

CTC North Hampshire District Association – Annual General Meeting 5th November 2005, Upton Grey Village Hall

Present:

Officers: Andy Watson (Chairman) Alastair Campbell (Secretary) Mark Beauchamp (Treasurer)

Other committee members: Andrew Heaton, Janice Montgomerie, Stephen Olivant, Heather Rainbow, Diana Wood

Apologies: Adrian Ashurst, Jacky Billington, Caroline Brodie

1. **Minutes of the previous AGM:** Minutes of last meeting as were agreed as tabled.

2. **Matter arising:**

All actions from previous minutes had been actioned.

Members were reminded to inform the Chairman of changes to their email address.

3. **Officer's reports:** Reports from each officer were tabled at the meeting (and are attached) and those present were asked for any comments or questions they had on the reports.

- Chairman: Observation from the meeting that there was no report on Bikeweek. Secretary responded that the CTC had registered our events as part of Bikeweek but otherwise had had no major involvement. George May commented that HCC may be willing to divert funding to promote cycling and wondered whether the CTC could take advantage of this (e.g. whilst in Wareham picked up leaflet of cycle routes round Wareham which was very helpful and informative). Is this something that we wish to follow up on. Committee noted that they would be very happy to support if someone wanted to volunteer to do this. Andrew Heaton mentioned that HCC had asked for tenders to provide a review of off-road routes in Hampshire but this was contractually complicated and time consuming and it might be that we don't tender.
- Secretary: The Secretary reminded event organisers/coordinators that they should follow safety and incident management procedures carefully (two accidents this year have emphasised importance). Also noted that there had been fewer off road rides this year and invited members to volunteer for off road rides. Alastair's work as secretary was commended.
- Treasurer:
 - Maintained substantial financial surplus and committee welcomed any suggestions as to how these funds might best be used.
 - Committee thanked Jeff for auditing the accounts. He had noted that the badges were selling slowly and it was agreed that they should be written off.
 - Robert Watson asked whether the assets of the club were sufficient to allow reductions in charges for riders participating in events. Committee responded that the problem was that the club does not always generate operating surplus (we had a deficit last year) and a later increase in charges back to current levels might cause bad feeling.
 - One question was whether the committee should charge more fully for the expenses incurred in fulfilling their duty. Currently many expenses are borne by the individual committee members. The Chairman noted that all should charge expenses reasonably incurred in fulfilling their duty. An alternative suggested could be to give a nominal fee in lieu of expenses. The decision of the meeting was that committee members should just charge expenses if they so wished.

Action: Committee members to charge expenses

- It was noted that the profit on the audax events is in part because of the low cost of the catering at the events – which is only low because the time spent is not charged.
 - It was suggested that we should publicise more prominently the “money back” arrangement from wiggle. **Action: Andy agreed to note this in the magazine**
- **Publicity:** Publicity this year had been satisfactory - relying heavily on Jacky's good contacts. Jacky is trying to produce posters for the local CTC but there have been some technical difficulties with this which Jacky and Alastair would try and resolve. Question as to whether we should simply get “professionals” in to do this. Committee noted that Bob was already helping with this – but noted the observations made.
 - **Membership:** Membership information this year has been disrupted because of problems with HQ data provision so exact membership numbers are not known, but it is believed that membership has increased. A printed copy of the magazine is sent to new members once only. A question was asked as to why the printed magazine could not be sent to all members free given that all members are not on email, rather than on a charge of £3pa. The Chairman explained that the cost of producing and sending out the magazine on paper was £500 per issue and that new members only receive one printed copy. The £3 charge for a year's paper copies simply covered the cost. Diana Wood also commented that other DAs have always charged and Ray Wood noted that when he was chairman his company subsidised the production of the magazine and while Andy's company has continued this for the last few years this was no longer possible. Peter requested whether a rides list could be circulated to the members of the Thursday group. Individual members agreed that they would provide printed copies to Peter. Peter reluctantly agreed to accept the point.

