

Draft minutes CTC Oxford City AGM held on 20th October 2013

140 Poplar Grove, Kennington OX1 5QP, 10 am

Those present: Ellen Lee, Stephen Lee, Helen Beane, Jan Bailey, Marion Richards, Richard Morris, Steve Davies, Steve Bailey, Gavin Williams, Jo Munt, David Whitaker, James Dawton.

Richard Bates (councillor) and Graham Smith (councillor)

1. Apologies for absence.

Peter Hallowell, Ros Hallowell, Richard Beckett

2. Appointment of minutes taker

Helen Beane

3. Minutes of the last meeting held 21/10/12

Accepted as a true record. Proposed by Richard Morris and seconded by James Dawton.

4. Reports (see Appendix for all reports)

Secretary's report

Treasurer's report.

Rides Secretary's report.

Publicity Officer's report.

Isis cyclists' report.

5. Election of Officers for 2013-2014

POSITION	NAME	NOMINATED BY	SECONDED BY
Chair	Richard Morris	James Dawton	Stephen Lee
Secretary	Stephen Lee	Richard Morris	Helen Beane
Treasurer	Helen Beane	Richard Morris	David Whittaker
Rides Secretary	James Dawton	Richard Morris	Ellen Lee
Publicity Secretary	Richard Morris	Ellen Lee	Jan Bailey
Registrar	Richard Morris	Jan Bailey	Gavin Williams
Web Master	Jo Munt	Richard Morris	Steve Davies
Ordinary member	Marion Richards	Jan Bailey	Jo Munt

The post of Welfare Officer will be covered by CTC Oxfordshire.

Social events will be covered by this Committee.

6. Next year's events

Car/train assisted rides

Randonnées 60k & 100k

Faster 2 hour rides on Saturday morning or afternoon

Richard to survey members

7. How to encourage more ride leaders

Official training.

Guidelines

Mentorship for route planning and leading rides.

8. MOTION

"This meeting approves Isis Cyclists continuing as an informal member group of CTC Oxford City"

Proposed by HB seconded by JD. Carried on a majority show of hands.

All Isis leaders must have read the guidelines on safe riding available for downloading from the website: <http://www.ctcoxfordcity.org.uk/about>

9. AOB.

Graham Smith, councillor for South East England. News from National Office. They will set up a focus group to look at rebranding CTC as the name is not recognised by the general public.

Oxford County Council is planning a toucan crossing on the Wootton-Abingdon junction near the roundabout. This is the site of some serious accidents. Both James, our ride to ride rep. and Graham feel the plans are inappropriate.

They will text a message to Richard that can be distributed through the members who can send their objections to the County Council. ASAP

Meeting closed at 12.15

Appendix - reports

Secretary's report

The city group has maintained a regular programme throughout the last year. We have also had some new faces start with us during the year, welcome to you all.

We managed a Christmas social, with a meal at the Nepalese restaurant in Howard Street organised by Helen.

New Year's Day saw our traditional ride to the Penny Black in Bicester for lunch, dry weather but the lower road in Islip was flooded.

On 2nd February we had our winter bring and share supper here in Kennington with games being added for extra fun.

We have used some new coffee and lunch venues in the last year, all of which were well worth visiting and worth using again in the future.

We must remember to use the Black Horse in Checkendon on mother's day next year.

We seem to have experienced more "weather" this year, 1 ride cancelled by ice risk, 1 by snow forecast, a couple by heavy rain forecast (on 1 of these the laundry dried quite well in the garden!), and a few rides being diverted by flood or some "extra special puddles" were experienced.

As in previous years, our rides were registered for National Bike Week. The 2 Sunday rides affected attracted 1 new face on each ride.

The Sunday rides have had a healthy level of support, but with slightly lower numbers at lunch.

Short rides. Isis rides on Saturdays continue to be a great success. A few Isis riders have become regular faces on some of the City rides. The new format for joint Isis/Oxford City group rides has settled in with a bit of tweaking. These rides have seen up to 20 or so riders on the section to coffee. We now aim to go to coffee as 1 group, to encourage mingling between the 2 groups.

Joint events. A few members made the trek to a chilly White Horse Hill car park for Wantage's mince pie ride in December. Richard was able to cancel his hurriedly planned round trip by taxi journey after my pliers made short shrift of his bike lock, which was separated from its key by about 15 miles, a discovery made too late in the locking process.

Over half a dozen members joined in with CTC Oxfordshire's May BH weekend based just outside Yeovil. Lovely weather and scenery, mutterings about Pete Hallowell was able to find so many hills on his southerly ride. Still, it's the hill that made the scenery (which you had plenty of time to observe at slow speed up the many hills.....)

