

The Charlotteville Cycling Club

Formed 1903

President: J. Goodge

www.charlottevillecc.org.uk



Minutes of Monthly Committee Meeting

Held at 8.00pm on Tuesday 27th September 2022 at OGAC Clubhouse

Attendees: Meeting chaired by Andy Milner (AM) with Will Readhead (WR) Duncan Ross (DR) Torben Vest (TV) Mark Blackman (MB) Neil Herbert (NH) and Minutes taken by Rupert Chase (RC)

Apologies: James Curry, Austin Bell, Jon Goodge, Paul Wheeler, Elodie Hudson (EH) Andrew Munton

Item	From Agenda	Action
1	<p>Confirmation and approval of July and August Minutes.</p> <p>There were no committee meetings in July and August, hence no Minutes for approval.</p> <p>Club Survey – see the full transcript of the document produced by AM at the foot of these Minutes</p> <p>In July and August members were invited to complete a survey produced by AM and incorporating additional questions from the Committee.</p> <p>AM recorded his thanks to all those who responded to the survey and his analysis is contained in a document which has been circulated to members via various Whatsapp Group Chats and other Club media. Noted that the survey was not completed by all members.</p> <p>A full review of the survey is needed, and debate at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) so that the needs of club members may be pin pointed and actions taken</p> <p>Survey responses may be summarised thus;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Racing: we like competitive rides and do not want this to change. Retain the Open 10M TT but re-consider or drop the Open 50M TT. Introduce Category 4 racing, perhaps an inter-club event on a special circuit. Our club plus two other local ones. Create events in which members may participate- Formalization of helpers at club events. Secure helpers early in the planning stage and offer inducements and show appreciation	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Location of social nights so as to maximise appeal and consequent attendance - Photography skills were declared by some members. NH will encourage these members to make themselves available for Club events and encourage any member to send in photos from club events <p>Appreciation was expressed to AM for his considerable work in drafting the survey and summarising it's results.</p>	
2	<p><i>Racing and Events Programme with a focus on;</i></p> <p>Club Hilly TT: Evidently time has run out to stage this event this year. Early consideration of an approved course is needed to ensure that this event returns to it's usual time in March next year.</p> <p>Weekly Women's Rides: It is pleasing to note that some women from the ladies only rides on Tuesday evenings are participating now in the Saturday social rides</p> <p>Club Hills: These have been well attended evidencing their success</p> <p>Club Nights: Judging by attendances at the OGAC clubhouse, this venue is not generally appealing to members and so consideration needs to be given to alternative venues and formats. Perhaps six social evenings per annum could be considered with venue and themes, for example guest speakers, quiz nights, and ten pin bowling. Maybe our TCR sponsors could be approached as guest speakers</p>	C'TEE
3	<p><i>Finance Update</i></p> <p>The appointment of two new signatories to our Scottish Widows account has been an ongoing issue and requires now, early resolution.</p> <p>There is a small deficit year to date but a substantial sum is awaited from one TCR sponsor (Sigma Sports) which would amply erase it. The total of Member subscriptions is substantial as also, are receipts from Rascals.</p> <p>It was decided to remain with British Cycling (BC) for collection of membership subscriptions.</p>	DR

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	<p>Spinning classes and the Track cycling events have broken even.</p> <p>OGAC Rent for next six months is due now.</p> <p><i>See also Section 6, Kit Update.</i></p>	
4	<p><i>Website and Member Communications Update (see also the club survey below)</i></p> <p>NH has kindly taken on the role of Club Communications and was thanked for the excellent and considerable work undertaken to date.</p> <p>NH reported that he is posting on Instagram, Facebook etc., although communication with BC needs sorting.</p> <p>Members should feed stories as well as photos to NH although stories need to be kept brief.</p> <p>NH will contact EH for her posts on the regular Women's Rides for circulation and also, will send posts from the weekly Spinning sessions.</p>	NH
5	<p><i>2022 Subscriptions Renewals & New Membership</i></p> <p>MB reported that there are 233 active club members including Rascals.</p> <p>Committee considered raising at the AGM the prospect of increasing the annual subscription by £1 to £30 including the £1 BC fee. Alternatively, there could be a more substantial increase but in return the club would offer more. Although club activities are funded by participants for example, club time trials and spinning sessions, where there is a funding shortfall the club steps in to cover the costs.</p> <p>Consideration needs to be given to how subscriptions and our Scottish Widows funds are spent. For example, these could fund Ride Leader courses and consequent First Aider training albeit that Ride Leaders also would require insurance at additional cost.</p> <p>The Committee is considering whether to make clear to new joiners (as well as existing members) that there is some expectation that they should volunteer to assist at two club events</p>	C'TEE

