

Chester & N Wales CTC Caer a Gogledd Cymru
Minutes of the committee meeting 9th October 2014 @ Deeside Leisure Centre starting at
7.30pm

Present

Mike Cross, Alan Oldfield Lowri Evans, Brian Lowe, David Matthews, John Ferguson & Colin Bell.

1. **Apologies:** Ifor Jones, Doreen Lindsey, Peter Williams, Vicky Payne, Sue Booth, Janet Gregory

2. **Minutes from September 2014**

Proposed by Colin Bell, seconded by John Ferguson. Agreed.

3. **Matters arising**

Brian Lowe requested the opportunity to respond to the statement from Two Mills CTC that had been handed to the C&NW CTC committee at the start of the last meeting. Brian Lowe's full response is attached as appendix A. Once Brian had been through his response the statement from Two Mills was discussed.

Members were disappointed that they had been given no opportunity to see the Two Mills statement prior to the meeting, which meant they hadn't had any time to look at the issues and prepare for the meeting. There was also a feeling that it was unfortunate that so many issues had been included in the statement making it appear as if the whole of the proposals were down to the action of one person. Mike Cross had started the Spring 50 Tourist Trial as a C&NW CTC event in 1992 and there was disappointment that the Two Mills decision to run the event on their own was presented as a fait accompli. There was considerable discussion regarding the event; it was recognised that the event was very popular & well organised and that it should continue, & that Janet Gregory had run the event for many years (and that volunteers to run events are hard to find). The options for an alternative event were discussed as were the financial implications of the changes.

It was felt that there was no wish to have ill feelings between the two groups however a majority requested that the Secretary should write to Two Mills CTC to express disappointment that C&NW CTC had not been given the statement to circulate in advance of the meeting as requested and no chance to discuss some of the issues that affected both groups prior to final decisions being made.

Action Lowri Evans to write to Two Mills CTC

The Committee offered thanks to Brian Lowe for all of the work that he had done for the club over the years. Brian Lowe then left the meeting.

4. **Secretary's Report** (circulated)

The report was noted.

5. The changes to CTC insurance were discussed with regard to the increase in the numbers of guest riders allowed and the reduction in the number of rider that non-members could attend before being asked to join.

Action Lowri Evans to send out the website links to Guest Rider forms and insurance guidelines again and to circulate more Rides Leaders leaflets

8. Wild Wales Challenge 2015. The Secretary added that 20 places had been reserved for C&NW CTC members wishing to ride the Merseyside CTC Wild Wales Challenge in 2015. In 2014 the event had filled by mid-January with many regulars too late to enter but there were a very large number of DNS riders. To avoid this happening again clubs who regularly support the event have been asked to estimate the number of places required so they can book before

entries are open to other riders. The request was circulated to local groups but as none gave an estimate of the number of riders the Secretary submitted an estimate on behalf of C&NW CTC.

9. C&NW CTC Annual Report (rough draft circulated). The Secretary requested reports from those groups who hadn't yet sent them in.

Action Reports to be sent to the Secretary ASAP by the Groups that hadn't yet submitted them.

Action Secretary to complete the report

5. Treasurer's Report (circulated)

The loss reported for the year was as anticipated due to the various 75th Anniversary costs (e.g. free entry for over 75s to events such as the Vets 100, and an increase in the rate of travel expenses being announced after event organisers had done their costings at the old rate.) The treasurer confirmed there are about 70 copies of The Chain remaining to be sold. There was discussion regarding the loan for the Fabulous Ladies shirts.

Action Colin Bell to discuss with Sue Booth if the shirts are likely to be sold.

Colin Bell is waiting on the arrival of a bank statement to confirm the interest, although this will only be a very small amount. He has been trying to contact Terry Nichols to arrange an audit of the accounts.

Colin Bell has been in touch with NO regarding the Treasurer's Annual Return as the spreadsheet didn't work. A new spreadsheet has been sent out but there hasn't been time to try it. The Treasurer confirmed that a full report would be ready for the AGM.

6. Councillors Report

None received (note Councillors are very busy as it is the AGM season)

7. Events

7.1 Events 2014

Recent events were reported in the Secretary's report. The event organisers were thanked. David Matthews reported that £295 had been raised at the McMillan Cyclists coffee morning; thanks to Margret Matthews and helpers.

