

Minutes of the 4th Annual General Meeting of Southampton CTC

8th November 2017

Present (29)

Ian Campbell, Viv Mackay, Sam Bhullar, Iain Mackay, Kevin Purkis, Ali Baker, Margaret Rayfield, Paul Rayfield, Alan Rolfe, Gordon Cheeseman, Chriss Saunders, Keith Baker, John Parker, Jean Parker, Sue Maddocks, Alice Keirby, Simon Keirby, Richard England, Chris Aslet, Chris Devrell, Eric Reed, Chris Tomkins, Ruth Magennis, Pat McKeever, Jeff Fanning, Kathy Purkis, Jenni Prior, Stewart Thomas, Philip Thomas

Apologies

Joanne Rowe, Pamela Stillwell, Bob Damper, Jim Probert, Marcus Whitney

Chairman's Report

Simon Keirby gave the following report:

Thank you everyone for coming this evening. You are all most welcome.

I have been advised from someone with experience that the attention span in a meeting is 2 mins so I will keep this brief.

It has been a busy year for the club and the details of which will appear in the secretary's report

I have a number of thank yous to make. Firstly I would like to thank all members of the committee. I am very appreciative of all the guidance that you have given me. Thank you for your support which I have needed. Each year we are reminded about all the work that goes on behind the scenes to ensure the smooth running of the club and this year with so much activity, has been no exception. I feel that there has been great team work with professional standards. Thank you.

In addition I need to mention Cyrilyn Scott who records all our statistics. Each week she compiles all the numbers and is able to give us an over view of how we are managing. Thank you Cyrilyn

Rides have been very well supported and I think that we have achieved a good balance of rides that are appealing. We have a great cycling area and this year we have been to all corners I would like to thank all those who have come forward to lead rides. We would always welcome more as new routes and ideas are always welcome.

I would like to thank Chris and Jenni who are leaving the committee.

Chris has been responsible for one of the lynch pins of the club The Rides Calendar. We have been brought into the 21st century. This and each weeks publicity from Joanne has helped everyone plan their cycling Thank you also Chris for your help with the audax and your technical expertise on club nights. Your contribution has been immense

Jenni we are also sorry to say good bye to. Not only she been an excellent secretary but this year we have had the benefit of her talk on nutrition. She also organized her father to speak us. I hope that you are soon back on your bike I know that the situation is very trying for you. I am grateful that you have stayed on despite your set backs

Lastly I would like to thank all those who have supported our rides. Cycling provides an outdoor pursuit, improved fitness, overall wellbeing and not least a social experience involving food. All this seems to be evident in the club.

I would now like to hand over to Julie Rand Julie is the Member Group Coordinator for Cycling UK. I think in summation Julie will be talking about the relationship between Cycling UK and its Member Groups.

Also speaking to us tonight is Ruth Magennis. Ruth has led a number of rides for us this year. Ruth is responsible for Community Clubs in the area; an initiative by Cycling UK to get more people on their bikes.

Addendum – Simon would also like to have it noted that Kathy Purkis has put in a great deal of work this year in getting the website up and running, which has been instrumental in our success this year.

Guest Speaker – Julie Rand

Julie Rand gave an over view of the plans being made at head office for the next year, which will include an increased focus on member groups and volunteers. Here follows key highlights from this discussion:

Julie thanked the club for inviting herself and Ruth to speak and for keeping the programme of rides going for all abilities. Julie commented that it was good to see the group doing so well and to have a good turnout for the AGM.

There are lots of changes taking place at HQ, including new staff, an expanded communications team, addition of corporate partnership team to bring business on board. Julie looks after 110 member groups and approximately 100 affiliate groups. Member groups are supported by insurance for ride leaders and riders, guidance, financial contributions (£200 per year), and ride leader support. She expects that HQ will be more involved with member groups in future and they aim to build a stronger relationship with volunteers.

There si a new strategy for volunteers including looking at ways to support them. This includes:

- all roles will have a clear 'job description' of what is involved
- new guidance and supporting documents
- standardising operations across the UK
- reducing bureaucracy
- simplifying policy handbook
- looking at ways to recruit volunteers
- advertising volunteer vacancies centrally
- how to retain and reward volunteers
- how to improve volunteer engagement

- better communication with volunteers
- IT review at HQ to result in new event management system
- networking events
- volunteer training and development

Julie advised that the new GDPR (data protection) legislation which comes into effect in May 2018 will affect how the club, and HQ, manage member data. It requires positive rather than implied consent to use people's personal data, and applies even to people who have already signed up, not just those who sign up going forward.

