

Minutes for Wigan Borough Community Cycling Club

Emergency Steering Group Meeting

Virtual Meeting via Zoom at 7.15pm, 1 September 2020

1 Attendance:

Jim Taylor, Phil Brown, Allan Ricketts, Pete Hudson, Graham Cooper, Paul Broad

2 Apologies for absence received from:

Phil and Sue Bradley, Allan Finch, Paul Boffey and Clive Chatterton

3 Reason for emergency meeting

The meeting was called to discuss the implications of the latest Cycling UK guidance on group numbers. Currently, the maximum number allowed to cycle in a group is 6. As from 27 August 2020 this was increased to a maximum of 15; subject to social distancing, hand sanitation and other measures being in place. In support of this change in numbers Cycling UK issued a series of guidance leaflets to help club officials and members address the main issues arising from this change in numbers. Copies of this guidance are available via the following links:

https://www.cyclinguk.org/sites/default/files/document/2020/09/cycling_uk_coronavirus_guidance_for_volunteers.docx

https://www.cyclinguk.org/sites/default/files/document/2020/09/guidance_for_returning_to_group_activities.docx

https://www.cyclinguk.org/sites/default/files/document/2020/09/coronavirus_risk_assessment_for_groups_v1.docx

The Steering Group were asked to consider the implication of these significant changes on:

- a) The club ride to Knott End planned for Monday 7 September 2020;
- b) The possibility of re-introducing our weekly Tuesday and Thursday rides
- c) Any other area of concern

a) Knott End club ride

This trial event ride had been organised on the basis of having a maximum number of 6 riders per group with a number of ride leaders and back markers having been identified. Options to minimise contact between riders had been identified, including, staggered starts and riding the route in the reverse direction. In order to control numbers, members had been advised that pre-booking on the ride was an essential requirement, with a 5.00pm on Saturday 5 September 2020 as the deadline.

In light of the increase in numbers allowed to ride, the question was posed whether we look to organise the ride into larger groups. Following lengthy discussion there was general agreement that having the ability to ride in larger groups would present less organisational issues. However, we needed to be mindful that some riders may be uncomfortable joining a larger group than that originally suggested.

Prior to the ride, a ride description will be circulated to all those planning to attend and will include, Covid19 advice, the need for riders to carry own hand sanitiser, protective gloves and face covering and a reference to the potential change in group size. **Action: Phil Brown**

The process of allocating individuals into distinct groups was then discussed but no real solution was agreed, other than those riders on road bikes may form a distinct group.

b) Weekly Tuesday and Thursday rides

The question was asked whether this change in numbers would encourage the club to re-introduce the weekly Tuesday and Thursday rides. There was general agreement that the organisation of regular rides with the current constraints is far from straight forward and this matter will need further consideration.

c) Coronavirus Officer

A large part of the revised guidance from Cycling UK focussed on Covid19 and the measure to minimise its risks and a key element of this was the need to for clubs to appoint a named person as a Coronavirus Officer. This person would be responsible for overseeing the coronavirus risk assessments and ensuring that the club can adhere to any guidance issued by Cycling UK and/or UK government.

It was agreed we would write to all Steering Group members asking for a volunteer to undertake this role.

Action: Jim Taylor

It was also identified that it was necessary for the club to have some form of secure record-keeping to support the government's Test, Trace, Protect strategy. As a minimum, that means having contact details for everyone on a ride and a way of getting in touch with them so that people can be notified if someone they were riding with tests positive or later shows symptoms of coronavirus.

Following some discussion on this requirement it was agreed that Ride Leaders would ensure a ride register including contact telephone numbers was in place for each ride. It was also agreed that Ride Leaders would be the individual to notify each person confidentially if someone they were riding with tests positive or later shows symptoms of coronavirus.

3 Walkie-talkies radios

Phil informed the meeting that we currently only 3 working radios and over the past few years we have operated with 6. It was agreed we should purchase replacement radios asap. Graham and Paul identified replacement radios via Amazon Marketplace and Phil agreed to order these replacements.

Action: Phil Brown

The meeting was reminded that our bid to Wigan Rotary Club's Dragon's Den Community Support Fund was for the purchase of replacement radios. As this funding scheme had been temporarily suspended due to coronavirus it was agreed we should still go ahead to purchase the radios. It was generally believed that should our bid be considered worthy of support a retrospective could be made.

4 Date of next meeting - TBC