhaps more group rides and/or agreed en-route meeting points. Hopefully, by increasing the interactivity of the club Facebook page will encourage more new members to try out the runs. However, lots of ideas were suggested but the group concluded that this requires further thought and discussion.

Right to ride

Off road - GB explained they had an open meeting whereby the public attended, mainly talking about footpaths. A group in Buckhaven are trying to source funding for a cycle path around Cameron Bridge.

On road - IN stated that he had managed to speak to the officer responsible for cycling and roads and reported the Dryside road re. overgrown trees, etc. and he also raised his concerns regarding Sustrans/Fife Council signage. Although she listened, there does not appear to be any urgency to resolve these matters.

Hut

GB gave IN £5 at the meeting. GB advised that he had been carrying out some maintenance and signage. Discussion took place around possible lighting options. He expressed concern over the gas mantel and maintaining the carbon monoxide detector. A chap from Abernethy expressed some interest for visiting the hut with his family but this was not followed up.

Social night

Nan advised that George was trying to organise a bowling night as crazy golf was proving to be very expensive.

Welfare

LB contacted Tony Rokins. He was delighted to hear from her. He is having problems with his knees and his Dr. advised him not to cycle! However, he has been out on more gentler rides. The committee were saddened to hear that Bert Frew and Jimmy Hamilton have passed away but were delighted to learn that Bill Sutrie was now back on his bike. LB advised that she no longer wanted to be Welfare Secretary, primarily because she felt that she did not know most of the members she was reporting on. It was recommended that George White could take this on. It was felt that he might be reluctant but it was suggested that he could report on these matters without becoming a member of the committee.

AOCB

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Date of next meeting

Saturday 7th October at DG’s house. (after the ‘meet’). Primarily for planning AGM on October 28.