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	at least per annum. This would help to avoid the on-going problem of volunteer shortages.	
6	<p><i>Kit Update</i></p> <p>A stock take is needed for all existing kit with JC to be asked kindly to undertake this. Similarly Matt Legge is to be asked for an update on stock of Rascals Club kit.</p> <p>The Club needs to know what remains and what to do with it. It is mainly Rascals kit.</p> <p>No doubt a window will be opened soon, for members to purchase Club kit. JC is to provide sales figures for the most recent sales window.</p>	JC
7	<p><i>Supporting Rascal Racing</i></p> <p>Rascals' coaches have asked the Committee to consider offering cheaper Second Claim membership fees to help retain their membership and involvement with the club as they age and move out of the area for further education and jobs.</p> <p>The club need to offer events that include Rascals involvement to make them feel included in the club</p>	
8	<p><i>Developing the Club and Widening Participation (see also the survey below)</i></p> <p>Bike handling skills. Perhaps Jon Goodge could comment on whether we can use the Kart Track in Camberley?</p> <p>Can we appoint a Club member to provide Road Race coaching?</p> <p>Spinning classes commence next week and perhaps Rascals should be invited to participate</p>	JG C'TEE
9	<p><i>AOB</i></p> <p>Use of the OGAC clubroom needs consideration in view of our usage of it versus our costs. Guildford Borough Council want multiple users and those using it to pay their fair share of rent and maintenance costs. The Rugby club considers that these costs fall disproportionately on them, as made clear at a periodic</p>	C'TEE

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	<p>meeting on 26th September at OGAC. This could impact upon our annual subscription costs. If our costs were to increase then the club would need either to make more use of OGAC or look elsewhere.</p> <p>A Social Secretary is needed to replace Jan, who returned to Germany earlier in the year. AM will seek a new incumbent at the AGM.</p> <p>WR suggested that we should hold six social events per annum and that they should be as inclusive as possible. However, the location and format need deciding upon. Possibilities include quiz nights, guest speakers, ten pin bowling.</p> <p>So that the OGAC clubroom may be used independently of non-club members, the club needs both to train members for bar services and to extend the number of clubroom key-holders. A list of key-holders is needed.</p> <p>The club's garage located in Park Barn requires a clear out and tidy up.</p> <p>Consideration to be given to a special club run in 2023 to mark the club's 120 year anniversary. RC mentioned that the Club's Centenary was marked by a ride out to Cranleigh tracing the Club's first ever club run in 1903. Although the Centenary run was short in distance it was followed by extensive refreshments and was more of a social event.</p> <p>There being no other business matters raised, the meeting was concluded.</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p><i>Date of next meeting</i></p> <p><i>Monday 7th November at the OGAC at 7.00pm: a preparation meeting for the AGM</i></p> <p><i>Friday 18th November, the AGM at 7.00pm at OGAC Clubhouse</i></p>	

Charlottesville CC Club Survey – initial feedback- “A Club not a Clique”

Introduction

Charlottesville CC ran a survey for members with a variety of questions about what the club offers currently, what it should offer members in the future and what other feedback the members had for the club. In addition, an evening meeting was held where the same areas and questions were discussed.

49 members replied to the survey and a further 10 attended the evening meeting in person.

General Feedback

The feedback from the members who responded to the survey was generally pleasing in many areas. There was consistent positive feedback regarding the how the club has developed into one that was open, friendly and welcoming. Members universally liked our kit, our very fair subscription rates and many praised the wide range of rides and ability groups on Sunday rides.

My favourite quote must be “A club not a clique”

The majority of respondents were happy to offer their time to volunteer twice or more per year and many were also happy to volunteer to join club committee roles.

Members were indeed happy to Marshall and organise events, though there were several comments that volunteers wanted to support and use their time at events that our own Charlottesville members were competing in.

A number of members were not happy with our Communications and that we did not share information widely enough via different routes to ensure all knew what was going on.

There was feedback that we have many trophies that are not being awarded and that was a shame, this connected in well to comments that we need to celebrate our great club history and do a good job of keeping that alive and accessible including club documents and photos.

Club nights came in for some criticism both in that committee meetings overran into the club night and that besides the less than salubrious facilities at the Rugby Club we didn't offer enough interest to get people attending.

Specific Areas

In terms of what members wanted more of areas that stood out were more epic long day rides and tours and Sportives as a group, including abroad. Opportunities to compete with their peers locally, Cat 4 racing, There was also some interest in Cyclo - Cross.

