

Cycling UK North Birmingham Member Group AGM Minutes **Tuesday 18 April 2023 held at the Cooper Rooms, Shenstone**

1. The Chair welcomed the following to the Annual General Meeting:

Paul Griffiths, Ros Llewellyn, Mike Fowler John Llewellyn, Julie Snook, Ian Bolton, Chris Mitten, John Bedford, Nigel Marshall, , Keith Hickson, Clive Hensman, Mike Hanson, Nick Stafford, Susan Perry, Sue Jinks, Dave Frost, John Davis, Peter Woollett, Brian Langdell, Mike Tolson, Tony Wilson, Mervyn Green, Roger Stroud, Yogesh Gupta, Nick Madeley.

2. Apologies: were received from Rob & Lynne Davenport, Matt & Sarah Hinkley, Terry Dwyer.

3. Minutes: It was agreed that the minutes of the previous AGM were an accurate account.

4. Matters Arising: None

5. Annual Report 2023:

Cycling UK North Birmingham Member Group Annual Report 2023

The committee has met four times since the last AGM. These meetings were held in May, September, December 2022 and March 2023.

May 2022 Committee Meeting.

Enquiry by phone from a mother of a Down's syndrome man in his mid-20s who lives independently from his parents. The man is apparently an able cyclist, but not yet on the road. He wants to join a Cycling Club. Advised to find a Bikeability Course.

Numerous emails received from a variety of people stating they could do wonders for our website. The committee discussed what we should do about it. It was decided that the Chair would send out a recruitment letter to the membership to see if there is anyone who could update or renew our website. This led to a few days later for Nick Stafford to offer to take on this role. Within a very short time Nick had produced the excellent new website that bears our name today.

After a break of three years because of Covid-19 the club had a very successful Audax and made a profit of £220.05. Many thanks to organiser Roy Bishop and for the great food provided by Matt and Sarah Hinkley. Matt and Sarah announced that they would no longer be the lead caterers for future Audaxes. Thanks also to all those club members who helped out in a variety of ways.

In discussing Marketing and Promotion of the club, it was decided that the Chair would design a poster to be circulated as widely as possible throughout our local area. Key words that might be used – 'Relaxed Social Club' and 'Friendly Inclusive Group.'

September 2022 Committee Meeting

Enquiry by email from an avid cyclist from Dallas, USA, who was attending a one day conference in Birmingham and wanted to hire a cycle and join us for a ride on a Thursday and Saturday ride.

Another enquiry from a husband & wife who were cycling the Cycling UK Cathedral Challenge on a tandem wanting to know about any problems they may encounter on the route from Coventry to Lichfield via Birmingham.

The promotion flyers had been designed and SH was asked to go ahead and get 250 printed. There followed a short discussion on how and where the flyers would be distributed.

The last Club One Hundred was pre covid-19, it was poorly attended and very informal. It was decided that this traditional club event should be resurrected but with some changes in its format. The date of the event

is to be Sunday 11 June 2023. One of our three traditional courses would need to be checked for any changes in the route.

A member had requested more regular social events. The committee responded by stating that the rides themselves were social events with coffee and lunch stops. Each year there is a well-attended Skittles evening and a Gathering for a Meal in late January. Quite a few informal groups do a variety of one centre tours. There are also regular convivial lunch time meals that attract a number of members both past and present. If any member wished to organise anything else, then please let us know.

Communications with the Membership. The New Website had been well received and Webmaster Nick Stafford is to be commended for all his hard work. The Club Newsletter is sent out to members who submit their email addresses to the Chair to be added to the Club Mailchimp mailing list. At least four of our Ride Groups are communicating with their group members using online WhatsApp, a text messaging application. WhatsApp has many advantages over emailing and putting posts on the Club Pages on Strava and Garmin Connect. WhatsApp is free, there are no ads and posts are sent to the whole group which are end to end encrypted.

Ian Bolton announced he was standing down from the committee with immediate effect. Thanks to Ian for all the time and commitment he has given to the Club over a great number of years. It must not be forgotten that Ian was the Editor of The Northern News, a quarterly magazine which ceased being published in the autumn of 2014 due to a lack of contributions from the membership.

December 2022 Committee Meeting

Enquiry by email from a daughter of an experienced cyclist in his late 70s who was looking for a cycling group to join and wondered if our group organised anything that would be suitable for him. I sent details of the alternative Tuesday Rides and the Saturday Group 5 Rides. The lady replied giving thanks for the details. Mike Hanson has taken on the role of organising the Saturday Groups 3 & 4 rides from Nick Stafford. It is hoped that all the Saturday Ride Groups could start their rides in the New Year from the same place as was the case pre Covid-19.

The Alternative Tuesday Group, the Wednesday Afternoon Group along with Saturday Group 5 have announced that their rides will be cancelled if the temperature is less than 8°C at the starting time of the ride. The remaining Ride Groups will continue with the existing practise of cancelling rides if the temperature is 4°C or less.

Sue Jinks announced that she was resigning from the committee after over fifteen years of service. The Chair proposed a vote of thanks to Sue for all the work and commitment she had given to the Club during her time as a Committee Member

After some discussion on roles on our committee it was decided that we needed to look at the roles and structure of the Club Committee in line with the advice set out by Cycling UK.

March 2023 Committee Meeting

I received via the Cycling UK website a request from a CTC member in Bristol who was planning a cycle ride from Birmingham to Bristol via Mid Wales. He wanted me to check out his GPS route from New Street Station out onto the canal network. I found quite a few no goes in his GPS route. They included cycling uphill into Victoria Square then travelling via Centenary Square straight through the middle of the International Convention Centre.

