

Fleet Cycling AGM 2025 Minutes

16th June 2025

20:15 to 21:30, Studio 1, Hart Leisure Centre

Introduction

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

Committee attendees

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

Membership Represented

Apart from committee officers, there were 11 members present.

Apologies had been received from Andrea Marnoch, Peter & Julie Merriman, and Stuart Miles.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the AGM in May 2024 were accepted *nem con*. There were no matters arising.

Annual Report

The Chair welcomed everyone and commented on another successful year, noting the large amount of rider-miles completed [*the annual report for April 2024 to March 2025 showed 203 rides, each with an average of 11 riders, and a total of 79,831 rider-miles*]

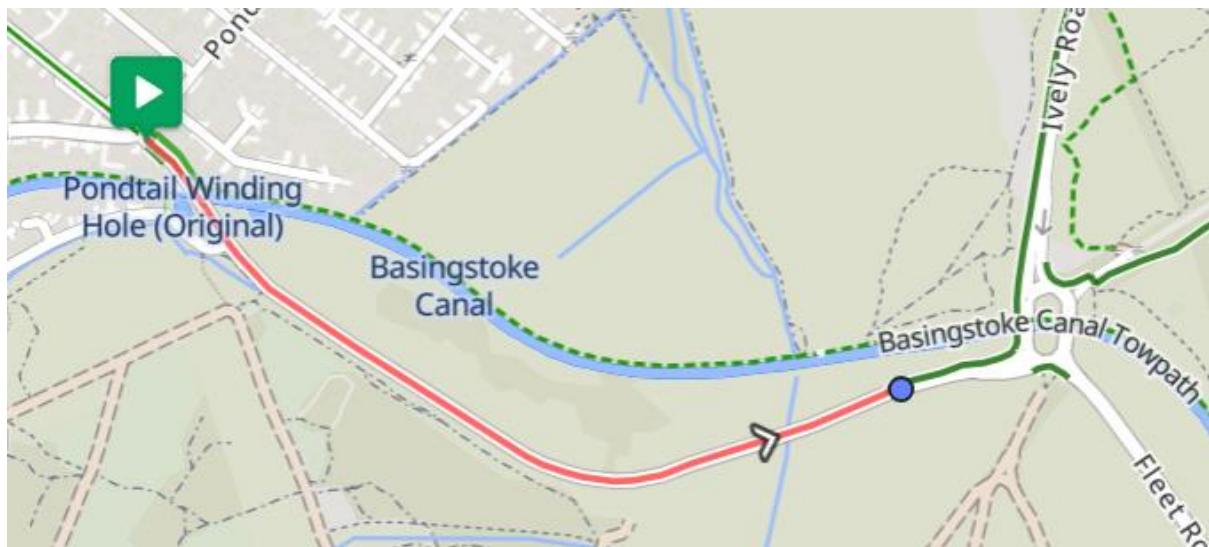
George, the Liaison Officer, had not been able to submit a written report in time for inclusion in the full report, so he reported the following orally to the meeting:

Regarding The Hampshire road safety initiative there has been local unmarked police activity looking for motorists making close passes on cyclists. Additional pedestrian crossings are being planned on Reading Road South and there is also an initiative to extend the existing Baker Way cycle and walking path southward towards Church Crookham to provide safer cycling and walking routes, particularly to the local schools. Fleet Cycling has also provided some input to the proposed Sherfield on Loddon cycle routes, since some of our rides go in that direction. Contact George Willoughby if you require any further details of cycle safety developments locally.

Attendees were interested in the above, and a discussion followed about these and other local issues, including the change of road markings on Fleet Road, between Kings Road and the railway station. Although it looks more dangerous than before, Ed H said that he cycles it regularly and finds that drivers now give more room to cyclists instead of driving close up against the (narrow) cycle lane.

There was also a discussion regarding the cycle path which was publicised as having been funded some years ago, for the dangerous stretch of road between Sainsbury's (junction of Kings Road and Aldershot Road) and the Norris Hill roundabout (over the canal on the way to Farnborough and

Aldershot). George said he would chase up progress with the appropriate authorities, and report back so it can be covered in a Fleet Cycling newsletter. The stretch of road in question is shown on the map below.



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

Andrew Perkins and Lisa Chapman both said that, after several years' service, they would be keen to hand over their roles, for instance by mentoring or job-sharing with potential new officers during the next year. Both would, in any case, carry on as Ride Leaders. If any member is interested and willing, please contact Andrew/Lisa to find out more and discuss.

Schedule and Organisation of Rides

Discussion led by the Ride Secretary: attendees discussed our ride schedule, and agreed the following:

- a) We will continue with the current arrangements for Sunday "Early Bird" rides, in that they are publicised on the website but conditional on a ride leader volunteering, which might be sometime on the Saturday. If cancelled, they should ideally be marked as such by Saturday evening. If potential riders can contact the ride leader on WhatsApp on the Saturday to say they expect to join, that would help the leader know it is going to be worthwhile. Robert Humphrey agreed to be the co-ordinator, and Ed Humphrey said he would lead some of these rides.

b) We have had very few people join the shorter “introductory rides” and none of those that we can recall having become regular riders. The format is not favoured by ride leaders, so the meeting agreed to drop the reference to introductory rides from the calendar. (Andrew did so on 18th June)

Sally said there would be some more away rides this year: one to the Test Valley, and one as a Tour of the Surrey Hills. Andy P will send his route for the latter to Sally.

Sally also said she was arranging Tri-Vets rides (a Cycling UK initiative for 100k and/or 100 mile rides for the over 50s) for the 27th July. There are several people interested in each of those distances. The 100k would probably be a truncated version of the 100 mile.

Social and Publicity

Lisa gave details of the summer BBQ. It will be at 16:00 on Saturday 16th July, at Andrew's house in central Fleet; £10 per head to cover food and soft drinks; bring your own beer/wine; +1's welcome. It will also include a bring-and-buy sale of bike-related items. Anything not sold should be taken back, or it will be donated to a local charity such as BikeStart in Aldershot. Andrew does not want any more bike bits left in his garage!

AOB

Andy P asked if we have a schedule to review the position of Fleet Cycling vis-à-vis association with Cycling UK, British Cycling, or becoming standalone. A discussion ensued and the conclusion was that we first need to confirm our aims and objectives, for instance in a formal written constitution – then we can determine which structure fits those best. The committee agreed to take on the formulation of a draft constitution to bring back to the members.

Date of next AGM

Date is to be determined – around May or June next year. **ACTION: Andrew**, as Secretary

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and contributing to an interesting meeting. The meeting closed around 21:30