What members wanted less of was monthly club house social nights, replace them with less regular better events with a theme or speaker. Less open racing events if we don't have riders interested in competing.

Next Steps

Working with the club committee we will put forward some proposals to reflect the feedback which will be published well in advance of the AGM for members to consider.

Areas to tackle

1. Communications

Current issues are that members access info on the club from via various routes and channels and there is insufficient information getting out beyond WhatsApp.

- Proposed Action

Appoint a communications Manager who is able to work across all channels inc email, FB, WhatsApp and media to produce a weekly newsletter or similar to be distributed with recent activities and what is coming up.

Appoint 2 club reporters who are regular riders to support comms manager with narrative and photos.

Potential volunteers recorded during survey.

2. Social Events

Currently club members do not think the combined committee and social events at the clubhouse work, as one overruns the other. The lack of other diversions beyond the bar limits appeal as do the surroundings. Other events such as Quiz nights faded away over COVID.

Proposed Action

Committee meetings will be run on Mondays with the committee operating the bar themselves. Club nights will be on a Friday every 2 months with a specific theme or speaker and will be well advertised.

A Social Secretary will be appointed to plan and run 6 Club Nights, the Annual Dinner and a winter Curry and Summer BBQ.

3. Relevant TT Racing

Feedback from members showed that they were interested in competitive riding on a basis that was accessible and relevant to them. Equally, volunteers love to help out especially where they see club colours actively taking part. Riders wanted categories they could realistically compete in.

Proposed Action

Institute an inter-club championship with 2 other local clubs, Godalming & Haslemere have shown interest plus one other club that covers Hilly, 10's and Hill Climbs to be competed for within and across clubs.

Widen categories of competition to meet the members needs to include road bike/best 2 up team/mixed pair/best 6 -10's /veteran categories as well as handicap, new rider, juniors, juvenile

Continue to promote an open 10 on H10/8
No longer to promote an Open 50.

An inter club sec would be appointed to work with other clubs above and Surrey University to bring the programme together.

4. Relevant Racing

Our members are competitive but are interested in racing they could potentially compete in as a Cat 3 or Cat 4 inexperienced racer or veteran against similar riders potentially with other local clubs, current circuit racing that we organise does feel as if it is for them.

Proposed Action

Continue to promote our Blue Riband event the TCR with greater emphasis on local communications to raise awareness of Charlotteville as a club.
With local Partner clubs look to run Cat 4 racing events that build on racing skills coaching.
Consider whether we can develop a Masters Coaching process and team
Encourage participation and visibility of Cyclo - Cross events by hold coaching and bike prep sessions with a view to running our own events
Ask Andy Calladine to develop Cat 4 local events
Ask Jon Goodge to work on widening access to Cyclo - Cross.

5. Club Together Activities

There was a strong feeling in the feedback that riders wanted the club to do more things together on the bike. We have managed a decent turnout at some Sportives like Fred Whitton and Little Lumpy and some riders doing epic rides and a trip to IOW.

Proposed Action

For 2023 we would appoint a club together secretary to organise the following.
A long weekend tour in the UK.
An IOW event
A series of 3 epic rides in the Summer with varied pace groups
An international trip or event
Clearer communications for riders ahead of time for groups to participate in Sportives and Audax events

6. Keeping Rascals in the club

There was varied feedback on this, but I particularly took note of Rascals Coaches and a Rascal who responded. Rascals are generally interested in racing and their interest can naturally wane as they get older or move on to University.

Proposed Action

Offer Rascals leaving home and University of Surrey Riders a £10 membership to join the club, potentially as a second claim.
Ensure comms reaches rascals regarding all club activities
Ensure Rascal Parents know our safeguarding rules regarding younger riders and how they can join in.

7. Opening Up to new riders

We have had a very positive response from the new female riders to the club who have been riding on Tuesday evenings. The Saturday 30-mile ride is in response to some of their feedback. We do get enquiries from riders

Proposed Action

Offer off road, possibly Kart track confidence building sessions for new riders and riders wanting to develop their skills in high speed group riding.

8. Extending Appeal of Club Rides

Feedback on Club Rides was very positive, and we can look to build on that further.

Proposed Action

For 2023 an on we can institute a Saturday 30 miler for riders with limited time, this would be an early start of 0730 or 0800
Reinitiate the Gravel and MTB group with a specific secretary

9. Trophy Reset

A number of members have commented that it is disappointing to see so many trophies not being awarded, either that no one has competed for the category or event cancellations due to Covid.

Proposed Action

Form a group with an experienced core of members who know the detail of trophies history and combine that with widening racing categories and participation as described earlier to allow all Trophies to find a home each year.