

**Yeovil Cycling Club Annual General Meeting Minutes 2023
at the The Parish Room, The Forum, Yeovil
on 11 September 2023 at 7.30 pm**

Appendix A: Record of attendance of non-committee members

Enclosure 1: Financial Report

Present

Dave Notley	Chairman/Newsletter Secretary
Garry Michener	President
Derek Todd	Treasurer
Martin Wills	Runs Secretary
Nick Armstrong	Road Race Secretary
Sandra Wills	General Secretary
Mark Boxall	Membership Secretary
Mark Fisher	Committee Member
Robert Galvin	Committee Member
Mark Edwards	Committee Member

Members: See Appendix A

Agenda

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Chairman's Opening Remarks

Thank you all for attending this evening, it is encouraging that you are all taking an interest in the Club. After all, it is your Club, we, the Committee, are only here to try and make what you want happen, within the rules and regulations that govern the sport. I am sure you all realise it is not as simple as turning up and riding your bike with a bunch of like-minded folk.

The mandate of the club is to encourage all forms of cycling and this year we have done a number of things:

We introduced the Race Support scheme to encourage club riders to compete in more than just one-off events by giving a small grant to cover entry fees and travel expenses.

We have subsidised the catering for the 100 mile Sunday ride, (and our thanks go to the Cottle family team for doing such a great job). And we will do the same for the Bacon Bap ride at Xmas.

The Evening Time Trials are run at a minimal cost to members and we continue to subsidize Junior riders.

The bike boxes are still available for club members to hire for a small fee. They have recently been refurbished and we will be reviewing whether we replace them or make them free going forward.

We have the club centenary coming up in a few years which we hope to celebrate with club members past and present.

In the meanwhile if you have any suggestions as to what else we can do to encourage more people out, either in terms of different activities or by using some of our cash reserves then please let us know.

After we have had a short report from each of the Committee members we will move on to the Election of Officers. I am pleased to say all of the current incumbents are willing to stand again, but that doesn't preclude any of you standing too. If past experience is anything to go by I suspect there won't be a rush. But once again I implore you to consider whether you can do something in the future and you can start now by Shadowing the existing officer. None of the positions are very demanding but if you already have an understanding of what is required it will make it so much easier for you when your time to shine comes.

Finally, before we get onto the formal business I should like to take a moment just to remember our dear friend John Butler. As I am sure most of you will know John passed away just five days into his latest epic ride. What you may not realise is how much John did for the Club. He was a key part of the Thursday ride organisation and did a lot of work helping the Club navigate the minefield of Covid Regulations and more recently our self imposed safety measures for weather warnings. There are a lot of tributes on our Facebook page, all reflecting on what a Gentleman and inspirational rider he was. The Club will do something to honour his memory in due course, but at the moment our thoughts are with his family and friends. John died doing what he loved, what better way to go? May he rest in peace.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Sue Nisbet, Nick Young, Tim Watkins, Steve Price and Mark Bowditch.

2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

3 General Secretary's Report

My role in the club is quite simple in that I receive and respond to correspondence and take and produce minutes of our monthly committee meetings.

I have become proficient in passing on most correspondence, which needs actioning, to other committee members.

4 Treasurer's Report

See final page for income/expenditure.

5 Time Trial Secretary's Report

This year kicked off with a last minute change of HQ. RNAS Yeovilton had a policy change which meant they

wanted a ridiculous amount of money for access to the air base and hire of the Sports Pavilion. Luckily Marston Magna village Hall was available. It has worked well, a little further to the 5 mile start but very handy for the 10s. It has been booked again for next year.

2023 has seen a steady improvement in the number of riders compared to last year. Although 16 is the maximum we have had on any one night we have had 46 different riders doing the 5 and 41 at the 10s. Now all we need is to get them all to come out each week!

There was one accident which required a trip to YDH, caused we believe by equipment failure. It probably took longer to do all the paperwork than it did for the rider to be cleaned up and stitched up, so please try and stay upright.

The Hill Climb will take place at the beginning of October, it will be free to all YCC members and £3 for other clubs (which covers the CTT levy). We would love to have a ladies champion this year, any takers...

The TT series should just about break even. That is largely down to the generosity of the team that help to run it not claiming any expenses. So a huge thank you to Martin Wills, Mark Johnson, Gary Mitchener and Derek Todd for not giving up their time so freely.

6. Road Race Secretary's Report

This has been another year when Yeovil CC has promoted no road or circuit races, and it has none planned for 2024. Unsurprisingly, none of the Club's members scored any BC ranking points in the national or regional tables. In sum, the Club has little interest in road racing at present. I have continued to perform Accredited Marshal (AM) duties when required. The other Club members who were trained and qualified as AMs have not been active for some years, and would be required to undertake refresher training if they wished resume this activity.