4. Ride Co-ordinators' reports:

- Alton Saturday: C rides offered in the summer have not attracted any new riders and questioned whether we should continue with these (as it was difficult to get people to volunteer to do this). Alastair suggested whether we should do this as an “optional” ride if we got enquiries from possibly “C” class rides. Andrew mentioned that when he was organising easy off road rides it had worked much more effectively if he arranged the rides on an ‘as needed’ and if necessary one to one basis. Di and Ray mentioned that they offer a B and C rides from the same start point in the summer and they only did the C ride if someone specifically turned up for this.
- Alton Sunday: rides at 0900, fast and medium paced routes – both well supported. Phil Hampton ride will be moved back to the end of March next year given the bad accident last year – event last year raised £200, a significant contribution to the Cyclists Defence Fund.
- Basingstoke: Poor attendance in early 2005 – primarily because of poor weather. Offer a varied programme – at least one on and off road ride a month. Rides starting to pick up. Off road rides picking up riders from Alton – as relatively few off road rides offered from Alton. Andrew would be grateful for any new ride leaders who wanted to volunteer.
- Farnborough: The group has found more ride leaders and rides have started to attract more riders. The group always offered “C” class rides.
- Petersfield: Stephen mentioned that Owen cycles in Petersfield are thinking of giving a booklet with every bike sold detailing local rides and organisations.

5. Right to ride representatives' reports

Committee expressed their thanks to the right to ride representatives.

- East Hants: Diana mentioned how helpful it can be to have a right to ride organiser working closely with EHDC as this meant that cycling issues were put on the agenda when they might not otherwise been. She is heavily involved in the sustrans routes and other local routes round the area, it is hoped that route 23 will be formally opened in March next year. Di is pressing for the new cycle route to Alton along the A339 to be extended all the way into Alton. George May noted the new roadworks around the

Butts following the development of the Chawton Park road site. Next month's community meeting at Eggars School 22nd November 1830 would be about "access to Alton" so good attendance would be useful.

- Basingstoke: Highlights of the report:
 - There have been many changes to the road layouts in Basingstoke which needed substantial input to ensure that cycling users were accommodated.
 - Hampshire Cycling report to be put on the South and North Hants website.
 - Heather had been involved in a consultation with the HA on the impact of the M3 on other road users.
 - Heather has been working hard on the LTP2 (local transport plan 2) – summary of this was that in HCC there is no money or plans for cycling between rural settlements or from the towns to the rural settlements – however they are going to improve cycling into town centres (esp. Basingstoke). Have got cycle targets in LTP2 – but number of cyclists not predicted to rise above 2004 levels – so rather disappointing. Peter suggested that we just put a "bid" in for a large amount – on the assumption that we got much less than this. Heather said that the planners cannot put in bids for money that does not produce results – they have this year reduced their bid for money relating to cycling because they had failed to meet their targets in previous years.
 - Heather congratulated Virginia Mason on receiving the cycling volunteer of the year award.

6. Election of officers: Committee stood down and said that they and Geoff would be happy to stand again. All officers were re-elected unanimously.

- Chairman: Andy Watson
- Secretary: Alastair Campbell
- Treasurer: Mark Beauchamp
- Auditor: Jeff Gibbs
- Publicity: Jacky Billington
- Membership: Sarah Watson
- Ride co-ordinators: Adrian Ashurst, Andrew Heaton, Janice Montgomerie, Caroline Brodie, Stephen Olivant
- Right to ride representatives: Diana Wood, Heather Rainbow

7. National update from David Moxon. Busy year at CTC from council perspective. A new organisation has been appointed to handle membership enquiries and it is hoped that this will improve the very poor situation on handling membership. CTC is moving to new premises in Guildford next year.

