

DORSET CYCLISTS NETWORK

1

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 18 June 2016

1. Attendance

1.1. *Present:* Michael Evans, Peter Henshaw, Diana Prestidge, Pat Watkins, Linda Hutton, Phil Wilson, Gerry Bannister, Tom Espley, John Thraves, Jeremy & Dilys Gartside, Anna Finch John & Rosalie Hayter, Ken Cook, Peter Aldous, Roland Tarr, Hugh Chapman.

1.2 *Apologies:* John & Sue Harris, Joan Fordyce, Simon Cripps, Tony Bates, Paul Shrimpton, Norman Davies, Shan Edwards, Maureen Frost, Trevor & Madeleine Bridle, Colin Marsh, Tom & Penny Sanders, Mike Riley, Beryl Ezzard, Roger Bull, Debby Wheatley, Judy and Paul Windwood..

:

2. Financial report.

2.1 A copy of the income and expenditure sheet was provided to all attending, and copies of the full accounts were made available to any members who wanted to see them.

The full accounts are on the DCN website in PDF format.

2.2 Phil Wilson pointed out that subscriptions had increased in line with increased membership, and that the higher operating surplus was due to this and to an increase in the numbers who download their newsletters. Roland Tarr proposed and John Thraves seconded that the accounts be accepted, which was agreed unanimously.

2.3 Discussion took place on possible uses of spare funds. Anna Finch asked if they could be used for ride leader training; this met with general approval. Roland Tarr suggested supporting attendance at cycling conferences and other events from which DCN could learn. The Chairman pointed out that DCN already paid for travelling and overnight accommodation for sending a representative to the annual CycleUK / Cyclenation conference, and to the annual Bike Show, but added that this could be extended to other types of relevant events.

2.4 After a short discussion on the valuable time and work of the Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Secretary, Anna Finch proposed and Roland Tarr seconded a motion that they be paid an annual honorarium, the amount to be decided by the Committee.

Members suggested amount of around £25 or £50. The motion was carried unanimously. The Secretary will add this to the agenda of the next committee meeting.

3. Membership

3.1 Gerry Bannister presented a written report of the present membership, which had increased from 330 to 339 subscribers and from 617 to 636 members counting all cyclists in each family.

3.2 A copy of the membership report is attached to these minutes.

4. Chairman's report.

4.1 The chairman mentioned the vacancy that would arise in his post next year, and the steps he was taking to try and fill vacant coordinator posts.

4.2 The subject of consultation with Dorset County Council was briefly discussed, and it was agreed that it would be useful if John Thraves, Peter Henshaw and Judy Windwood could decide on an approach to DCC (including Kevin Humphreys) with a view to reinstating early consultation on desirable projects before the funding is available so that they can be implemented without further delay once funds become available.

DORSET CYCLISTS NETWORK

2

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 18 June 2016

4.3 The chairman thanked Phil Wilson for having recently taken over as the DCN webmaster, and Gerry Bannister for taking over membership.

44.4 John Hayter proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman which was agreed. A copy of his report is attached to these minutes.

5. Elections to Committee

5.1 *Nominations by the Chairman*

Michael Evans, Peter Henshaw, Ken Cook, Dilys Gartside, John Thraves, Ken Reed, Phil Wilson, Gerry Bannister, Judy Windwood, Roland Tarr, Stewart Sinclair.

5.2 *Nomination from the floor*: Peter Aldous: proposed by Dilys Gartside, seconded by Gerry Bannister.

5.3 The meeting agreed unanimously that all the above be elected to the committee.

6. Other Business

6.1 Phil Wilson informed the meeting that a Litter-picking campaign in Purbeck had sought space on the DCN web site. It was agreed unanimously that although we approved with the aims of their project, it did not fall within the constitutional aims of DCN to devote space and time to it as it might set a precedent for other non-relevant bodies to seek similar use of DCN resources.

