

## CTC Fife and Kinross.

### Minutes of Committee Meeting, Thursday 28th February, 2013.

**Welcome:** President and Chairman George White opened the Meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

**Present:** Nan Shepherd; George Shepherd; George McDermid; Dougie Latto; George White; George Berwick; Kaye Lynch; Jimmy Paton.

**Apologies:** Maureen Latto.

**Minutes of previous Committee Meeting:**

**Approved:** Nan Shepherd

**Seconded:** George White.

(subject to change of name from Diane Page to Diana Arnot in previous Welfare item).

**Action Points from previous Meeting:** (1) *Fife Council Forum on Cycle Route Development and Promotion.* Dougie Latto attended this Forum on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 where amongst many topics discussed, the following gives a flavour of the intentions of the Forum.

The Cycling Action Plan for Scotland which has as an objective to increase the current 2% of journeys by bike to 20% by 2020. Cycling Plan to be published in near future.

Proposed construction of Glenrothes to Freuchie Cycle Path adjacent to A92 over next 2 years.

Return this year of the very successful 2012 Halfords Cycle Tour, which was held in Kirkcaldy.

Increase in Bikeability programme, which is aimed at teaching/improving cycling proficiency.

A Survey of Fife Council employees concluded that the most common reason for not making journeys by bike, was the time taken in doing so.

Dougie submitted a request, that when Road works contracts were drawn up that involved the use of Temporary Traffic Lights, that the timing of the light controller took into account the time it may take cyclists to negotiate the hazard.

Cyclists representing CTC, Sustrans and Fife Council attended and it was clear that any feedback on existing or future cycle paths would be welcome.

It was suggested that we invite representatives from the Forum to one of our Committee Meetings in future.

The next Meeting of the Forum is scheduled for the end of May and that there would be in the order of three such Meetings per annum. In general there was a very positive feeling about the work of the Forum and its intentions.

(2) *Research on purchase of Digital Projector for slide shows.* George McDermid had undertaken some research on behalf of the Committee with regard to the most suitable type of Digital Projector the Member Group should consider purchasing. After discussion, it was agreed that we should go for a mains powered model, over battery power as this would be more appropriate for venue sizes used by us. Also portability would not be a problem, given our anticipated use. Committee agreed that George should proceed with the purchase of a mains powered model, with an estimated cost in the region of £250.

### **Reports and Matters Arising:** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Secretary's Report/Correspondence:**

Dec 15, 2012.

Confirmation of receipt of annual statistical returns by CTC Membership office.

Dec 20, 2012.

Request for club details from Andrew Cornwell for Cycling 2013 book. Free 2012 copy to circulate.

Jan 9, 2013.

Info on Tri Vets 2013 from Peter Hawkins. June 9<sup>th</sup> Stirling. To CTC F&K website.

Jan 15, 2013.

Info on KM Rally from Peter Hawkins, May bank holiday w/e. Volunteers needed to make afternoon teas for 50 riders at Braeval near Aberfoyle. To CTC F&K website.

Jan 16, 2013.

Request from members for important new CTC info to be circulated on email group or email pointer to club website when important new info is added (re missed info on Peter Allen's funeral).

Feb 13, 2013.

Email discussion about new magazine Scottish Cycling, currently free, published by Times and Herald,

Continuing but so far unsuccessful attempts to divert CTC Scotland committee emails to our club rep. George McDermid.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Maureen submitted the following information showing the current status of Group's finances:-

##### **Bank Balance at Commencement of Year £1848.38.**

Bank Balance at last Meeting, 10.12.12.	£1762.34.
Current Bank Balance, 28.2.20013.	£1748.09.

(expenditure: £14.25. – hire of Falkland Hall)

**Petty Cash. £31.11p.**

**Income: £11.** Members attending Falkland Hall.

**Outgoings: £1.80.** Printing of Winter Newsletter.

CTC National have confirmed they received our accounts.

**Membership:** George White reported our Member Group currently had a Membership of 288.

Over January and February, 2013 we attracted 10 new members and they were spread throughout Central, West and North East Fife. New members continue to show reluctance to include their e-mail addresses in joining information and this does make our initial contact more cumbersome and expensive given current postage costs.

**Website:** Webmaster George McDermid spoke on the development of our new website and advised the Committee of a variety of useful and interesting Statistics he could obtain from it, some of which included:- 1. The website was attracting some 250 unique visitors per month. 2. Most visitors came from links via CTC Scotland site then finding CTC Fife and Kinross. 3. Facebook was the second most popular link to our site. 4. Busiest time for website was on Friday and Saturday evenings when it was thought enquirers were ascertaining/confirming Run venue and commenting post Run on Saturday. 5. Most accessed informations are Facebook entries following Saturday Run. 6. Our Newsletter, 'Fife Wheels' and 'Runs' page are equally popular. 7. Minimum time visiting is 30 secs. and a popular length of visit is around 2 mins. 8. Self-registration for Newsletter increased by about 10. 9. With any Poll that is held, there is a reasonable response, given the core number of active Group members. George went on to emphasise that a Facebook Account is not necessary to access the various informations available on site, any user merely needs to click on the link given and access will be gained.

