**CYCLING UK LINCOLNSHIRE CHAIR’S ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

Thanks to Andy Townhill for organising the AGM at the Village Hall in Heighington.

On the subject of renewal, there’s been an upgrade to Cycling UK’s website which took place in October 2023, although there have been some ‘bugs’ especially in using our groups toolkit and publicity page. Discussions are ongoing with Alex Cuppleditch, Julie Rand and IT managers.

In June 2023, Cycling UK Gainsborough under Trevor Halstead’s stewardship organised a number of events for Cycling UK’s Bike Week including a Charity Ride in aid of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire Air Ambulance. From sponsorship, donations and additional monies from selling donated cycles, a grand total of £1000 was raised and presented to the charity on a special evening in January 2024. Quite an achievement.

Cycling UK Lincolnshire was also able to run its annual Audax event. The ‘Lincoln Imp’ took place on 27th April 2024 which saw about 75 riders enjoy the hilly route providing valuable funds for the Member Group. Next year it’s hoped to run 100 km and 50 km distances. Congratulations to Andy Townhill for organising the Audax ride and to his team of helpers.

With regard to Campaigning, it’s once again been a busy year, Melanie Carroll attending and participating in a number of online discussions, forums, presentations and events. Melanie is a passionate campaigner and continues her volunteering across many positions including Cycling UK’s Cycle Advocacy Network and remains a Cycling UK Trustee.

At the invitation of Global Sleaford’s Les Parker, Cycling UK Lincolnshire took part in Sleaford’s RiverLight Festival in October 2023 with Tim Newbery assisting the pedal powered cinema. In January 2024 Cycling UK Louth also assisted with Active Lincolnshire’s Wheels For Life Bike Donation Scheme with an inaugural cycle ride at Louth’s Leisure Centre to help launch the Louth Hub. There are now hubs across the county and the scheme has been so successful that several are at capacity.

Cycling UK’s values aim to guide us in our day to day working and long-term planning and underpin our vision of a healthier and cleaner world because more people cycle. Cycling UK Lincolnshire welcomes current and would be volunteers and with invitations to this year’s AGM reaching 283 members, it’s hoped to gain valuable support for our future endeavours.

We look forward to a busy and successful year ahead across Lincolnshire, with a full programme of rides and events to include an organised ride as part of Lincolnshire Wolds Outdoor Festival on Saturday 11th May. Volunteers’ Week from 3rd to 9th June and Bike Week from 10th to 16th June are further highlights. We also have an article all about Cycling UK Lincolnshire in the March 2024 edition of Lincolnshire Life!

Tim Newbery

Chair Cycling UK Lincolnshire