

Minutes of the 85th AGM of the Shropshire CTC Members Group

Venue Upton Magna Village Hall

Date 3rd November 2013

48 group members attended

1. Election of Chairman for the meeting

Jonathan Blowers was proposed by Jenny Leese and seconded by Helen Gilmour. He was elected unanimously

2. Apologies

Received from Jean Breakell, Chris Lovett, Ron Eaton, Tom Eaton

3. Minutes of the 84th AGM held on the 8th November 2012

The chairman presented a summary of last year's minutes. They were accepted unanimously after a proposal by Martin Beardwell seconded by John Nowell.

4. Matters arising from the minutes

David Pickering raised the matter discussed in the minutes concerning the publishing dairy events in the 'Cycle' magazine. The Chairman suggest David Cox would address this later I the meeting.

No other matters were raised

5. The Ray Page Award.

Bill Dorrell presented this year's Ray Page award to John Nowell. Bill had forgotten to bring the actual citation but summarised all John had done in many capacities for the club including chairing the group's committee for many years.

6. The Annual Report

The Secretary read sections of the annual report. Including the reports from the regular ride organisers, publicity, communication and social events. John Hamilton talked about the classic Audax event, 'The Elenydd' and Edwin Hargreaves about the 'Two Three and Four Rivers' events.

The Chairman asked Emrys Jones for some feed back his attendance at the National CTC AGM. Emrys felt the event was rather boring as all the resolutions were decided in advance by proxy voting. The morning event was much more interesting where there was a lot of discussion about publicising the CTC and recruiting more members. He said some groups were doing better than others. He added that all notes from the events are available on the National CTC website.

Peter Mathison was asked to say a few words about this year's birthday rides which were held at Yarnfield near Stone in Staffordshire as he was closely involved in their organisation. He reported that they were a great success with a good venue, excellent entertainment but that the area could have been better for cycling as it was enclosed by main roads. He thanked all who had helped at this event.

The Annual Report was accepted unanimously after being proposed by Malcolm Adams and seconded by Anita Croft.

7. Treasurer's Report.

Peter Lobban presented his Balance Sheet for the year. A comment was made as to whether the Group's donations to charity could be used as publicity material for the group.

The report was accepted after a proposal by Bill Dorrell and seconding by Jenny Leese

8. Report from National CTC councillor

David Cox introduced himself as a West Midlands Local CTC Councillor and as Chairman of the National CTC Council.

He stated the new aims of the CTC were to promote, inspire and protect cycling and cyclists, and that it was an interesting time politically building up to the next election as parties compete with each other to be seen to help promote cycling. The All Party Cycling Committee has led to various Cycling Reports and more money for cycling infrastructure around the country. He reported that the CTC along with British Cycling and Sustrans has and is still having major inputs into government Cycling Reports and the Road Justice Campaign.

He also discussed the Future of the CTC in regards as to how it look and whether it needed re branding and also the possible drawbacks to a re branding exercise. He was worried that the CTC was 'invisible' to many cyclists and also outside cycling. He felt the organisation was not tapping into the national upsurge in interest in cycling especially cyclocross in the younger age group, and that recruitment of new members in general was down.

He stated that he felt relationships between National CTC and local groups was improving with a newly constructed national membership team.

He answered the specific query that ride event news would not be put back into Cycle and that the internet was the default provider of such news.

He addressed the concerns over the format of the National AGM being hardly worth attending as everything was decided in advance by proxy voting, but encouraged members still to attend as the morning sessions were very good. He advised that next year's AGM will be in Glasgow.

He recommended that Local Groups Subcommittee of the CTC as a good place to exchange ideas on good practice within groups. Emrys Jones volunteered that he was on that subcommittee, and added that CTC membership was falling despite the recent Olympic success of British riders,

From the floor, Martin Beardwell wondered if it would be possible to get some of the other very successful cycling groups in Shrewsbury eg Stan's Cycling Group and Mid and North Shropshire Wheelers to join CTC. He also raised the topic of the repair and maintenance of cycle lanes and tracks about the town now it was the responsibility of the Highways Authority and the Local Council. He encouraged members to contact their local MP and/or local Councillors about issues especially in the run up to an election. They should be interested he felt as Cycle Touring is an important part of the local economy,

Paul Charlesworth suggested as so many young people are taking up more competitive cycling we should be trying to engage with parents to increase our membership.

Peter Lobban asked if there was any consideration given to amalgamating with British Cycling

Helen Gilmour asked David Cox whether, as the CTC was now a charity if and when members subscription will become gift aided. He replied that the Tax Authorities were still working on this matter.

9 Presidency

John Nowell thanked the outgoing President Anita Crofts for all her hard work and enthusiasm for the group especially for the invaluable support and wisdom she gave to the committee. She replied that in her opinion all was not 'doom and gloom' with the CTC or this group. She pointed out the number of people at this AGM and that perhaps we should concentrate more on what we in this room want from the CTC and accept that nowadays a lot of cyclists 'do their own thing.' She then presented the badge of office to the incoming President Malcolm Adams who responded with a few words of thanks.

10 To Accept the nominations for the Members Group Committee for 2013/14

The Chairman first thanked Sue Collinson and Richard Newey who were standing down from the committee for all their hard work for the group. Jenny Milne, John Nowell, and Emrys Jones were willing to stand again. Rob Jones and Alex Grant had already put their names forward to join the committee. Helen Gilmour volunteered her services from the floor. Bill Dorrell proposed these 5 should be voted in en-block. This was seconded by Peter Mathison and passed unanimously.

11. Election of Honorary Officers for 2013/14

Julian Birch and Peter Lobban were willing to continue as Secretary and Treasurer. David Osborne volunteered from the floor to act as Auditor. They were proposed by Peter Mathison and seconded by Malcolm Adams and voted in unanimously.

12 Close of Business

The Chairman closed business at 12.10pm.

Some informal discussion followed

Peter Lloyd advertised next year's Easter event at Kington and said there were a limited number of places remaining.

Alex Grant informed the group about Inclusive Cycling which is cycling for people with disabilities and which is going to commence locally next spring. He asked for volunteers to assist.

John Hamilton said the Elenydd Audax will be held on April 12th. The Discovering Shropshire rides will be in September/October and after a 4 year break, the 1000k Mille Cymru will take place again at the end of June.

Helen Gilmour talked about the Shropshire Wildlife Meres and Mosses event and the possibility of a cycling aspect to it and mentioned the scope for closer co-operation between the CTC group and the Shropshire Wildlife Trust.