Some members went to the CTC Oxfordshire pot luck supper at Steve and Lorna's in Grove, enjoying a lovely summer's evening.

Rides issues. We still need more rides leaders to help spread the leading more evenly between members. Marion and Natasha were given route finding training by Richard and Jo to help them lead rides. Natasha did extra study, realising if she leaves the front door at the advertised meeting time, she will just about(ish) be on time to lead her own ride.

Having approved new rides guidelines at last year's AGM, the "lost rider" problem seems to have been solved.

New faces. We have had quite a few new faces out this year, and have a better idea of web interest in the City Group with the new subscribe/unsubscribe links on the website.

Right to Ride activities. It looked like another quiet year with few schemes coming forward from the county council due to lack of funds. However, they did apply for some DfT money for schemes. The county have held some stakeholder meetings for rebuilding the Plain roundabout to make it more cycle friendly. They also applied for money to alter the Wootton Rd roundabout in Abingdon, but forgot to consult properly ("we put it on the website"), which was unfortunate as the reason for the alterations was rather missed on the plans they put forward. Graham Smith had an on site meeting to see how the design could be improved, at rather a late stage in the process (after the meeting that approved the scheme).

Frideswide Square plans are all on hold pending plans for rebuilding the railway station.

There has also been consultation on the Westgate Shopping Centre extension, and the Oxpens redevelopment. All 3 areas being planned independently of each other, despite the fact they all ajoin each other.

CTC membership to a local group. This seems to have settled down, with members now free to participate in events and AGMs of any one or more CTC member groups.

Finally a big thank you for all those who volunteer to lead rides, Richard for his work on the rides list, Jo on website things, Helen for being treasurer and Ellen, Helen and co for running the Isis women's group.

James Dawton
Oxford City Secretary.

Rides Secretary and Publicity Officer's report

Our rides

The first ride after last year's AGM was Sunday 28 October and the last ride this year was Sunday 13 October. During that period, CTC Oxford organised and led 45 Sunday rides and 3 rides on the bank holiday weekend away to South Somerset 4-6 May. Two rides were cancelled due to ice and 2 rides were impromptu when leaders were away on holiday or involved in other CTC events. The longest rides were 65 miles to Eastleach (Peter Hallowell) and 64 miles to Bibury (James Dawton). There were 9 different leaders, but only 4 of these led 4 or more rides (Helen, James, Peter and Richard).

The venues

We visited 15 different coffee places and 32 different venues for lunch. Benson, Millets and Weston on the Green were the most popular coffee stops and The Bull Inn in Charlbury the most popular pub.

Using the technology

This year saw the benefits of our new website, designed and implemented by Jo. Barely a week went by without a new subscriber, and our membership grew by a third to reach the current total of 180. The site's database now has a record of 23 coffee stops and 56 lunch venues. For each venue, the database stores:

- Photograph
- Full address
- Google map of venue's location
- Phone number
- Website
- Email

During the second half of the year, we began to promote our rides by email in addition to the website postings. Taking advantage of the free technology on offer, we began using MailChimp in March, first

to advertise local events such as the Abingdon Freewheeling Spring Festival, the County all-comers 100 mile ride and Wantage's Pot Luck Supper. Having familiarised ourselves with the system, in July we advertised our Sunday ride for the first time and have done so every week since then. The current format is include an image of the route and (in order to encourage members to use the website) a link to read the ride report for the previous Sunday.

Home after coffee or ride to lunch?

The idea of half-day and full-day rides, first implemented in January 2012, is now fully established and has proved popular. Members choose to go home after coffee or to continue on to lunch. The ETAs are published so that riders can join us at coffee or lunch, instead of having to ride into the centre of Oxford. On the last Sunday of the month, the coffee ride is led by a member of ISIS who also leads back home. This gives a chance for stronger ISIS riders to ride a little faster and meet members of our group.

Promoting CTC Oxford

In order to promote our club and provide a quality service, the duties of the ride leader now include:

Before the ride

- Prepare a map of the route (or provide Publicity Officer with names of villages on the route)
- Decide ETAs for coffee and lunch and the distances for both options

After the ride

- Write a ride report (or send notes to Publicity)
- Keep a record of attendees, both for coffee and lunch
- (If possible) provide a photo illustrating the ride.

