

EVCUK – minutes of cttee meeting 12 February 2024 Daffodils cafe 10.00

Present: Alison, Nigel, Mike B, Rachel, CJ

Apologies: Geoff, Mike K, Tony S

Matters arising from previous meeting:

Rides with Tom H suspended until better weather/later in the year. Alison to check CUK policy re adults with disabilities

Festive lunch at Roundthorn attended by 32 people considered a success

Possible trip to Berwick – to be postponed to late September/October

A 'slow Fred Whitton' – agreed Mike B will select dates (May/June), make a booking for Keswick YHA for himself and blog so that others can follow suit. Ride to begin and end at Ambleside.

Geoff had produced flyers in A4 and A5 suitable for over-printing

Fellfoot; Alison explained that she had withdrawn the club from association with the fellfoot 40 ride as her recommended route which the club had road tested was being adapted in ways she could not agree with and she therefore felt it was best the club was not involved.

Runs list and ride leaders: Mike B tabled a document reflecting his anxiety about the runs list and some of the reasons why people may not be willing to lead rides any more. Some new ride leaders only lead one ride and don't repeat it while willing ride leaders may become disenchanted when others don't play their part. Alison observed that since covid more people are unwilling to drive to the start but this limits the area we are able to cover which has always been one of our particular strengths. The success of the coffee stop is part of the problem. It was agreed we need to generate a discussion in the club and at coffee stops if the club is to survive. The runs list is our core business. A number of steps were agreed:

- Start a debate on the blog – N to draft
- Send an email to members – N to draft
- Email the ride leaders to ask why people were not leading rides and what could be done to encourage them – Mike B to draft
- Create more stimulating rides; possibly 3 and 2 bike ride leaders getting together to agree a joint start or lunch? Going further afield than the Penrith area which is serviced by the coffee stops?
- Starting rides from the coffee stop at 11.30 (there is no rule about the time a ride has to start)
- Considering whether the later start/coffee (10.00/11.30) during the winter months is helpful given current membership and the way the club operates – to be discussed at AGM
- Improving guidance on 'how to be a good group rider' emphasising a number of points, such as emphasising that the leader is in charge of the route. Those who go on ahead and miss a turning are no longer on the ride. The leader will not be chasing them down or amending the route to follow them. Circulating a gpx route in advance, while allowing members to assess the level of difficulty and their ability their ability to keep up with the group, could have an impact on poor group discipline.

The Challenge rides: Mike B and Claire are unable to attend the meeting on 19th but Mike was able to confirm subsequently that Claire is willing to take the lead on the catering. Alison reported that Eden Valley Hospice were delighted we had chosen them as our charity and will help in any way they can. They use all the regular social media outlets and are happy to help in any way. The date is confirmed for Sunday 15th September and Langwathby Village Hall is booked to be the base

AOB; Following a dusty reception at Lowther, Alison had been in touch with the Visitor Services Manager and it was hoped that a better solution for parking our bikes would be found. It was noted that cafes can be hard to find. On behalf of the club, Nigel has written in support of the proposed Hartside Cafe

Meetings; next *Cttee meeting* to be convened by the Secretary. *Challenge ride* working party on Monday 19th February.

Nigel

PS Next Committee meeting 18th March 10.00 - Daffodils