CTC has now established a charitable trust for much of its activities. As much of the work that the CTC does is "charitable" in nature, it made sense to turn the CTC into a charity as this would give the CTC more access to funds (from tax breaks and access to trust funds). The scope of activities that the CTC can get involved in is broadened – e.g. initiatives on obesity etc.. CTC is increasing its promotion of off road cycling – a traditionally neglected area by CTC. In particular the CTC will aim to improve access and rights of way for off-road cyclists. Existing arrangements for access pre-date invention of mountain bike and the area therefore needs a fundamental review. One area that they are considering is identifying off-road routes according to the difficulty (e.g. as ski routes).

CTC has also been involved in legislative issues – in particular 4 wheel drive vehicles using rural lanes. Also seeking legislation to allow cyclists to claim a right of way if they have been using for 20 years (as walkers and horseriders do). Noted that Surrey LTP "warmer" for cyclists than Hants., but still not encouraging and that part of the problem was that cycle journeys were not properly counted and that there was no base line against which to measure improvement.

Noted that CTC Council is elected on a three year cycle and elections are coming up – and welcomed any volunteers for Council posts.

Meeting noted that the status of “white roads” on maps is very unclear especially in Hampshire and it would be very helpful if this could be clarified as part of the review of access routes. Noted that Hampshire Ramblers were at one stage doing a survey of “white roads”. Agreed that it would be sensible to coordinate users with similar interests (e.g. cyclists and walkers).

Another major access problem noted by the meeting was the lack of safe crossings of major roads.

Nora May noted that the current CTC membership application form was difficult to fill in – lack of space, small paper.

George noted that historically councils/CPRE did not want to have too much signposting – and it had been suggested that routes should be marked by stones instead..

8. CTC consultation paper

David Moxon said that genesis of the paper was a review by the CTC of how it can be better organised. Proposals have been guided by a DA survey done earlier this year. They believe that groups need to have consistent quality of service from headquarters and riders should be able to choose the group to which they belong – they want to move to a facilitation model rather than dictating how DAs should interface with CTC headquarters.

Committee response: broadly proposals welcomed – enables the DA to continue as a local mainly self financed group whilst allowing individual groups of rides to obtain benefits of the CTC without having to go through a DA (e.g. mid-week fellowship). Happy with the proposal to allow members to choose their DA – only comment is that this transition should be well planned and is a one off change to the systems we are using.

The meeting supported this position. Individual members were invited to provide feedback to HQ using the survey form provided by 19 November. **Action: Alastair to feed back DA view to HQ.**

Andrew Heaton noted that the proposal to use the CTC national mailing to tell new members about local rides should be extended to existing riders at the time of their annual membership renewal. Agreed that this was a good idea. **Action: David Moxon to progress idea of annual renewal mailing to include reminder of local group with CTC HQ.**

9. Awards

- Charlie Dearne Award: Andy Watson.
Ray reminded members of how they entered for the award – simply fill in a form of all events attended.
Charlie Dearne Opposite sex award: Diana Wood.
- Mike Wilson tankard: Diana Wood.
- John & Helen McGivern trophy: Mark Beauchamp

10. AOB

Richard asked about the off road rides organisation. Andy suggested that Andrew Heaton acted as the off road ride coordinator to ensure that we co-ordinate off-road riding across all local areas. Di noted that sometimes we are spread very thinly between rides – e.g. a ride in Basingstoke/Alton on and off road rides.

We could consider adding East Tisted Post Office and Four Mark Golf Club to the rides list as Saturday tea stops.

Alastair noted that a few members had enquired about jerseys. It does not seem economic for the club to get more jerseys made given the current level of interest (as the cost per jersey is very high for a small order) – but if anyone wants to volunteer to co-ordinate an order they should make themselves known to Alastair.

Proposed that a small token of appreciation be give to our ride coordinators - Agreed.

Action: Alastair to organise token of appreciation for ride co-ordinators

11. Date and time for next year's AGM

5th November 2006, coffee 10.00 for 1030 start Upton Grey.