Events planned for the forthcoming months are Beer and Skittles on 18 March 2023 at The Walsall Arms. Club Audax on Sunday 7 May 2023. Cyclists' Memorial Service at Meriden on Sunday 21 May 2023. Club 100 to be held on Sunday 11 June. Cyclists would start from the Cooper Rooms and finish at The Railway Inn, Shenstone.

Sarah Hinkley announced that she would be retiring from the committee at the AGM. She produced Comprehensive Guidelines for the Audax Catering which she, along with husband Matt had been the Organisers for several years. The Guidelines along with a food list was passed to Paul Griffiths who along with his partner, Sharon are the new organisers of the Club Audax Catering.

Cycling UK North Birmingham Member Group Membership

Our membership list on the national body Cycling UK website is currently standing at 441 members of which 50 are designated as ride leaders. There are some errors in the list as at least three members appear more than once. The list is of members of Cycling UK whose postcodes are in our assigned postcode area

plus others who live outside that area but who have requested head office to be attached to the North Birmingham Member Group. I have identified at least seven members who are active with our club but are not on that list. Some of them are here tonight!

The number of members on the Cycling UK list who are active with North Birmingham is difficult to assess. I recognise about a hundred and twenty names on our Cycling UK membership list.

The only information I can access about an individual member on the Cycling UK North Birmingham Group list is the following: **Contact Number** (this is actually the Membership Number), **Forename** – some of these are missing, some only have an initial, **Surname**, **Email** –yes/no, **Postcode**-only the first part, **Membership Type**- there are about 10 of these, **Membership Status**, and then three columns labelled **Ride Leader** (50), **Committee Member** (10) and **Active** (1).

Michael Fowler, Hon Secretary

6. Financial Report April 2022 – March 2023:

This has been the first year of normal activity after the pandemic. Limited celebration of our much-delayed centenary took place.

Income

1. The Shenstone Audax took place after 2 missed years due to Covid-19. The numbers participating were low but the event still generated a profit of £220.13 for the club. This is largely due to the great organisational efforts of Roy Bishop, with much support on the catering front from Matt and Sarah Hinkley on the day.
2. We managed to claim £200 from Cycling UK by supplying our audited accounts on time and providing updated information on numbers attending our range of rides.
3. Most of the remaining income was from members paying for the centenary dinner and the annual dinner, and is largely offset by the costs of those events. Note that a significant deposit had been paid for the centenary dinner before the pandemic which explains the difference between income and expenditure. Many thanks must go to Ros Llewelyn and Julie Snook for their great efforts in enabling these events to happen.

Expenditure

Our main items of expenditure were as follows:

1. Internet/email maintenance – a total of £186.90. By using the existing provider of these services our website has been completely overhauled by Nick Stafford.
2. Memorial wreaths for the annual Cyclists' Memorial Service at Meriden - £90
3. Hire of Coopers Room (for the AGM) £16
4. Advertising flyers £15.50

Summary

Overall we made a surplus of £193.07 over the period.

Future

Our accounts have been very stable over the last 2 years. Provided we continue to be able to claim the £200 membership fees, this largely covers the cost of our website and email service. We are still very dependent on income from our Audax event for other activities. However, our room hire costs have significantly reduced and we have not been subsidising social events. Together these changes have reduced our outgoings.

We are however overdue updating the first aid training for ride leaders, which will incur a significant cost. An initial quote from the previous supplier was £700 for 20 people.

Paul Griffiths, Hon Treasurer.

7. Election of Independent Examiner of Accounts

John Davis agreed to be the Independent Examiner of the Accounts

8. Election of Officers:

John Davis proposed that as there were no other proposals for the positions of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary that three existing members (Chris Mitten – Chair, Paul Griffiths – Treasurer and Mike Fowler – Secretary) should continue in office.

John Llewellyn seconded John's proposal and all agreed.

The following members agreed to serve on the committee in the roles noted below:

Safeguarding Officer	Ros Llewellyn
Webmaster	Nick Stafford
Rides Secretary (Saturdays)	Mike Hanson
Rides Secretary (not Saturdays)	Susan Perry
Social Secretary	Julie Snook
Membership Secretary	Ros Llewellyn
Publicity	Chris Mitten

The following members agreed to the following roles:

Sunday Rides Organiser	Sue Jinks
Tuesday Rides Organiser	Julie Snook
Tuesday Alt. Rides Organiser	John Davis
Wednesday Rides Organiser	Sue Perry
Thursday Rides Organiser	Paul Griffiths
Saturday Rides Organiser	Groups 1, 2 – Paul Jenkins
Saturday Rides Organiser	Groups 3, 4 – Mike Hanson
Saturday Rides Organiser	Group 5 – John Bedford
Sunday Car Assisted	Sue Perry

9. Any Proposals: None had been received.

10. Jonathan Strong Award: Awarded to Nick Stafford for all his hard work in designing and setting up a new club website.

11. Any other Business

- Some discussion about groups relying on the same people to lead rides.
- It was mentioned how useful WhatsApp was in being used by some Ride Groups to communicate with their members.
- Guest Registration Forms are needed by prospective members before doing a ride.
- It essential that all members carry an In Case of an Emergency (ICE) Form while out cycling.
- Upcoming Events: Club Audax, 7 May 2023. Cyclists Memorial Service, 21 May 2023. Cyclists who lunch 2 May 2023. Club 100, 11 June 2023.

It was agreed that the new Committee will deal with above points as soon as possible

12. Next AGM

AGM 2024 will be on Tuesday 16 April 2024