Iain raised a question regarding the difference between the number of Cycling UK members (large) compared to the number of active riders (small – 18% of the membership) and whether anything was being done to increase that 18% so there would be more active riders. Julie confirmed they are looking into this, but there will always be some members who only join for the insurance, or ride with friends/family/other clubs.

Viv offered a note of scepticism regarding the communication aspect – people can feel bombarded if they receive too many emails and simply won't read them – Club Shorts and Cycle Clips as an example. Viv also commented that it is hardest to get people to lead the slowest rides as the slower riders are not confident enough themselves to lead, and fast riders want to go faster, so more needs to be done to encourage people to lead slower rides – this needs special attention when HQ look at volunteers. Julie confirmed this will be part of the volunteer strategy.

A discussion then took place as to how the number of riders could be increased. The social side of a group ride may not appeal to everyone, and if you can't keep up with faster riders, you can't chat anyway. Also, as people get older they might find it harder to keep up and may use an electric assist bike, but as Viv has shown that is no obstacle to joining a group ride. It was commented by several people that geography prevents some people from riding with the group as it can be hard to get to many of the start points from the furthest reaches of our postcode area – Lymington, Waterside and Bursledon are all neglected areas for ride starts. People from those areas are welcome to add rides to the calendar and lead them themselves if they wish.

Julie went on to describe the plans for 2018:

- Bike Week 9-17 June
- Challenge Ride series
- Women's Festival of Cycling in July
- Celebrate 100 Women in Cycling
- New Cycling Development Coordinator (James)
- Ruth will be working closely with Breeze

Simon thanked Julie for her overview and thoughts on the coming development.

Ruth gave an overview of her work in developing local cycling groups.

Ruth thanked the club for having her and for welcoming her to the club, and introducing her to leading rides.

Ruth explained that her role is with local development in the Southampton area, aiming to introduce people who are not normally represented in cycling to cycling clubs, and encouraging them to cycle more. She has set up 10 cycling groups which are tailored to the needs of each community. They are not all for going out on long rides, some are for bike repair, balance bikes for younger kids, and mountain biking, many of these groups are adapted to deprived areas.

Ruth also gets involved with Right to Ride and Space for Cycling, and the Big Bike Revival. She has had over 600 attendances at these events since March 2017, and one of the groups she set up won an award for Best Community Group. She has also taken part in work with underrepresented groups such as the young, disabled and older population, and school and workplace schemes.

Big Bike Revival has grown from 300 people attending 20 events in the first year, to 1000 people across 26 events this year.

Ruth gave thanks to Ali for leading a Big Bike Revival ride in May, to Jim for his help with a community club ride, and Ali and Viv for the Women's History Ride.

Approval of the Previous Minutes

Chris Devrell proposed and Iain seconded.

Election of Officers and Auditor

Position	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Chair	Simon Keirby	Alan Rolfe	Viv McKay
Secretary	Sam Bhullar	Kathy Purkis	Simon Keirby
Registration Officer	Ali Baker	Chris Devrell	Margaret Rayfield
Treasurer	Kathy Purkis	Alice Keirby	Viv Mackay
Publicity	Joanne Rowe	Alice Keirby	Kathy Purkis
Welfare Officer	Bob Damper	Kathy Purkis	Viv Mackay
Rides Programme	Chris Tomkins	Simon Keirby	Chris Devrell
Auditor	Paul Rayfield	Gordon Cheeseman	Alan Rolfe
Right to Ride Officer	Jim Probert	Simon Keirby	Paul Rayfield

Special thanks was offered to Jim for all his work attending meetings etc. for Right to Ride, and also for organising the social events on Wednesdays, and taking care of the keys for the club room.

Secretary's Report

Jenni presented the Secretary's report as follows:

Overview

At the close of another successful year it is time to reflect back on what has been happening in the club for the past twelve months. The club has not only offered an ever-increasing variety of rides with the introduction of Wednesday rides, the continuation of the very popular Friday rides and the steadfast Saturday and Sunday rides, we have also been able to host two events and regular social occasions both at the club room and at various pubs around the local area.

