

Minutes from C&NW CTC Zoom Meeting 24th August 2023 7pm

Attendees

Allan Samuel, Lowri Evans, John Violet, Ian Slater, Colin Bell, Paul Mills, Dave Matthews, Kate Litherland, John Mather, Steve Larwood

Apologies

Sue Booth, Janet Jones, Laurie Mason, Ifor Jones

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** (circulated prior to the meeting) Minutes agreed. Noted the change of date of Momma's Audax events – 10th September & change of start venue from Old Ma's (due to sale of venue)

2. **Secretary's update** (*information circulated as updates prior to the meeting & attached*)
A547 Conwy Bridge option -John Mather explained a little about the consultation regarding the bridges at Conwy and the response he had sent to the consultation. Currently cyclist have to get off & push bikes for a short section; the council appeared to favour a new model in which cyclists will have to dismount, cross the road, use the suspension bridge, then dismount & cross again. There was also an option to increase road space for cyclists by having a one-way shuttle across the bridge for motorised traffic. The options favoured in the response submitted were for a new bridge or widening the existing bridge.

3. **Treasurer's report** (*figures circulated*)

a.) Following discussion it was agreed that the allocation of income & costs for the Bob Clift & Vets 100 needed to be rechecked. Information form Entry Central to be downloaded & sent to the Treasurer.

Action: Treasurer & Events organisers to look at the allocations for the event

Appeared that the Vets 100 had made a small profit & the Bob Clift event had made a loss. A loss was expected; partly due to lower than anticipated entries because of the late opening of entries which was a result of the issues faced by organisers. However the loss is larger than anticipated. It was noted that no payment has been made to St Phillips Church (the Pink Church); Invoices have been requested several times from the venue but no reply as yet.

a) The petty cash account has been closed and all money transferred to the current account. The internet banking appears to be working with the treasurer able to make payments. The secretary can view the account, the chairman should also be able to soon (when he has the relevant card reader). Payees need to be set up from scratch as the information couldn't be transferred.

b) Charity donations

Action: treasurer to make the donations to Sustrans and the Cycling Defence Fund as agreed at the AGM.

d). Zoom account – currently the account is shared with Two Mills. If a suitable alternative can be found may change to another system.

Action – look at other possibilities & check renewal date for Zoom

4. **Events 2023**

Bob Clift Memorial Cheshire Cycleways – 11th June 2023 -many thanks to Sue & all of the volunteers. The event went well on the whole but was marred by an accident at the 10-mile mark on the 100-mile event which resulted in a rider being in hospital for several days. All riders who completed the event appeared to enjoy it & complimented the event.

It was suggested that the route in the Bollington area should be looked at for possible improvement due to the busy roads. A new organiser would be needed for next year as Sue Booth is stepping down. Due to the loss on the event (discussed earlier) it was suggested that costs should be looked

at with possible change of start venue, although need to bear in mind the original route designed by Bob Clift.

Chester Active Travel Festival 18th June 2023 -thanks to John Violet, Kate Litherland, Paul Mills, and others who organised the stand & ran it on the day. Estimate of 1000 attending the event. Although the event went well on the whole it is unlikely to be organised in the same way next year. There was some disappointment at the lack of help/involvement from Cheshire West Council.

It was noted that some large, successful events in Chester such as the Triathlon to many years to build up momentum & become large events. It was suggested that the festival could piggyback on an event such as the triathlon.

Bert Bailey Memorial Vets 100 2nd July – thanks to Ian Slater & the team of volunteers & the caterers for a very successful event. All riders were very complimentary about the event & Ian has already been making arrangements & looking at improvements for next year.

75 registered for the event with 68 riding. Currently appears to have made approx. £400 profit (figure to be finalised).

The organiser has identified some possible improvements for 2024: it is hope that all payments to venues & caters can be made by electronic banking and that the allocation of ride leaders to groups will easier. Some groups didn't stop at farm for drinks – ride leaders need to be briefed to call in next year so that John will know when all groups have come through.

Corwen Audax events 17th July 2023 – thanks to Graham Hines for organising the events.

Unfortunately, the weather was appalling on the day resulting in a very low turnout; a disappointment after all of the work that went into organising the events. Congratulations to all who completed the rides; 4 Bala Parade, 4 Brenig Bach, and 6 Barmouth Boulevard.