6.2 John Thraves drew attention to a ride being organized in Purbeck on 11 September.

6.3 Dilys Gartside said she is organizing a “Choo-Choo” cycle train event on Sunday 26 June as part of Sturminster Newton Mill’s 1000th anniversary celebrations.

6.4 Dilys also said that everyone is invited to Okeford Fitzpaine Open Gardens Scheme, including her own home “Cookwell” on Saturday 2 July

6.5 Michael Evans invited members to the Open Garden at his home at Farris Coach House, Cowgrove on 3 July from 2-5pm, the proceeds going to the Dorset Wildlife Trust.

6.6 John Hayter reminded members that he holds the DCN gazebo should it be needed for events.

7. The meeting closed at 2.45pm and was followed by light refreshments and an amusing talk by Dilys Gartside on her ride on 2014 from Orkney (means isles of Ork) to the Isle of Wight.

Notes for the DCN Secretary

To be included to the agenda for the next committee meeting

- The committee is asked to appoint Joan Fordyce (DCN Wimborne) as Advertising Manager. She has unofficially carried out this task for the past year. (*Under the DCN constitution rule 6 the committee can appoint any special posts.*)
- Amount of honoraria to be decided for Secretary, Treasurer and Membership secretary.
- Consultation with DCC – progress re minute 4.2 above

Next meetings:

Committee:

Thursday, 1 September, Dorchester

DORSET CYCLISTS NETWORK

3

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 18 June 2016

Wednesday, 9 November, Wareham

AGM: Saturday 17 June 2017, Wareham

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The following figures are all based on the current membership list for the year **2016**

Last year's figures in brackets ().

Number of subscription payers: **339** (330)Number of members: **636** (617) including 'Number of household members'

No. of cyclists at an address	Number of households 2016	Number of household members 2016	Number of household members 2015
1	143	143	130
2	142	284	270
3	17	51	51
4	28	112	120
5	8	40	40
6	1	6	6

Number of complimentary/life members: **13** (20) (Non subscription paying)

News Letter Delivery method

Method	No. of members 2016	No. of members 2015
Download	162	159
Delivered by hand	79	58
Post	111	113
Total	352	330

Membership by coordinator area

Area	Household membership 2016	Paid members 2016	Paid Members 2015
Blandford	41	24	19
Bournemouth	50	27	28
Bridport	4	3	No Entry
Christchurch	50	21	21
Dorchester	30	17	16
Ferndown	65	33	32
Lyme Regis	Nil	Nil	2
Poole	96	53	59
Purbeck	41	21	24
Ringwood	2	2	No Entry
Sherborne	34	20	18
Wareham	4	2	No Entry
Weymouth	39	14	20
Wimborne	173	96	88
Yeovil	1	1	1
Not Dorset	6	5	No Entry

DORSET CYCLISTS NETWORK

4

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 18 June 2016

I undertook the responsibility for membership secretary from the 1st of March 2016 and have provided these statistics based on what was submitted for the last AGM. *Gerry Bannister. 18 June 2016.*

Dorset Cyclists' Network Annual General Meeting 2016

Chairman's Report

The Chairmanship

As I announced at the 2015 AGM, the coming year will be my final one as Chairman after 25 years. The vacancy has been advertised in the DCN website and newsletter, and in the public press. So far no one has responded. In its next few meeting the Committee will need to decide how to fill the vacancy.

Membership

Becky Windwood, daughter of Judy (DCN Wimborne Coordinator) filled this role temporarily at a difficult time for DCN as it had been vacant for a year. In response to an appeal to members, Jill-Smith Buckland at first offered to take over but unexpected personal reasons made this impossible. Fortunately Gerry Bannister volunteered to fill the post in March this year. His first report shows that membership numbers have risen by about 3% since last year.