Corwen Audax Events 18th October. Vicky Payne has good entries split between the three events.

Dave Matthews informed the meeting that Harry Watson would be 86 on the 5th November and Harry intended to celebrate by completing his 700,000th mile and having a special ride with Watson's Wanderers. David also noted that the Watson's Wanders Christmas lunch would be on 16th December at Hildegard's.

C&NW CTC AGM. Arthur Miller will photocopy the documents although he gives apologies for the meeting. It is intended to have beans on toast, tea, coffee, & cake available before the AGM. Some volunteers have come forward but more would be good. The rest of the birthday cake (frozen by Irene Dilworth after the 75th Anniversary Rides) will be thawed, & served. The winner of the photographic competition will also be announced.

7.2 Events 2015

The circulated list was agreed although not all of the events were finalised.

1st January – Arthur Miller will organise lunch at McLeans (although it may be the last year as numbers are dropping at the venue)

The possibility that Harry Watson had booked Hildegard's instead of the Carden Arms was raised as it appears that the Carden Arms had changed hands again. **Action** Dave Matthews to contact Sue Booth with regard to the suitability of the 2 venues and find out what has been arranged.

Cheshire Cycleways date to be confirmed. As Brian Lowe has stood down Alan Oldfield will need help for the 2015 event; suggested that club members should be asked & possibly Steven Clift (Bob & Dorothy Clift's son) would be willing to help.

Action Alan Oldfield to confirm the dates that halls have been booked for.

Veterans 100 Possibly the 50th year (the number of times the event has been run to be checked). David Ackerley has written to all of the C&NW CTC participants from recent years to find out if they would be willing to run the event- no response so far.

Corwen Audax events date for 2015 to be confirmed with Vicky Payne.

Steve Abrahams record attempt. There is a possibility that he will be trying to set a new distance record for 2015 and there may be requests for help/support when he is in the area.

8. Nominations of Officers

The following nominations for the Committee & other post holders were agreed:

Post	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
President	Mike Cross	Lowri Evans	Colin Bell
Vice President*	Glennys Hammond	Mike Cross	John Ferguson
Secretary	Lowri Evans	Mike Cross	David Matthew
Treasurer	Colin Bell	Mike Cross	Alan Oldfield
Registration Officer (membership records)	*		
Welfare Officer	<i>*Vicky Payne</i>	Lowri Evans	David Matthews
Publicity Officer	John Ferguson	Mike Cross	Colin Bell
Rights Officer	Peter Williams	John Ferguson	Mike Cross
CTC Cymru Rep	Lowri Evans	Mike Cross	Alan Oldfield
Invited members (also reps from Two Mills and all informal groups)	Groups to inform the Secretary as soon as the reps have been decided		

**Vicky Payne later decided to stand down from this post but indicated that she would be willing to stand for Registration Officer*

The following have agreed to remain in post :

Link Editor Martin Brooks

Web master John Hammond

Web Editor Glennys Hammond

Awards Committee David Ackerley, Mike Cross & Arthur Miller

Action: Committee members to try to find people willing to stand for unfilled posts & Colin Bell to enquire whether Terry Nichols would be prepared to remain as Auditor.

9. Link

It was reported that the Link editor (Martin Brooks) has returned from his tour. He has drawn up new subscription forms and so far 40 people have renewed their subscription. All were asked to get as many subscribers as possible and to ask for copy for the Christmas edition.

10. Local Rules (discussion document regarding comments form NO circulated)

It was apparent from the document that the Local Rules would have to be submitted as summary document (not imbedded in the Policy Document) for them to be approved. Although several points had been successfully argued in favour of C&NW CTC the correspondence indicated that some changes would have to be made. It was agreed that the rule regarding the delegation of the Secretary's responsibility for ensuring policies are complied with would be removed (although it is unclear how the Secretary is supposed to carry out the duty). It was also agreed that the

additional rule regarding the role of the Welfare Officer would be dropped as referral of the issue to NO could be the level of 'help' that the Welfare Officer would be expected to provide with issues that might have legal implications.

Action: Secretary to add a section to the Annual Report to explain that the Local Rules had not been passed but that they would be resubmitted with amendments as agreed by the Committee.

Action Local Rules to set in a summary document separate from the CTC Policy Document.

