

West Surrey CTC Group

Draft Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 26th March 2015, at 4 Quarry Hill, Godalming.

Present

Mark Waters [Chairman], Laurie Mutch, John Murdoch, Nick Davison, Roger Philo, John Child.

Apologies for Absence

Arthur Twiggs

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Agreed nem con.

Matters Arising

The Actions List was reviewed. Particular items to note as follows:

AGM 13-3 JM reported that the situation is improving.

CM 14-20 Track Session is on hold.

CM 14-21 Spokeman Repairs – there is now a page on the website with six suppliers found to offer a good service. However, there has been no mention of any use of the Spokeman Repairs.

CM 14-24 Golden Crank awarded at the club's dinner to Paul Gillingham.

CM14-25 Committee Communications on internet – MW reported that Wiggio is being used for some topics.

Secretary's Report

Two new guest riders had reached three rides which is the maximum allowed under CTC insurance requirements. Both stated that they had joined CTC but their names were not on the latest list from CTC – ND to send email addresses to JM to contact them Action item????.

Treasurer's Report

No report as AT absent. MW stated that it was important that the balance of the club's account be reported at each meeting irrespective of the treasurer's attendance.

Incidents

None reported.

Urgent Actions Sub-Committee.

No report

Volunteer Registration

None

Ride Leaders Workshop

LM updated the meeting on progress [an email had been circulated just before the meeting].

The workshop has been arranged for Saturday 9th May at the Bird in Hand PH; no charge will

be incurred for the room. One free drink will be provided from club funds. Neil Eason will send out an email to all ride leaders including a request for topics; there will be three sessions with rotation between each with Chris Williamson and Brian Ross acting as coordinators so far. A feedback session at the end followed by email request will be carried out. Action item CM 15-3.

With increasing ride group sizes, it is planned to invite Chris Juden to describe his signpost method for ride leading. LM will pick out the most important elements of the Club Guidelines and circulate to the committee with a view to posting on the website. Action item CM 15-4

First Aid Training for Ride Leaders

An email has been sent out by LM with course details inviting ride leaders to attend. The course would be a whole day on the 16th May at Signa Training at Clapham Common in South London. Attendees would be expected to pay for travelling costs. LM to confirm that the course is specifically for cyclists. -Action item CM 15-1

Club Annual Dinner 2015

JM reported that 58 booked but 51 attended; those who cancelled prior to the event will not be charged whereas those who simply did not turn up will be charged. An overall loss of £32.50 was incurred taking into account a free meal for the speaker. It was felt that the quality of service could be improved but the value for money was good and we were not charged for the room or bar service. It is planned to go back to the same venue next year.

Website

There were no changes planned. The Google calendar facility is being worked on so that members can download to their phone calendar. A problem arose with the rides list where a recent ride start time was incorrect due to manual transposing from the list published in the magazine Action item CM 15-6. After some discussion it was agreed not to introduce a Facebook page. A Dropbox repository had been set up by JC and LM to store ride courses in GPX format with details of coffee and lunch stops.

A sincere vote of thanks was made by the committee to JC for his work on the website.

Events in 2015

12th April - Reliability Rides 35 and 50 miles

31st May - Elstead Audaxes [Stonehenge 200, Danebury 150 and Elstead 100]

21st June – Off road Ride [will be organised by AT]

19th July - 75 and 100 mile rides

16th August [provisional] - Tour of the Hills Audax and Tour of the Greensand.

Event Reports

15th March - Bicycle Icycle – 7 riders took part in rather damp conditions. Possible reduction in numbers due to a clash with Mothering Sunday.

Publicity

MW understood that the CTC had sent a publicity package to ND but this was denied. MW to chase this up. The publicity working party will procure our own banners etc. Action item CM 15-2

MW stated that he had put our events onto the CTC DATC events website – he had put in links to the AUK website where appropriate, but was unable to put in a Paypal link owing to lack of knowledge or information.

Surrey Hills Logo - the Surrey Hills Society's new brand manager was worried that our use of the logo would 'dilute the brand'. It had been previously agreed that the club could use the logo with the payment of £25 for membership of the Society. MW suggested that we continue to pay to be a member and keep a low profile: this was agreed.

Possible EGM with regard to recent changes in CTC's overall 'direction'

The committee considered the suggestion that they should call an EGM of West Surrey CTC to debate some form of motion that the Club should split from CTC, "convert" to an affiliated club, or for two clubs to run in tandem, at least initially. It was noted that those members suggesting the committee should take this action are also considering calling an EGM themselves, on the same basis.

A detailed discussion ensued, considering such issues as insurance for ride leaders, the accumulation of funds currently with West Surrey (broadly generated by events and CTC central funding), and ensuring that, upon any change, the commitment of those who currently work to ensure that the club functions effectively (Ride Leaders, Webmaster, Rides Secretary, other committee members, event organisers etc) was retained.

Prior to the meeting the views of as many active members as possible had been canvassed whilst out on rides, and whilst there are clearly varying degrees of "distaste" over some of CTC's recent actions, and the direction of travel of the organisation, the majority remained uninterested in the politics of it all and simply wished to continue to use the club to enjoy social riding, being prepared to pay an annual sub to CTC to do so. There was also material support for the view that the CTC should have a major campaigning role for cycling generally.

The committee concluded that, whilst they too shared major concerns over CTC's recent actions and apparent failures of governance, they also understood that all organisations needed to change over time, and most of all accepted that their prime responsibility should be to protect the best interests of West Surrey CTC's existing members. They were concerned that any proposed change could well lead to the fragmentation of the Club, and reduced opportunities for shared riding, particularly if the services of key members were lost. It was therefore decided unanimously that it would not be in the best interest of the Club for the committee to call an EGM to consider any motion, and it would also be inappropriate, noting that the committee themselves could not recommend any such motion being passed.

The views of those members who were considering calling an EGM were fully acknowledged, but it was hoped that that they, too, would act in the broad interests of the Club and not take any actions which could well lead to fragmentation.

Any Other Business

1. Coffee stops: with the increasing number of riders [45 at Watts Gallery recently] on Wednesday rides problems of congestion at the cafes was evident despite Phil Hamilton sending out the rides list well in advance. JM stated that he emailed the café just before the ride as well, but this was denied by staff at a recent visit to Watts Gallery. JM stated that he may post up on the website and inform riders at the start of

the ride that there will be a different café stop for Groups 4 and 3, should the weather be favourable for large turnouts of riders.

2. Quarterly Club Lunch – this was raised as a means of being more inclusive recognising that we already have one in the calendar in early January every year.

Date of the Next Meeting

To be held on Thursday 2nd July at 10am at the same venue. It was felt that the following meeting would be held in late October [after the 24th] before the AGM in early November.