Welsh Festival CTC Cymru Ruthin – from 20th July to 25th Organised by Emrys Jones, Lowri Evans & Gwenda Owen. The weather was better than forecast and between 85-90 people signed up for the event. There were riders from several Cycling UK member groups across the UK. Thanks to all of the volunteers & Ruthin Rugby Club especially Sarah Shiers.

Wild Wales Challenge – will be held on Sunday – could be for the last time as the organisers are standing down after this year. Dave Matthews has attended one meeting on the future of the event & will attend a further meeting in October. The event is currently run by Merseyside CTC and Swans CTC but in the C&NW CTC area.

10 th September	Momma Audax Events - may need change of start/finish venue – possible closure of Old Ma's	Brandon Edgely
Saturday 7 th Oct	Hill Climb & Freewheel Llanbenwch & Llysfasi – arrangements in hand	Lowri Evans
Saturday 14 th October	Corwen Audax Events – arrangements in hand	Graham Hines
22 nd October	President's Ride & Lunch at Neuadd Eleanor Llanfair DC Rides starting from St Asaph. Entries will be through Entry Central. Work is ongoing with routes, catering etc. looking at soup, cake & cuppa for the lunch.	C&NW CTC President – Dave Mathews
1 st Jan 2024	New Years Day meet Planning just starting	

5. **Link**

Thoughts and sympathy to Janet Jones following a family bereavement. Janet is aiming to get the next edition out in September although later than originally planned. Reminder that Janet would be

standing down as editor in 2024 & Graham Arnold needs someone to take over keeping track of Link subscriptions.

6. Publicity update

Facebook – there are 700 members of C&NW CTC Facebook with 6 main contributors

Main website – still has a place if it is kept updated

Paul Mills was thanked for his work posting events & updates on Facebook and helping at numerous events putting up & taking down flags, banners etc

7. Registration Officer

Due to technical issues currently unable to access the account on the Cycling UK site to get records & figures (probably due to site updating)

8. Safe Guarding

Currently no issues reported

9. CAN up dates

England (John Violet)

- a. Grosvenor Bridge** – Head of transport strategy met with John Violet last week – hoping to have 20mph limit and cycle lanes. It was going to be a temporary traffic order but now looking at a permanent traffic order so 3-week consultation will start on the 25th. JV will provide a response on behalf of Cycling UK
- b. Levelling up Ellesmere Port**- Consultation on new cycle route which will meet LTN 1/20 standards from the station to the town centre – will need to include a bridge to the station platform. Plans are mainly by road space allocation – there may be objections from pedestrians if it reduces pedestrian space. May be able to extend through to the Boat Museum – there is enough funding for a design & feasibility study.
- c. Northwich Consultation** – 2 possible routes are suggested from the station to the town centre. One route is via the main road, the other is fairly low cost via a more residential route. There was discussion about where the route would end. There is consideration for reducing traffic flow in some areas to make it safer for cyclists (e.g. removing a right turn option from a major road to stop a rat run). The aim is to get something on the ground & delivered using Tranche 4 funding from DfT.
- d. Chester Cycling Campaign** – Discussions about Chester City Centre. Lots of pedestrian areas & one-way streets. John Violet & Steve Perry have put a submission to the council of how to get more people cycling into the town e.g. contra flow on one-way streets

Wales (John Mather)

- a. 20mph speed limit** – will be coming in on 17th September 2023 for most roads that were previously 30mph. May not be popular with motorists
- b. Launch of Traws Eryri** -at Conwy – see AOB
- c. Old Colwyn - NCR5** -Rhos on Sea – not far off completion. Penrhyn Bay about 60% complete.
- d. Active Travel Route to Glan Conwy** -still debate about the route – concern that the deadline for funding may not be met.
- e. Menai Bridge** -there has been emergency strengthening work, however the permanent strengthening work is still required

10. Club Kit

There have been several requests for Club Kit so work is starting to look at prices for an order.

Agreed: subsidy of £5 per item as previously and to aim for the same quality.

11. AOB

A. Tour of Britain 4th Sept 2023 Wrexham - There has been a message from Wrexham Council about publicity materials at their stand for the Tour of Britain promoting 'Walk to Work Wednesdays' which apparently is also promoting cycling. Still awaiting a reply from them.