Publicity

A key feature of our publicity this year has been the website, which has now migrated from being a group of pages on the Cycling UK website to our very own WordPress site, which gives us improved control over the content and formatting. Following the decision made at the last AGM our rides diary is now published exclusively online and can be edited to make changes, add more rides or events, and feature our social events, as and when they are agreed, making this a dynamic and interesting feature of the website. In addition, there are regular ride reports with photos of our rides which prove to be an interesting and entertaining read. It is my belief that this improved content on our website has allowed us to increase the number of riders on our rides.

Membership

Membership has increased this year after a few years of remaining steady, with now 919 members within the postcode area allocated by CTC HQ, compared to 883 last year. We are able to contact 605 members via email, an increase on last year's 563.

Rides

We continue to organise regular rides for our members broken down into 3 categories, level 1 being the easiest and level 3 being more challenging. We have offered new Wednesday rides this year, as well as the Friday rides, but when comparing data for these rides it can become quite difficult as numbers in the week are diminished due to people working; therefore the following data excludes those weekday rides so we can compare to previous years.

The most popular ride across the board remains the level 2 ride with a total of 370 people participating – a massive increase compared to 254 people participating on these rides last year!

A total of 28 level 2 rides were offered, with an average of an incredible 13.2 riders per ride! Last year we had an average of 8 people per ride, and 32 rides offered.

Level 1 – A total of 207 riders over 26 rides to give an average of 7.9 riders per ride. An increase on last year's 139 riders with an average of 6 per ride.

Level 3 – A total of 240 riders over 26 rides to give an average of 9.2 riders per ride. Another increase on last year's 204 riders; an average of 7 per ride.

The total number of rides offered is 80 with an average of 10 people per ride, and if we include Wednesday and Friday rides the total is actually 108 rides – compared to 92 total rides last year.

There were a total of 147 people participating in our rides, and 56 of those are female – that's 38% of our active riders.

Ride Leaders

We currently have 20 ride leaders, 8 fewer than last year. However we would like to increase this number and are happy to guide any members who are interested in leading a ride or want to know more about what it involves. Don't forget that without people leading these rides there won't be any for you to take part in.

Events

Following the success of last year's audax events Bob ran this even once again this year on the same route, which proved popular with riders, with over thirty registered. It is likely that the event will be held again, though perhaps with a different route, next year, and plans area already underway to organise this.

Thanks to Ali's efforts we were able to run the Leveret event again this year as well, an event which is always well received by those who take part.

Thanks go to all those involved in organising, setting up, preparing food/drinks, route planning or checking the route for these events.

Treasurer's Report

Kathy provided a summary of profit and loss for the year as follows:

Income	
cycling events	1,175.22
social	639.64
other	230.00
Total Income	2,044.86
Expenses	
room hire	331.00
publicity/stationary	377.50
trophies (cycling)	44.36
other	210.68
food	620.30
travel	10.00
Total Expenses	1,593.84
Net Profit/(Loss)	451.02

Bank balance is £3203, Profit for year is £451

Main income/expenditure:

Income

Profit from Audax : £576

Profit from Leveret : £130

Expenditure

Rides program (Nov-Jan) £78, Advertising leaflets : £240 (one off cost); we now no longer incur the cost of printing the rides program (about £310 per year).

Club room made a small loss of £44.

Club Kit

Some research has been started by the committee on finding a suitable design and supplier for our club kit. One supplier did send a sample but only one size, so not really possible to determine how accurate the sizing is.

Julie commented that she believes the newly opened Cycling UK online shop will in future offer the ability to order club-design kit from the same supplier as the generic Cycling UK kit.

Simon suggested that there could be a competition or collaboration within the club to design the new kit.

Trophies

The award for having led the most rides over the past year goes to Kathy Purkis (20 rides).

The award for attending most rides over the past year goes to Paul Rayfield (28 rides)

The E V Johnson trophy for contributions to the club goes to Jenni Prior.

Any Other Business

Alan Rolfe proposed thanks to Kathy and Kevin for the summer BBQ, agreed by all.

Simon thanked Paul Rayfield for organising the very successful holiday to France, and to Kathy for the summer meal.

Ali proposed thanks to Chris Devrell for 4 years' work as rides coordinator, agreed by all.

Simon thanked Ali, Bryce, Jenni and Jim for the year's club room events.

Chris commented that we had held another successful photography competition, and Simon commented on the high quality of the entries.

Simon congratulated the members for a year of personal achievements, including Manch to Med (Sue Maddocks), London-Edinburgh-London (Bob Damper) and lots of others such as Ride London, London to Brighton, etc.

Simon gave a special mention to Marcus, who often steps up to lead the faster half of a group if the group is too large and needs to be split up.