

Banbury Star Cyclists Club – General Meeting – 15 Sept 2015

Eric Smith – the club was informed of Eric's recent fall and time in hospital. We all send him our best wishes.

1) Apologies for absence

Tom Giddings, Adam Parle, David Speck, Dave Anson, Rebecca Biegel, Carlos [], Moira Goodway,

2) Minutes of the last meeting/adoption

Minutes are unavailable, as they we lost them.

3) Matters arising from the minutes

Owing to missing minutes, none.

4) Correspondence – Wiggle Partnership

Wiggle are offering partnerships to clubs. This would require their banners on our website and social media. In return, we would get % commission on various terms.

We agreed not to take up the offer as the club prefers to support local businesses.

5) New members

Nicky welcomed the new members to the club. We now have 104 members.

6) Club finances

Michelle presented the cash position. We have just over £5,000 in the bank. We are still struggling to get the money out of the paypal account.

Of the £5,000, £1,000 relates to funding from the rotary for the BCCF. We also have £570 left over from the race team sponsorship monies. We also owe CTT £1,208 for levies for the Weds night TTs.

We agreed to use the BCCF donation monies to subsidise the Christmas dinner (so that the price of the ticket is £10).

We are also going to investigate a velodrome trip and use the sponsorship money to fund the trip. (LS to action).

7) Racing

Timetrail courses were discussed over Facebook and were finalised at meeting on [date]. We have sent these to CTT and we are waiting for them to approve. They include a selection of 10s, a 25, a 5, hilly 15 and a 30 mile course. Luke described these to the club (they are available on the FB page)

Date set for hardriders – Sunday 6 March.

The club Weds timetrials were again funded by the club, as was the case in the prior year, to about £250.

Thanks again to Keri for being timekeeper for the whole TT season.

8) Club dinner

The club dinner date is Friday 11 December. Same venue and caterers.

We are looking for a speaker at the dinner. Nicky is going to ask Simon Smart again.

9) New venue for club meetings

Discussed at the end of the meeting in AOB.

10) New road race organiser

We need a new road race organiser as Dave is hanging up his organiser's jersey. Paul Dean offered to help in the run up to the event (but is on holiday for the event), alongside Dave, but we need a main organiser for the event.

We agreed that we need to have an organiser in time for the January AGM otherwise we'll need to cancel the event.

11) Opening up the Leiden Plaque

Luke explained the Leiden Plaque competition. This is between Oxonion, Oxford City and Banbury Star, although Oxford City are struggling to field a team. There are potentially other clubs who are interested (Didcot Phoenix, Bicester Millenium, Cawley Road Condors, Zappis). If we want to open up the competition, we would need to seek approval from the other existing clubs.

Extending the members would reduce our organisation responsibility as each club takes it in turns to organise the event.

The Leiden Plaque is a 25 TT. It is a handicap event on a Sunday. The plaque was given to Oxonion by a cycling club in Leiden (Holland), which is twinned with Oxford. The event tends to use the same course each year (H25/17 – Oxford to Swindon).

We also discussed whether to have the A5 interclub (10TT) opened up to other clubs too. Keri explained that we would need to carefully manage this as we wouldn't be able to organise/manage a field larger than about 60.

We agreed to ask the other clubs about opening up the Leiden Plaque but we won't open up the A5 interclub TT.

12) Paul Dean

a) Next year is the 125 anniversary year. What should we do, throughout the year, to commemorate it.

eg,

aim for 125 members

large en masse summer ride to commemorate

commemorative pennant

special jersey

Paul has agreed to take this forward.

Things to consider:

- Find a pub to base the ride from
- Distance.... 125km ride (although there was concern that this would exclude some members and other halves).
- Need to think of marketing and promo (posters, Ken might be able to do a reasonably priced kit).

b) FB – we confirmed that the site is secure and Nicky and Tom

c) Website – why does it take such a long time to open the webpage. Need to ask Dave to investigate.