Finance – see separate report

DCN Branches

Gillingham & Shaftesbury

Last July, the Blackmore Vale magazine reported plans for a cycleway between these two towns. In January, Gillingham Town Council asked me if DCN wished to be involved in an initial meeting about it. Many years ago, I had contacted both towns asking if we could assist with cycling improvements in the area. The wheels of local government obviously revolve very slowly, but at last two of our local members, Colin Marsh and Colin Parks are involved in discussions on this potential project.

Poole

For most of the past year, we have had no Coordinator in this town. To try and restore DCN's link with the Borough Council, in February, DCN members in the town were invited to discuss the matter at a meeting with the Cycling Officer Tom Gaze. At a later meeting of Poole member, Stewart Sinclair accepted the post of Coordinator. He will be supported by a team of about six members who will cover various parts of the town, and liaise with the Council mainly through the Cycling Liaison Advisory Group.

Wimborne and Ferndown

We were recently informed by DCC that there is to be a reprint of East Dorset cycle maps and we await their production. This was apparently a last-minute decision by DCC when funding became available, and we were not given enough notice to be able make a thorough check that the maps had been fully brought up to date.

Coordinator vacancies - Bournemouth

While we have no Coordinator in this town, John Hayter has continued to represent us on the Borough and Airport Cycling Forums. It is my intention to try and arrange a meeting of Bournemouth members in the next few months to discuss the vacancy, as we successfully did in Poole..

- Bridport

Aileen Shackell is not able to continue as Coordinator and we are trying to find a replacement. Aileen has agreed to try and arrange a meeting of local cyclists to discuss the situation.

- Ferndown

During the past year Ken Cook informed the Committee that he will be moving to Surrey soon, and he will try to find a replacement Coordinator.

- Christchurch. John Grantham stood down as Coordinator as from 15 June.

Cycling issues

Dogs on trailways and shared paths.

Weymouth & Portland District Council have voted to introduce a byelaw requiring dogs on the Rodwell Trail to be on leads. This follows a period of public consultation in which DCN, CTC and other bodies took part, but great credit goes to Ken Reed and Anne Neale of DCN and CTC whose perseverance at the final council meeting carried the day.

The problem of uncontrolled dogs on trailways exists elsewhere, notable in Baiter Park, Poole, and it is hoped that similar solutions might be found.

Roads and cycleways

A major event began recently in Poole Borough as preparations were made to close the A341 Gravel Hill between Dunyeats Road and Queen Anne Drive for several months to strengthen and widen the road. This is the main route from Poole to the A31 and Wimborne, and this section has been in need of a safe cycle route for years. We have been informed that cyclists and pedestrians will be able to use it during the road works while other traffic makes a long detour, and when the work is finished it will include a dedicated cycle path on the west side only. Poole Council have agreed to a DCN suggestion for signing the cycle route between Queen Anne Drive and Wimborne via Rempstone Road and the shared path on Oakley Hill.

Website and newsletter

Phil Wilson is now our webmaster, in addition to his role as treasurer. I edit and publish the newsletter, and am willing to do so for as long as I am able after I give up the chairmanship. The cost of these two communication channels is well supported by local businesses who advertise with DCN; they are mainly cycle shops, cafes and B&Bs who all support the cause of cycling.

Consultation

The comment about maps under "*Wimborne and Ferndown*" (above) highlighted the need for DCC to make and keep advance plans ready for future implementation when funds eventually became available. This would give time for fuller consultation with DCN and other interested parties.

The Committee will consider whether to seek to persuade DCC to adopt this approach.

Conclusion

I would like to thank DCN Committee members again for their support over the past year.

Particular thanks go to Phil Wilson and Gerry Bannister whose record keeping is essential to our smooth running, and to Peter Henshaw, the Vice-Chairman, who has kept things going when I was away. I am also grateful to the many members who during the year in one way and another have told me of their appreciation of the work done by DCN on behalf of cyclists. A number of members show this appreciation by adding voluntary donations to their annual subscriptions, for which we are very grateful.

Michael Evans
14 June 2016