B. Traws Eryri launch 23rd August 2023 Conwy – was attended by John Mather, Lowri Evans. Launch of offroad route (currently approx. 50% is on road as permissions are still being negotiated). Large amount of press interest in the new route.

C. Fancy Women Bike Ride – Sue Booth has been approached by Chester Cycling Campaign to organise an event on the 17th September. Slow cycle ride round Chester with participants dressing up.

D. Thanks to John Violet – John will be standing down from being CANS rep for C&NW CTC but will continue to be very actively involved in campaigning in the area and with the club (and Chester Cycling Campaign). John's knowledge, expertise, hard work & persistence have yielded some great results for cyclists & active travellers.

Date of next meeting

Thursday 9th November at 7pm – online

Appendix

C&NW CTC update email 10th August 2023

1. **Congratulations to Sue Booth as runner up in most inspiring volunteer category Cycling UK**
[Meet our volunteers: Sue Booth, Chester Fabulous Ladies | Cycling UK](#)

2. **Active travel route Consultation Conway Bridge A547 – information from John Mather:**

Conwy CBC is about to launch a public consultation (PC) exercise inviting people's views on options for improving the route for active travellers wanting/needing to cross the A547 Conway Bridge. (You may recall that cyclists using NCR5 are required to dismount and push cycles across the bridge). The PC starts this Wednesday 2nd August and closes on the 23rd. You may wish to view the short-listed options online or at an exhibition which is to be held at St Mary's Church Hall this Thursday 3rd August. Further information can be found in the attached document.

Please see attachment for more details

3. **Improvements & changes to Cycling UK Incident Reporting**

The following message has come from Cycling UK:

We are excited to announce a significant improvement in our incident reporting process. As part of our continuous efforts to reduce group admin and improve safety within our cycling community, we have launched a [brand new incident reporting online form](#), replacing the old PDF-type form.

The new web form means you can now easily submit incident reports directly through our website, making the process faster and more accessible to everyone involved.

We recommend completing a report form following any incident or accident that takes place during a ride or event, even if you don't think it will lead to an insurance claim.

You can find the new web form on our website - [Accident / Incident Report](#).

4. Ride leaders wanted

Neston Earth Group (NEG) have received Cycling UK funding for a second year to run beginner bike rides in and around Neston. NEG are looking for British Cycling or Cycling UK qualified ride leaders to lead 5 rides in September on Fridays from 10-11.30, starting on the 1st Sep. NEG are paying a sessional rate to lead these rides. Insurance cover is in place for the rides but leaders will be required to have a current BC/CUK qualification. For further information please contact: Andy Mills 07887 653280 mills.andrewjohn@gmail.com

5. Wrexham's first Carbon & Climate Conversation Climate 21st Sept 2023 16.30-17.30 virtual meeting

This meeting has been timed to coincide with national Car Free day on the 22nd September - may be of interest to some.

6. The Link -publication will be delayed.

Sadly Janet Jones has suffered a family bereavement at the weekend; our thoughts are with her. The next edition of the Link will therefore be delayed.

7. Dates for the late summer & autumn events

Attached should be an updated list of dates for the remaining 2023 events. Routes & starting venues are being worked on for the Presidents Ride – the date has now been agreed as 22nd October 2023

8. Date of next C&NW CTC Zoom meeting provisionally 24th August 2023 7pm

(Apologies – have only just asked Two Mills there is a clash with any of their meeting) If documents to be sent out could come to me by the weekend prior to the meeting I will circulate them.

9. Trees on Goldford Lane Bickerton

I have received the message below – some people may be interested in this petition, others may disagree (it is very difficult to decide which of the many emails received may be of interest & should be passed on)

*We have just started the petition "**Stop the Imminent Destruction of Beautiful Trees on Goldford Lane, Bickerton, SY14 8LL**" (a Cheshire Cycle Route) and wanted to see if you could please help by adding your name.*

We need your support. You can read more and sign the petition by clicking this link:

[Petition · Stop the Imminent Destruction of Beautiful Trees on Goldford Lane, Bickerton, SY14 8LL · Change.org](#)