**CYCLING UK EAST MIDLANDS REGION**

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM**

**ON MONDAY 28 OCTOBER 2024**

Present: Ian Prince (Notts CTC) – Chairman

Tim Newbery (Cycling UK Lincs) – Secretary

John Catt (Leics & Rutland CTC)

Terry Scott (Notts CTC)

Ian Hill (Derby & Burton CTC)

Jean Deacon (Minutes Secretary)

Ray Clay (Leics & Rutland CTC)

**1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies.

**2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Treasurer’s report: the funds stood at £1,727 after expenditures.

The minutes were then signed as a true record of the meeting of Monday 15 July 2024.

**3 MATTERS ARISING**

Business cards – Tim had found a company called Pelican Trust in Lincoln who would produce 500 cards for £32. Ian explained about free cards which were very plain and simple. Other possibilities for cards were discussed.

**4 CORRESPONDENCE**

Tim had received *Cycle Clips* and various emails from Ian Prince. He had also received an email from Alex Cuppleditch with reference to the points he had sent in and actions taken on the AGM motions, especially around co-option and diversification of the board of trustees. Other feedback had been noted and further changes to the financial returns process would be incorporated over the financial year, including a full review of member groups.

Ian Prince thanked Tim for the list of names to contact at National Office; he had had discussions there which were very helpful and was now getting all the emails he needed to get.

**5 TREASURER’S REPORT**

Current funds stood at £1,727; since the previous meeting there had been no changes to income or expenditure.

Tim had received an email request from CPRE for £36 subscription and asked whether this should be continued; Derby had cancelled theirs. This membership was a legacy from previous Chairs and Secretaries who were keen to keep it going. Tim received the magazine but nobody was interested in reading it. After discussion it was agreed to continue with membership and Ian Hill to deal with it.

**6 REPORTS ON EVENTS HELD**

Nothing had taken place in the name of the E Mids Region but many local events had taken place across the Region. Ian Hill had run the annual Challenge Ride from Derby to Skegness which all completed. Terry reported that their annual September audax raised just over £700 for the Air Ambulance. The Leics and Rutland web site had details of the annual President’s Ride on 8 September; this went ahead but with only about 8 riders. The Charnwood Remembrance Ride on 6 October had had to be cancelled due to very bad weather.

**7 FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**Mince Pie Run, 2024** – this would be on 22 December. John was waiting for confirmation about the tombola. He went through what would need to be ordered; he had a to-do list to be worked through, which included advertising on social media. Covid no longer seemed to be a problem; it was now just down to the weather. Ian Hill said he would speak to Jean Lakin about helping and Terry said his mates would also help.

**8 EAST MIDLAND CHALLENGE RIDE AND TOUR OF EAST MIDLANDS ROUTE**

**Challenge Ride** – Ian Hill was looking at changing this as to what sort of ride it should be: for tourists or for families. Ways of doing this were discussed. It was suggested fixing a date for this for next year and possible dates were discussed. It was suggested aiming it at retired people and doing it mid-week. It was agreed to do this event in early June and Tim offered to help if needed.

**Tour of East Midlands Route** – this could involve various areas of interest within the region – finding time to work it all out was the problem. John said he may be able to do this in a few years’ time. Different potential parts of the route were discussed. The possibility of getting sponsorship from someone like Premier Inn or Travel Lodge was considered – it could be possible to arrange the route to link in with these.

**9 REPORTS OF MEETINGS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS**

The only link now was with the CPRE who generally wanted money.

**10 PUBLICITY**

Tim reported that Ray Clay had now been inducted into the Roll of Honour and a write-up and photo sent to National Office. An article was also on the Region’s web site.

As administrator for the Region, Tim now had access to all the groups’ web sites; however there was still no time scale as to when the old and new web sites would be merged and the old one still had to be used to send group emails. The group email facility was only available for individual groups and not for the Region (the E Mids Region being the only one) and there was no indication of when this situation would change.

**11 LOCAL GROUP INITIATIVES**

Tim had emailed business cards to everyone – these would be worth bearing in mind for all groups. He had spoken to Pelican Trust in Lincs and they would be happy to do them for other groups; Tim could give their details to groups or liaise between them. Possibilities were discussed. Ian Hill mentioned mudguard stickers and said he would try to find a link to these on the internet. National Office used to supply these and it was felt they should be asked to do so again. Tim had asked for free things to hand out last time he was advertising Cycling UK; they no longer did anything like this but he said he would ask again. It was suggested that groups could have their own made.

**12 CAMPAIGNS AND POLICIES WITHIN THE REGION**

The representative for this had not been in touch. In Lincolnshire there was now a new Active Travel contact in the County Council. Melanie Carrroll was also the East Midlands Region Campaigns Manager.

**13 NATIONAL OFFICE MATTERS**

Tim had had discussions with Alex Cuppleditch and Sarah Mitchell about the new strategy or 5-Year Plan, and also about other aspects of governance and the trustees.

The National Office AGM was on 27 September; there was a lot of information in the magazine, on the web site and in *Cycle Clips.* Their AGMs would now be fully virtual and not hybrid - Tim explained how this would affect the meetings. Questions could be sent in before the meeting and also during it, but he said there was in reality very little general participation, although one question did raise the point of the lack of visibility of the organisation, many people never having heard of Cycling UK. The current meeting agreed that there should be more advertising to spread the word.

Trustee elections – deadline for voting was 9.00 the following day. Tim outlined the background to the role of the trustees.

**14 ANY OTHER BUSNESS**

The Tri-Vets event would be coming up in the next few years and the meeting was asked to think about whether the Region wanted to organise this.

Audax would be running a London-Edinburgh-London event in June/July and one of the control points would be in Louth.

**15 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 20 January 2025 via Zoom.