

**Minutes of Eden Valley Cycling UK AGM
Held on Saturday 9 April 2022 at Langwathby Village Hall**

Present: Geoff Anderson, Claire and Mike Barron, Phil and Rosie Blanshard, Jen Callis, Laurie Eason, Bill Holmes, Chris Johnson, Nigel Longworth, Cecilia McCabe, Louise McElarney, Les Meer, Bill Openshaw, John Roelich, Tony Sharples, Alison Smith, Keith Smith, Caroline Steven, Ian Stewart, Chris Williamson and Martin Young.

The Chair welcomed everyone saying what a pleasure it was to be able to meet physically as the past two AGMs had been held on zoom.

1. Apologies for absence received from Dallas and Ian Brewis, Anne Faulder, Mike Graham, John Howell, Ian Ludlam, John Patrick, Liz Radford, James Rawes, Bob and Gill Sharpe, Harvey Thompson and Rachel Wilson

2. Minutes of the AGM held 10 April 2021 were approved as a correct record.

3. Matters arising: there was a minor correction about the name of one attendee

4. Officer's reports:

4.1 The Chair reflected on the fact that we were a cycling club but we had been affected by covid. The club questionnaire had revealed that many members had lost the habit of riding in company and also that they were afraid of catching covid if they mixed with other cyclists although the Chair hoped this fear was diminishing. Despite the difficulties there have been rides on most Wednesdays and Sundays but they are added late on to the rolling runs list and it would be good to return to the quarterly runs list. Pre-covid there had been 26 ride leaders but in the last 12 months there were only 18; a drop of 30%. They had led 119 rides (cat 2 and 3 and off road) which averaged 6 rides each but some ride leaders did a lot more and some did less. The club needs more ride leaders.

Two well attended picnics had been held at Long Meg with 15 people on each and it was hoped this would happen again with alternative venue suggestions welcome. Views had also been sought on the reinstatement of the post Easter cycling week but the response was inconclusive and it was probably unlikely to happen this year although individual initiatives would be welcome.

In 2016 the club had resolved that a chair should hold office for a maximum of 3 years. Due to the change of year end, the current Chair had been in post for 3 and a half years and a change was due. The Chair thanked all the Committee for their help and support.

There was a vote of thanks for the Chair for all the work he had done especially steering the club through the difficult times of covid.

4.2 The Secretary also reflected on the impact of lockdown. The secretary's job has changed hugely during his time in the post. We did well operating by zoom – perhaps we got too used to it as John reflected on the benefits when the committee met and ate together at committee meetings as a group of friends. John became secretary when Rob Wilson's personal circumstances prevented him continuing and missed the absence of a face to face handover.

John has been pleased to work with the engagement officer of Cycling UK, Tom Page. Together they had rationalised the list of ride leaders.

It was good to see some new members at the AGM today.

Reflecting on the achievements of the committee he referred to the adoption of the new

constitution.

John had been a committee member for 7 or 8 years, initially without office then becoming first Treasurer and then Secretary and felt that his time had run its course. The task wasn't currently hugely onerous. John thanked Geoff Anderson for all the work he does.

There are issues to be addressed by the Committee including compliance with Data Protection requirements. The Trivets is to take place this year and is already well-organised and ready to run.

There was a vote of thanks for the secretary.

4.3 Treasurer's report; There has been little financial activity. The club entered the year with a balance of £2,641 and ended with £2,573. Cycling UK had invited the committee not to request its subscriptions which would enable the organisation to apply the funds to other causes and this had been agreed. Most income and expenditure was related to the Christmas lunch. The value of some club clothing had been written off.

4.4 Runs co-ordinator's report; there was little to add to the remarks made by the Chair. The only way to access the runs list, currently operating on a rolling basis, was through the website. People looking at our programme would think we were inactive. It would be good to return to the pre-planned quarterly list although ride leaders may find it difficult to commit. Looking at the list, on only 10% of possible ride days had there been no ride. On 15% of ride days there had been both a 2 and a 3 bike ride. There had been 10 off road rides. Just 12 leaders put on most of the rides. The off road rides should continue as it was good for the club to be able to extend its offer.

The cafe stops, to which people find their own way, are based on a rotation that has been set up for some time. If people have other suggestions, please contact Mike.

4.5 Runs Registration and Data Officer's report; Chris tabled a report with the usual wealth of information. He expressed a preference for a quarterly runs list while recognising that ride leaders have become accustomed to making last minute decisions, taking into account the weather.

It was agreed that with effect from the quarter starting on 1 July, we would aim to set up a runs list for the period 1 July to 30 September.

4.6 Campaigns officer; Nigel reported that this had become interesting with quite a few initiatives happening including:

- A66 dualling with a cycle path from Penrith to Scotch Corner away from the road.
- Sustainable Integrated Transport Ullswater initiative
- Cumbria County Councils cycling strategy
- Local cycling and walking infrastructure plan for Penrith
- Cumbria Cycle Mayor – Nigel was a member of the Committee
- Strawberry Hill CTC route, objecting to a planning application that would increase traffic
- Sustrans – attending webinars
- Highway Code – very satisfying that national representation made by Cycling UK had resulted in positive change
- Government consultation on AONB and National Park powers

5. Elections

5.1 Chair/Welfare Officer; there were no volunteers. Bill will work with the Committee until a successor can be found.

5.2 Secretary; Geoff Anderson kindly agreed to take on this role and was duly elected.

5.3 The remaining officers who were willing to stand were re-elected en bloc

- Treasurer; Cecilia McCabe
 - Runs Coordinator; Mike Barron
 - Runs Registration and Data Officer; Chris Johnson
 - Promotions/Campaigns officer; Nigel Longworth
 - Other committee member; Rachel Wilson
- Chris Williamson was proposed and elected as an additional committee member

6 Any other business:

- An update was given on various club members who were suffering ill health. Phone calls or visits as appropriate would be very welcome.
- Trivets; this is to be held on 22 June and we are already receiving bookings, the village hall venues are arranged, catering is organised, routes sorted and entries can be made through the club website. The cost is £18 to enter. Ride leaders and volunteers are requested to make a donation of £5 toward the cost of food and to pre-order their baguette – there will be a separate entry ride for them
- The Campaigns Officer requested that people chip in when he posts a blog so that he can be sure he is representing the interests of members as they want.
- The Chair read an email from Liz Radford, Chief Executive of the Eden Rivers Trust about an opportunity to work together. This was generally welcomed although it was unclear what it would mean in practice.
- Data Protection Policy; it had been drawn to the attention of the Committee that in the light of current legislation it might be wise to draw up a policy which was recognised in the constitution. The Committee agreed to work on this.

7 Date and venue of next year's AGM; this would be arranged by the Committee.

ratified at the AGM 22/4/23

Geoff Anderson