13) Ride leader training

Bill Ord raised whether we could run some ride leader training sessions – there are a number of people who could participate as many people lead rides at the weekend, according to who turns up on the day.

British Cycling offer a course for 10 people that costs around £1,000 but this doesn't seem good value for money. We have enough experience within the club to be able to put something on.

Nicky feels that we should train as many people as possible so that there isn't one individual who is the 'ride leader' on a ride but that everyone is able to share the responsibility.

Nicky and Luke will take forward organising a session (to ask Tom if he'll help).

14) Wiggle partnership

Dealt with at 4)

15) AOB

A reminder that we have a kit order pending. If you want to order kit, please let Michelle know as soon as possible.

Reliability ride is on 4 October. Woodgreen Leisure Centre. HQ open at 8.30am and first wave at 8.30am. We had 80 people at the Spring ride, so let's beat that number for the Autumn!

16) Keri Williams

Nicky explained that she has chosen to stand down as President now, as her course is starting in September and she needs to free up some time.

She made a short speech as follows

Looking for a card for Eric, I found a birthday one with a bicycle on, it said 'MALE cards' on back.. this got me thinking about a subject I suspect most of you won't want me to talk about...sexism and misogyny.

So, I've been very proud to have represented the club as President for the last four years, but I have encountered some disappointing attitudes along the way from some people... I have been ignored in favour of whichever male person I've been present with, sometimes that male person has corrected the other by saying 'no, SHE is the president' but sometimes not, which leaves me a choice of saying something like 'actually I AM the President and sounding like a sulky kid, or not challenging and staying quiet.

This often happens with women I find, we stay quiet, as we are not sure whether we're just being touchy, or have a chip on the shoulder.,well, let me inform you it's very very hard not to have such a chip when you meet tiny little or even great big ridiculous attitudes all the time which reinforce the 'men do sport, men are in charge Its ok to be sexist' type of attitude.

In the words of one Rotary club member about another 'he's just old fashioned' when he had STATED he is sexist and therefore girls should do the tea and cake, the boys could do the outside jobs If I'm in doubt about whether I am over reacting, a handy little trick is to substitute racism into the mix. So, for example, the cards in M and S; could they have 'white people cards' on the back? Clearly not.. therefore that's , uh oh, incorrect .

.another example, could a rotary club chap say 'because I'm racist, the blacks can be outside in the sun doing the car parking , ' Again, clearly NO !

Sometimes, it seems that men are being protective, kind and helpful towards 'ladies' and cannot understand why this feels so disempowering..again, imagine that towards another race of people.., we need to care for , protect, look after you ..how bloody patronising !

Even using the word 'lady' if you are not using 'gentlemen' in the same sentence gives the impression of inability to be on an equal footing with men, for example some bike shops have men's bikes and ladies bikes..not men and women's bikes... if they had gentlemans bikes.. you'd expect a 3 speed and a saddlebag..No ?

So a ladies bike would have a super curved top tube and a basket (and quite likely be pink too...)

Another example of how words which are not well thought out of mine is the word 'bossy', a word used about me at one point...(whilst being the 'boss !') do you ever hear of men called bossy ? Not often.. they are 'leaders' , or strong, etc. Bossy is a word used to keep girls and women down.

Ok you may not agree with all of this, but I wanted to thank you all for voting me in in the first place and allowing us to challenge, as a club, the notion in some people's minds that women and men are unequal in sport.

I also want to ensure I leave behind a legacy of equality, where boys and girls are encouraged equally to take part and compete, and women are encouraged to join the club in greater numbers and to feel comfortable riding with men, and of equal value .

Thanks again

Keri was asked to man the decks in the interim period to the January AGM, when we will elect our new President. Keri agreed!

So Keri will take on a few tasks in the intervening period (eg, reviewing Facebook, reviewing club correspondence, making sure that the weekend rides are happening and resourced).

Keri thanked Nicky for being President. (COPY IN)

17)Date for next meeting

We also need to find a venue for the next meeting – Keri will investigate.

AGM date is 26 January.