

Bedgebury Forest Cycle Club AGM 2009

The Education Centre, Bedgebury Pinetum & Forest
Wednesday 07th October 2009

Chair representative: Gary Scott
Secretary: David Coppins

Committee Attendees: Paul Stevens, Ray Blackwell, Geoff Hodgson, Carol Hodgson, Simon Auger, Ian Smith, Alex Osborne, Andy Bocking, Malcolm Stoddart, Michael Paine, Ali Jarvis, Paul Young

Forestry Commission Representative: Mark Clixby

Including the committee and FC the meeting was attended by 25 people in total

Meeting Start: **1845hrs**

Chairman's Address

Due to the current Chairman's absence (Carl Abrams) the Chairman's address was delivered by Gary Scott.

Summary of Chairman's Address:

Carl Abrams has decided to resign as Chair of BFCC due to work and family commitments

The club is without doubt the largest British Cycling club in the South East and with the support of the FC and their facilities is the envy of many.

Over the last 12 months the committee has made a huge amount of progress

Our webmaster Rob Dodson has further developed the website with a facelift, news flashes, galleries and the all important forum. The website is now our main tool for communication.

Promotion of the club has been a challenge but numbers continue to grow through awareness of club rides, race activities and training courses.

Activities for all have increased with the jewel in the crown being Insomnia.

The race series saw more riders than ever competing and thanks to the Stirling efforts of all involved.

Club and midweek rides have also grown with core people getting involved and encouraging non members to join.

The introductions of adult skills courses and additional junior courses have grown in numbers and we now have an additional qualified coach and an additional member who will start training this month.

The introductions of additional trails have been an important achievement with more to come.

Thanks to Michael Paine who has sourced funding and sponsorship to enable the club to purchase a fleet of training bike, additional equipment and storage facilities to name but a few.

More volunteers and committee members are required to continue the work done so far.

Many thanks and gratitude to David Hiscock, one of the founding members of BFCC.

The full Chairman's address will be available on the website.

Financial Report

The financial report was compiled by Christine Mansfield and delivered by Gary Scott

The money that comes to the club is in two ways.

Money that is paid by members to cover the cost of parking belongs to the Forestry Commission who allows the club to use it for the sole purpose of trail development.

Money that is paid by members to cover the cost of membership and money that is raised through grants and sponsorship belongs to the club as is spent on what the club deems appropriate.

Parking total = £4413

Club total = £6230.02

A question was asked from the floor regarding the £12000.00 club expenditure and was answered - "as a result of money raised by the Fund-Raising Officer the club purchased a fleet of bikes, equipment and storage facilities"

Introduction of current committee members

All current members introduced themselves to the floor by name and committee role.

General questions from the floor

The floor was opened up for general questions about the club and committee.

The main topic was that of the website and forum:

Users would like to see questions put on the forum, if answered by a committee member; the member should make it known that they are from the committee.

An additional forum or some other way to give personal accounts and experiences for things like Insomnia or race participation.

Better support and reporting on club members who participate in events.

Race reports to be added to the website

Press releases to be added to the website

The latter entry has called for the introduction of a new committee post to be created – Press Officer

Some debate took place relating to the same few people doing all the work for the benefit of the majority.

Discussions arose around the website layout being fine but lacking content but again very few were willing to take on the responsibility of supplying content.

A template of works needs to be created so all areas are covered when organising events, template to include a press release before and after the event.

Additional forum or forum to be split into categories – Answered that current paid for forum has limited possibilities and additional money would need to be paid to upgrade and more man hours to manage.

BFCC website and forum far superior to other clubs in the area.

Discussions to take place to see if the website would be better placed in the hands of professionals.

Regular emails be sent out as reminders of trail builds, marshalling and other tasks.

It was also acknowledged that Rob Dodson has done outstanding work to get the website to where it is today and he will be missed as webmaster.

It was also suggested that the membership package may be too generous with parking and free bike and shower tokens. People join to park and clean their bikes rather than to be included in a club.

Suggestion of a marketing exercise to contact members and enquire as to the reason they joined, club over benefits.

Better publicity of the club its self at Bedgebury – too much emphasis on the website and not enough on site. Many visitors unaware of the clubs existence. Flyers to be given out from parking kiosk, Signage at entrance etc.

Mark Clixby from the FC explained the signage policy. The FC will be revamping all maps for Bedgebury and the committee will approach the FC and request BFCC information be added to the new maps.

Deselecting of current committee members

All current members resign position for reappointment.

Committee Role/Post	Nominations	Nominee	Second
Chairman	Rotational		
Secretary/Vice Chair	David Coppins	Paul Stevens	Ian Smith
Membership Officer	Carol Hodgson	David Coppins	Geoff Hodgson
Welfare Officer 2 Posts	Geoff Hodgson Alice Jarvis	Ray Blackwell	Malcolm Stoddart
Treasurer	Christine Mansfield	Simon Auger	Andy Bocking
Coach Coordinator/Officer	Gary Scott	Alice Jarvis	Simon Auger
Trail Development Officer Single Track	Ian Smith	Andy Bocking	John Rivett
Course Development Officer Free Ride	Vacant		
Race Coordinator/Officer	Ray Blackwell	Malcolm Stoddart	Michael Paine
Marketing Officer Design Officer	Paul Young Malcolm Stoddart	David Coppins	Ian Smith
Fund-Raising Officer	Michael Paine	Alice Jarvis	Paul Stevens
Communication/Liaison Officers – 2 Posts	Gary Scott Ian Smith	David Coppins	Paul Stevens
Webmaster	Paul Stevens John Rivett	Malcolm Stoddart	David Coppins
Events Coordinator/Officer	Andy Bocking	Ray Blackwell	Geoff Hodgson
School Liaison Officer	Tim Bizley	Terry Jarvis	Andy Bocking
Junior Representative	Alex Osborne	Geoff Hodgson	David Coppins
Ladies Representative	Alice Jarvis	Andy Bocking	Carol Hodgson
Press Officer	Simon Auger	Ian Smith	Terry Jarvis

With the appointment of Chairman still open, the committee decided that, for the time being, the role of Chairman would be done on a rotational basis.

Meeting minutes will continue to include action points assigned to officers to complete. David Coppins will liaise with officers to ensure actions are completed on time.

All nominations put forward and nominated. Nominations closed at 20.22

AGM closed at 20.25

Date of next meeting – Wednesday 4th November 2009 – The Old Pantry