

Wirral Cycling Group

Committee Meeting Minutes – 7pm Tuesday 4th March 2025

Present:

David Brewer (Chair), David Branch (Secretary), Steve Downs (Treasurer), Anne Lear (Membership Secretary), Peter Williams (Ride Lead Coordinator), David Hill, Mike Elkins

1. Apologies

None

2. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the last committee meeting on 10th December 2024 were approved as an accurate record. Matters Arising were discussed at the relevant agenda items.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer had explored the option of transferring bank account to Santander, but they required all committee members to be Santander personal customers; so the decision was to stay with Lloyds – signatories now resolved. **Action closed.**

The Treasurer had also looked at alternative options to Cycling UK for group insurance. The only real option is British Cycling, which has no additional benefits. The decision was to stay with Cycling UK. **Action closed.**

4. Feedback from Ride Leader Training

Peter Williams has picked up the management of the ride leader rota and also arranged ride leader training courses; these were attended by 24 members and appear to have been well received. There was a good, lively discussion and sharing of ideas. We currently have 18 active ride leaders.

It was agreed that more specific data on ride distances, speeds, climbing etc should be highlighted in ride descriptions to try and prevent riders tackling rides unsuited to their capabilities.

A note has been sent to all members on the use of what3words and ICE function on mobile phones.

Dave Brewer has updated the Roles & Responsibilities document and will arrange with John Hampson to publish it on the website. Dave Brewer will also discuss with John Hampson updating the ride leader manual with the learning outcomes from the sessions.

ACTION : Dave Brewer to liaise with John Hampson to publish the updated Roles & Responsibilities Document and about updating the ride leader manual.

5. Website

The Ride leader rota has been published up to 2nd June.

It was agreed that recce rides should not be added to the list of planned rides. They would remain informal gatherings arranged by the ride leader.

6. Incident Reports

No new incidents reported in this period.

7. Facebook

Dave Hill reported that we had 882 members on our Facebook Group. There is some concern about 3rd parties using our page to excessively promote their own interests / agendas. It was agreed that occasional posts from others promoting cycling events and services etc. were acceptable, but Dave is monitoring for anybody abusing our hospitality!

8. WCG Kit

We have been in discussions with 2 potential suppliers; their pricing is similar at £50 for a short-sleeve top. They both provide “free” design, but minimum orders are 10 units. We have enough firm interest to progress. Payment would be with order.

ACTION : Peter Williams will get some initial designs from Owayo design tool for the committee to review.

Once the initial designs have been finalized they can be circulated for firm commitments. We would then arrange for different sample sizes and a social evening for fitting and payment.

ACTION : Treasurer to check that we can receive individual payments and then pay suppliers directly.

9. Maintenance Course

It was felt that a basic bike maintenance course was overdue. It appears that previous providers are no longer trading.

ACTION : Peter Williams will explore with Energise options, numbers, costs etc.

10. Liaison with External Bodies

We will continue to support local charitable riding events through Facebook promotion etc, such as Bikeathon, Spider, WCDG rides.

No further progress or feedback from Peel or Justin Madders MP on the situation with dangerous rail tracks at North Road.

11. First Aid Course

The course is confirmed for 19th March. Currently 9 WCG members have signed up. Assuming they are all successful this will give us a minimum of 21 members with up to date First Aid qualifications.

12. 2025 Trips Away

Worcester trip (13th – 16th June) – good numbers have already signed up for the rides. C and D rides are available to suit all members.

ACTION : Dave Brewer and others are planning a recce trip in next few weeks to put more detail to so that we can publish final routes.

Hadrian's Wall – Richard Giles is organizing a 3-day supported trip (15th -18th May) through CycleActive, which members can sign up to directly.

Hopefully, Ewan Wilkinson may still arrange a short bike packing trip for interested members if his other commitments allow.

13. Social Events

Kit fitting – date to be arranged (Lever Club?)

Wine Tasting – Lunyalita, Albert Dock – provisional date 7th May

Summer picnic ride to Thurstaston – date to be fixed (Wednesday in August?)

Lara Wood memorial ride – to coincide with anniversary in Autumn (liaise with Una)

ACTION : Secretary to follow up and confirm dates.

14. Any Other Business

Anne reported one new member enquiry; the rider concerned had signed up for forthcoming ride

Honorary Members: a discussion took place around current honorary lifetime members and other members who may be deserving of such an award.

ACTION : Secretary to further discuss with any awards to be made at the AGM.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 10th June at 7 pm