

Eden Valley Group of Cycling UK

Committee Meeting 29 September 2025 at 10:00am

1. **Present:** Alison, Chris J, Mike B, Bill O, Nigel L, Nigel P, Tony S
Apologies: Mike K, Rachel, Geoff A
2. The minutes of the previous meeting on 9th June were reviewed, no corrections required and approved by the committee.
3. No matters arising that do not appear elsewhere on this agenda.
4. **Tri-Vets**
 - *What went well*

A big thank you to all the volunteers on the day who made sure the event went well, with special thanks to Bill O for the event organisation and Claire B for the catering organisation.

The event was deemed a big success with everyone enjoying the event despite the rain.
 - *What could have been done better*

We closed the entries to the event too soon when we reached our target number, several people dropped out some at the last minute maybe due to the weather, we turned away some late applicants that we could have accepted.

Ride leaders need to be allocated long before the event as we struggled to get enough for the day, which required some last-minute persuasion of some “volunteers”.

The 100-mile route ended up slightly short resulting in some riders doing an extra half mile up and down the Dalston road to achieve the full distance.

We had some difficulties in getting the risk assessment mileages to tally correctly, due to the RA’s being carried out by 4 different people, each taking one of the loops, but not giving a full distance for their RA.

Badges and Bars were offered but people wanting them needed to sign a sheet at the end of the event, this turned out to be a bit messy, and we needed to chase them for payment some weeks after the event.
 - *Finances*

Total money collected for the event was £953.50
Total money spent on laying on the event and catering was £684.09
This leaves the club with a surplus of £269.41
 - *Incidents/accidents/road closures*

As far as we know there were no incidents or accidents, there was one road closure on the 100K route which we identified in our risk assessments, and it didn't affect the ability to complete the route as planned.
 - *Lessons for next time*

Organise ride leaders long before the event.

Our handling of the risk assessments was good but maybe we could improve and maybe we could have had more volunteers as the onus fell on four people to carry out all the work for both rides.

- *What do we want to say to Cycling UK?*

Alison has drafted a letter for CUK, she will “tweak” a bit to cover comments from this meeting. The general feeling was they should have had a contact for organisers of Tri-Vets, they could have provided better publicity for the events, and they could have been more pro-active in encourage clubs to organise Tri-Vets events.

We believe there were 7 Tri-Vets events this year around the country, 2022 had 10, 2019 had 14, 2016 had 16. There seems to be a general trend towards this event fizzling out which would be a great disappointment. Alison has contacted the other clubs which ran events this year to understand their views and has had good feedback generally in line with our feelings.

5. Accidents/guidance on website to group cycling

Unfortunately, as a club we have had a few accidents this year resulting in rider injuries.

Currently we have 6 documents on our club web site relating to safety when riding in a group and rider etiquette. This includes a couple of links to the CUK web site. Geoff produced a document for the Tri-Vets which we believe was very good, concise and to the point. We think we should consolidate our existing documents to the Geoff format, with one for ride leaders and one for general riders. Tony S will draft out new versions for approval by the committee. Taking part in a club ride should be an enjoyable relaxed environment but as safe as possible.

6. Runs list

In the last monthly update from Alison she highlighted the lack of runs on our web site, the runs list looks very bare most of the time. Pre COVID the list would have been full. Any rides on the system and the coffee stop rides are generally very well supported. She asked for ideas for encouraging more Ride Leaders.

Ian Ludlam forwarded details and ideas based on the Dumfries and Galloway CUK club. They run one club ride a week, usually Sunday, the club secretary will quarterly contact ride leaders individually and actively encourage them to put on a ride. So, they have a full quarter of rides in advance, rides can be changed or cancelled closer to the date due to unforeseen circumstances, weather, holidays etc.

Ernest Philips suggested a version whereby we drop the need for ride leaders and simply put forward self-lead rides on a specific route available from the runs list. One drawback here would be handling the ICE details normally carried by the ride leader.

It was also noted another club runs a fixed number of set rides which are all fully risk assessed, this was dismissed as a boring option which no one would want.

Mike B produced samples of what the runs list could look like based on Ian, and Ernest's suggestions and a third option based on a hybrid of the two. However, the committee felt the Ernest version would be a simple way forward and proposed a trial. Mike B will put out a fourth quarter runs list which includes some "set" 2 rides.

Thanks to Ian and Ernest for their suggestions.

7. Officer's reports:

- **Chair**

The Tri-Vets event went well with many volunteers to ensure smooth running on the day.

The September holiday went well and was enjoyed by all who attended.

Turn outs for all the rides and coffee stops is very good.

The average age of the committee and the average age of club membership in general is high, we could do with some new "young blood", both in the club and on the committee.

In the absence of volunteers for various roles including club committee and ride leaders the club could cease to exist.

The club will be 30 years old next year.

Alison the current Chair will stand down at the AGM, we will be looking for a new club chair.

- **Treasurer**

The club is currently running 2 bank accounts

The online digital account with the RBS currently holds £284.41

The Cumberland branch account holds £2,314.64

The club is up £251.81 for the year.

The new RBS account is working well but only requires one signature for transactions which is not how we expected the account to work. We propose to continue with the accounts as they are now with the main one being the Cumberland and a small float account for online transactions with the RBS.

- **Runs co-ordinator**

As discussed above of the runs list.

- **Registrations and Web Site**

Geoff would like to stand down from his role looking after the web site, he targets finishing the upgrade of the site around Christmas which should simplify it and would like someone else to take over the upkeep of it. We will look for volunteers or possible outsource if necessary.

- **Secretary**

We have had a few new members since I took over the role of secretary, however after a few exchanges of email messages, and registering them as members we then quite often never see their names appear on any of the club rides or at any of the coffee stops. Note I do give them links to the

Blog and runs list and add them to the WhatsApp group and Alisons monthly email list. Question is why? Are there just not enough runs on the list to suit them? I will follow up by contacting some of them.

8. Shall we order a flag?

Get rid of the website from the flag, possibly add a QR code instead, enquire about a Banner as well. No urgency to order as we have no events coming up in the short term apart from the AGM and ordering now will not see it arrive in time for this.

9. Date of next committee meeting – to be decided at the AGM