

Fleet Cycling AGM 2024 Minutes

13th May 2024

20:00 to 21:00, Studio 3, Hart Leisure Centre

Introduction

John Crossley, as Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Committee attendees

John Crossley, Chair; Ed Humphrey, Rides Secretary; Lisa Chapman, Publicity Officer; Bryan East, Treasurer; Andrew Perkins, Secretary; Sally Swift, Welfare Officer; Malcolm Huson, Wednesday rides rep; Robert Humphrey, Webmaster; George Willoughby, Liaison Officer

Membership Represented

Apart from officers, there were around 25 members present. Apologies had been received from Saty M, Richard Somerset, Damian Crawford, Andrea Marnoch, Ken Crookes, Pam Jordan

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the AGM in April 2023 were accepted *nem con*¹

Election of Officers

Officers were re-elected *nem con* as follows

John Crossley	Chair
Andrew Perkins	Secretary & Registration Officer
Bryan East	Treasurer
Lisa Chapman	Publicity Officer

New Officers were elected *nem con* as follows

Sally Swift	Rides Secretary
George Willoughby	Liaison Officer (liaising with authorities re cycle paths and facilities)
Robert Humphrey	Webmaster
Malcolm Huson	Welfare Officer (and Wednesday rides rep)

The meeting gave a vote of thanks to Ed Humphrey for his eight years of service as an officer in various capacities, including Chair and, more recently, Rides Secretary.

Ride safety

An open discussion was held. Key points emerged for ride leaders and riders:

Knowledge of roads is important, for instance in a recent crash a new rider was on his own between groups and unaware of a poorly-signposted tight bend. Ride leaders should try to warn of such hazards where possible, and all riders should take care.

¹ Meaning “with no objections”, so a count of votes was not necessary.

We should make more efforts to split into groups (of 5 or 6 riders) where there is traffic.

We should stop before or after junctions, not on them where we will block traffic.

All riders should be encouraged to wear helmets. As explained on our website, all ride leaders are volunteers and may decline to lead for any reason, including if there is a rider without a helmet, notwithstanding Cycling UK policies. (that said, we have not had a rider turn up without a helmet for some time)

Helmets have a finite life of a few years, especially depending on exposure to UV light. Lisa will add a note to the next newsletter about this, for members.

Introductory rides should have a back marker, like a coaching role. Sally will look to get multiple leaders for introductory rides.

For new riders, ride leaders should check their experience on the road, and appoint a mentor where necessary.

Publicity

Lisa reported a good turnout of volunteers from Fleet Cycling to marshal the Hart Triathlon and lead out the Fleet Half Marathon. She thanked those volunteers.

Lisa asked for members to post photos on Facebook.

Lisa asked for members to send newsletter items to her.

Off-Road Rides

Colin W asked the question, and there was a discussion regarding whether Fleet Cycling could/should run some off-road rides.

Clive E expressed concerns about risks on off-road rides, and especially the varying skill levels of riders.

There are various existing groups, formal or informal, which run off-road rides: YES in Yateley, Berks on Bikes, Mucky Mayhem.

Richard H and Clive E agreed to work with Sally on arranging and leading an off-road ride which would not be too challenging.

Early Rides

There was a request for earlier rides on a Sunday, for those with family commitments. There was also a request for evening rides in the summer. Sally will get feedback from leaders and riders as to supply and demand.

Longer rides

Sally will consider longer rides too.

Other rides

It was noted that any leader can volunteer to run an unusual ride (they should put it to Sally first).

George W mentioned tandems, and will put a note on our Facebook about them.

AOB

Andy Pickup expressed his thanks to the club for the first aid training which the club had arranged and paid for, on 1st Feb. Occasion to use it arose within just a few days, but fortunately there was no injury sustained.

Ed reminded members that his outing to Herne Hill Velodrome for members would take place on Saturday the 25th May.

Date of next AGM

Date is to be determined – around the same time next year. **ACTION: Andrew**, as Secretary

The meeting closed around 21:00