11. Right to Ride Report (circulated)

The report was read & thanks were expressed to Peter Williams in his absence. David Matthews had also been over to look at the works on the A55; initial impressions were that the works should get rid of some pinch points for cyclists.

12. AOB

Winged Wheel. There were discussions regarding the next move with regard to the Repairs Winged Wheel that had been given to the Club. (See also Secretary's Report)

Action; Lowri Evans to ask Roy Spilsbury to contact the company that renovated the Corwen Winged Wheel to get costing for renovation

Locations to display/re-home the Winged Wheel were discussed including loaning to the Cycle Museum or fixing to a local cycle shop e.g. The Bike Factory. The problem of finding a location with a building of the right age and a location where it would be safe from metal thieves were discussed. Agreed that it should be on display at the AGM if possible.

Meeting ended at 9.20pm

Date of the next meeting to be agreed by new committee following AGM (suggested date Thursday 4th December 2014)

Appendix 1

Response from Brian Lowe to Statement from Two Mills of 4th September.

Introduction

The original motion submitted by me at last year's AGM was the subject of an amendment introduced by the Chair of Two Mills and seconded by their Secretary. Under old rules this would not have been allowed. The attendance of a CTC member and a right to vote at more than one Member Group AGM was to enable members who regularly ride with more than one group, to express opinion on the business of both interest groups but not to seek to influence the business of one group with the objective of achieving an outcome that they deemed beneficial to the second. I suggest that Like Tax avoidance, such actions as those above are within the rules but some would deem them outside of the intent of the rules and perhaps unethical. Hence my continued objection to the outcome.

Item 1.

The process whereby Two Mills has selected a representative to this committee should be of no concern to members of this committee. Albeit as a Two Mills regular rider I might have an opinion as to whether the selection process was democratic or not but believe it should be expressed at a Two Mills meeting and deem it inappropriate to comment here. On the question of challenge, as an elected member of this committee I believe I have the right to continue to express my opinion on whatever subject and to an extent allowed by this committee.

Item 2

The manner in which C&NW conduct their meetings is I believe a matter for this committee. The point being made about the minute discussions I would like to come back to, but I would comment that at least Two Mills have been given the opportunity to see how C&NW meetings are conducted and to participate therein

Item 3.

It seems to me that the concept of representation of this Committee on the Two Mills Committee remains an aversion to them and to date is an aversion which has been unexplained. I would have preferred a “quid pro quo” outcome which allowed representation on each other’s committee but it seems to me the above aversion has carried the day.

Item 4

I assume that this means that C&NW will no longer receive half of the surplus revenue from the event. I fail to see how this action relates in any way to any of the previous issues and to me seems out of context. It seems to be a “fait accompli” and implemented without any discussion or consideration for the interests or opinions of this group which to me seems difficult to understand in the context of the request for cooperation and partnership as mentioned in their Para 5.

Item 5

Some might refer to this as cherry picking. A bit of tongue in cheek here but at least sharing the website will result in £200 income and will help to alleviate part of the revenue losses arising from Two Mills’ unilateral action in 4 above. This assumes of course that their intention is to cease sharing any surplus revenue.

Minutes

Notwithstanding the comments in para 2 of Two Mills statement, I believe it important that minutes of this groups meetings should be balanced and informative enough to enable members to have a good understanding of what is going on. In a situation of disagreement the opinions of both sides should be objectively recorded and salient points included in a balanced way. Suffice it to say that I did not believe that all of the draft minutes were objectively presented hence my proposals for amendment. Furthermore I disagree passionately with the suggestion from Two Mills that original minutes as submitted by the secretary should be unconditionally accepted. My views on this were clearly expressed to Lowri and copied to regular attendees of this committee in an e mail of 29th July. With the same e mail was included a proposal for changes to the draft minutes of the meeting of 22nd May 2014 with a request they be presented to the committee for consideration. This request was ignored without acknowledgement or explanation and is a process which I consider to be unacceptable to me personally.

It is obvious that some representatives on this Committee and myself wish to move in different directions and in many areas have objectives and values which are incompatible. I have decided therefore that I will complete the period of my tenure of office but not seek re-election next year. I will also relinquish responsibility for all C&NW activities in which I am currently involved but will seek to arrange a tidy handover to replacement volunteers.

Brian Lowe
09.10.14