Richard Morris
Rides Secretary

Treasurer's report 2nd October 2013

Balance on 24/09/2012 = £303.78

INCOME

16/4/13 Subscription allocation £225

EXPENDITURE

23/1 OIWF	cancelled	£10
8/3 R. Morris CTC business cards		£48
11/3 fee stop payment		£12
28/3 J. Munt. website		£8.44
11/4 Ox. Brooks business cards for national bike week		£26.40
11/5 OIWF advert for Isis ride on website		£10

£ 104.84

Balance on 30/09/13= £423.94

It was agreed that the account should be used to transfer money, either by cheque or bank transfer for Isis cyclists wishing to buy a customized hi-vis jacket if enough ladies (10) were interested.

We have applied for the subscription allowance for next year, 2014, of £200.00 that will be due in the Spring.

We have moved into the 21st century and can now access the account on line!

Helen Beane
Treasurer

Isis informal group report

Introduction

Isis Cyclists has continued to flourish in this, its fifth year. It has continued a programme of four regular rides per month:

1st Saturday = short and steady ride (<10 miles)

2nd Weekend = medium ride (~15 miles)

3rd Saturday = long ride (20-30 miles)

Final Sunday = Joint ride to coffee with Oxford City riders (20-30 miles)

In addition we have recently begun occasional faster “training” rides which have been well supported. We have also organised occasional special events such as a weekend away at the end of August in Streatley, several evening rides during the summer and have continued to support Bike Week by organising several rides. This year we have also started what we hope will be a long-lasting relationship with the riders of Wantage CTC. In June a number of Isis riders and their partners joined a Wantage CTC Saturday afternoon family ride from Grove and this visit will soon be reciprocated. We also supported the Oxford International Women’s Festival in March 2013 by organising a short cycle ride on the theme of the suffragettes in Oxford. We are also pleased to have got together with the Broken Spoke Bike Co-op to promote each other’s events and hopefully also do some joint indoor training events and bicycle rides.

It is really gratifying to see many of our riders challenging themselves and taking part in longer rides. In particular, Natasha Williams set up an Isis team to take part in this year’s London to Oxford charity ride. Nine Isis riders completed the 60 mile ride on a roastingly hot Sunday in July. Many of them had never attempted anything like this before.

As always, none of this can be done without a good deal of commitment from a dedicated band of Isis rides leaders who run the club. My thanks go to them for their hard work, imagination and constant enthusiasm.

Administration

The Isis leaders group has met three times this year in order to organise the programme and to attend to other business. During the course of the year we have lost Ann Bergin who has left Oxford having completed her degree. However we are pleased to have gained Liz Matthews who has recently started leading rides for us. This year we have also been more involved with CTC Oxfordshire and Lucy Wright has been our regular rep on the committee. This has been very positive and has helped us and our members keep up with what is going on elsewhere.

Over the summer, Isis acquired an “official photographer”! Lilia Bonacorsi has taken up the new role setting up and maintaining a Picassa photo site for the group where photographs she and other members have taken on Isis rides can be viewed and downloaded. Links to this are available via the Isis website.

Regular monthly email newsletters and occasional other mailings have continued to be delivered through our Google Group to approximately 220 women, an increase of 50 over the year. Rides and other events have also been promoted via our website and facebook page and by the Broken Spoke Co-op.

Regular Rides (October 2012 – end of September 2013)

This year, Isis Cyclists ran 44 regular rides. 116 women rode with the group at least once which is a slight increase on the previous two years (110). The average number of riders on each type of ride is as follows:

Short rides: Average of 12 riders (total of 12 rides) – increase on last year

Medium rides: Average of 11 riders (total of 11 rides) – slight increase on last year

Long rides: Average of 12 riders (total of 11 rides) – slight increase on last year

Joint Isis/Ox City rides: Average of 11, Isis only (total of 10 rides) – increase on last year

Next Year

Next year we are planning to continue supporting our regular rides. We are also keen to extend our rides to longer distances and also slightly faster paced rides to allow our members to challenge themselves. We recently started occasional faster training rides which we hope will become a fixture and over next spring and summer we are planning a series of longer “long rides” which will culminate in a 50 mile challenge ride in the late summer. However, we also want to maintain our support for beginners and less

confident riders which was, after all, our real reason for starting the group in the first place. In addition to our regular first Saturday of the month short and steady ride, we are hoping to start a series of regular short rides on midweek afternoons aimed at less confident riders, beginners and those returning from illness, pregnancy or injury. Lucy Tennyson and Jane Carlton Smith will be joining forces for these rides which will include a visit to somewhere of interest in and around the city in addition to the usual refreshment/social stop.

Ellen Lee
October 2013