A 'For Sale' section is up and running and requires any seller to include CTC Membership Number to ensure Bona Fide participation.

George has been approached in connection with the benefits of having such a website, promoting cycling and building social awareness through such a means and it is hoped an article will appear in a future edition of CTC 'Cycle' Magazine.

The Committee thanked George for the excellent work he was putting into the continuing development of the website.

George White asked that the Minutes, following their approval by the Committee, were published on the website and this was agreed.

**Welfare:** George White made mention of the recent deaths of Jim Traill and Peter Allan, two valued Members of our Group.

Also reported that there is no betterment in respect of Sid Robertson, previously seriously injured in a Road accident involving an HGV at Kelty Interchange.

**Newsletter:** Dougie Latto, Newsletter Editor advised the Meeting that he had sourced a Printer who was willing to print off the necessary number of copies for those Members wishing a 'hard copy' of same at a very competitive price. The previous distribution of 8 copies incurred printing costs of £1.80.

It is hoped to carry an advert for The Bicycle Shed, Aberdour in future editions and this would cost said company £5 per issue.

Dougie will explore possibility of attracting more advertising from appropriate businesses as a means of generating income.

Next issue of Newsletter should be published around mid-April.

**Runs:** Nan Shepherd reported that all Runs were continuing to be well attended. It was thought a good idea that 30/40 mile runs could be circulated on website, whereby the route is given and participants could join/leave the run at any convenient point to them. Also, once a month there could be longer runs where, if wished, participants could camp overnight and return home next day. This overnight element is of course not mandatory.

Discussion then followed on the various Insurance conditions relating to persons taking part in CTC Runs i.e. Members and Non-Members (latter with limited attendances only permitted).

Dougie requested that the '5 Ferries' Run to be held later in year be regarded as an official publicised Run and this was agreed.

**Social: Holiday,** George Shepherd advised the Meeting that the Group Annual Holiday to Fochabers, later this year was booked and had been paid for.

**Slide Show,** George will now give thought to organising our regular Slide Show now that the Committee have given the go ahead to purchase a Digital Projector.

**Social Evenings,** George reported that no Winter evening events had been held in The Gunner Club, Kirkcaldy this year due to uncertainty of availability of the premises. He will make enquiries about holding a further Bowling evening in Dunfermline as previous such evenings were a success.

Dougie Latto asked that thought be given to holding a 'Quiz Night' which could also be used as a fund raiser and this the Committee agreed to do.

**Right to Ride:** George Berwick advised the Meeting that the Next meeting of The Fife Access Forum would take place the following week and that he would be in attendance. George then went on to discuss in general terms, the poor state of Fife's roads and the numerous closures locally.

**Hut:** All thought to be in order at the Hut, with a Spring clean scheduled for next month.

**CTC (S):** George McDermid attended the recent meeting in Edinburgh, which he found interesting and encouraging given the positive 'vibe' that prevailed. George advised that Peter Hayman CTC(S) Councillor is to stand down from this post this year. There was discussion on the Business Plan for CTC(S) and efforts were to be made to secure a full-time, paid member of staff for Scotland. A new logo for CTC(S) was also produced. George and Denise both intend to attend The KM Rally this year, CTC(S) having tried to encourage participation in such events. George concluded by commenting that the Meeting was full of enthusiasm and most encouraging for the future of cycling in Scotland.

#### **AOCB:**

*(1) Face-book Incident:* The Committee considered the Face-book incident in which various members felt insulted and offended by comments posted on the Club's website by another member.

This was seen as bringing the Club into disrepute as these comments were posted on a public forum and it was decided that the matter should be investigated by a member of the Committee. In order to minimise any suspicion of bias, the process was monitored by yet another Committee member.

As the member involved justified his comments by alleging that these were in response to an insulting comment, a search was made for the offending post.

No such post could be found at the time, however at the time the Committee met, hard copy of a post containing the alleged insulting comment was shown to the Committee.

This was not on the Club's Face-book page but on that of another member and was a jocular comment addressed to a personal friend. The Committee felt that as this was posted around the time of the incident and that the friend in question shared the same first name with the member, it was possible that he had wrongly identified this as being directed at himself. If this was the case, then the Committee will ask the member to remove from the public domain, any criticism of CTC Fife and Kinross or any of its members.

The Committee will issue a letter of reprimand to the offending member and ask him to remove all of the offending material from the public domain.

(2) *Discussion on Web Strategy:* George McDermid highlighted the fact that we as a Committee/Member Group should focus attention on what we should be trying to achieve by use of the website, including rules as to what to include. It was agreed to give this matter further thought as to what should be included on the website which would encourage 'visitors' to want to come and join us.

(3) *Prize for Wednesday Run Attendance:* Following discussion, it was agreed that there should be a Trophy for the best attendance on Wednesday Runs.

(4) *Car Assist Runs/Sunday Rides/Other Ideas:* All of the foregoing were agreed in principal and thought would be given to these areas of our activity.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May at George White's house, 2 Cupar Road, Auchtermuchty at 7.00pm.

**Meeting Closed:** 9.50pm.