I should add that we are not unusual in this situation. The number of road races nationally has declined, in many cases with organisers citing financial non-viability due to lack of entries. BC is trying to ascertain whether this is due to a lack of numbers wishing to race, or because the costs for the riders are too high.

As for this year's activity in our South West Region, the programme is coordinated by the South West Road Race Work Group (SWRRWG). It comprises 9 road races, 4 of which are BC National events organised by the SWRRWG. The remaining 5 are organised by clubs in the Region. In addition, 29 closed circuit races are provided on 4 different circuits:

Westpoint, Exeter
Merryfield (1 only), Ilton
Torbay Velopark
Wheal Jane, Cornwall

If any Club members would like to give road or circuit racing a try, but are not sure what is involved, I would be happy to offer some pointers

7 Membership Secretary's Report

Membership status:

End year 2022	153
Renewed in 2023	131
Lapsed in 2023	22
New in 2023	15
Year to date	146

Membership remains strong although it has declined by 3 since the AGM in 2022. We normally gain a few members in the final quarter of the year and I expect the final figure to exceed 150 members by year end.

I have now completed 4 years as Membership Secretary and I am willing to continue in this role.

8. Runs Secretary's Report

Thank you all for turning up to listen to me for the umpteenth time.

We have had a good year pedalling around the back lanes of Somerset and Dorset, with occasional forays into Wiltshire and Devon and the Thursday rides have even dipped a toe into Gloucestershire, Hampshire and Wales. Mostly it has been a re-hash of our usual haunts. Same old places in a different order. Numbers have been reasonably constant but never reaching pre- pandemic levels. This is why I've belatedly launched a more relaxed, slightly shorter ride on Sundays, to tempt back some of our previous members and hopefully new ones, who think we go too far and too fast. I should have done this in the spring but it only occurred to me, when Alex and I were the only ones doing the short ride one Sunday and we averaged 16 mph.

You may wonder why I'm concentrating my efforts on the slower riders. Well, You are all grown ups and some of you have been cycling in a group for many years and have a wealth of cycling experience to share. Part of belonging to a club like ours is using our experience to help and educate the inexperienced at every level, so if I target the slower riders, you folks still get to rush and tear about the lanes, while nurturing the speedier newcomers and returnees.

Weather wise, the year been a mixed bag. A mediocre autumn followed by a chilly winter and a brilliant late spring, sadly, with a dull summer to follow. We've missed a few outings due to rain or freezing conditions but no more than normal.

We were lucky this year with Sandra's Hundred, it stayed 95% dry, with sunny spells and the breeze was quite tolerable. There were 55 riders, which broke down into 40 club members 10 guests and 5 of Tory Black's Saturday regulars. Marilyn and Leanne were most pleased to have seen and fed all of the participants twice this year. The new route worked out OK and it's no surprise that Sam Fox holds the female record and I think, either Alan Jones or Mark Rolls hold the male record.

Where the Sunday rides have been much of the same, the Thursday rides have mixed the usual rides like Portland Bill, Moreton and the Quantocks, with epic adventures to the Bath Tunnels, The Cotswold Water Park, Exmoor and the Wye Valley, which unfortunately had to be cut short, as several of those who were taking part arrived late due to traffic chaos on the M5.

Sadly, as you are all aware, one of the two leading lights of the Thursday rides, John Butler, died in Saint Michel, France, 5 days into his last 65 day cycling expedition. We will miss his considerable input and enthusiasm for our cycling endeavours and our deepest condolences go to his wife Marilyn.

We have been meeting up at the Chilton Grove car park of Mudford Road Recreation Ground, now known as Yeovil Recreation Centre, for the last twelve years. Previous to this, we met at Johnsons Park but the lack of access to toilets and the increase of lady members, who didn't think nipping behind the bins was appropriate, meant we moved to our present spot.

In April of this year, South Somerset District Council, who previously ran Yeovil Recreation Centre, ceased to exist, taken over by the new Somerset Council. Somerset Council have put the facility in the hands of a private company called Leisure Bookings, who now also employ the existing ground staff. Leisure Bookings want to turn a profit from Yeovil Recreation Centre and intended to put in ticket machines and charge for parking. Thus far this has been rebuffed by local Yeovil Councillors, so Leisure Bookings are restricting the amount of time cars can be left in the car park to 4 hours or will do when they have new signs made to this effect. This all came to light, when we had ten cars arrive for Sandra's Hundred and the groundsman on duty thought it was a regular thing and got spooked. So when this new restriction comes in, if you park up at 8.45 on a Sunday you could be liable for a fine after 12.45, not a lot of good if the run goes to Cheddar or further. With this in mind, I had a meeting with Ashley Smalley, the Leisure Bookings manager of Yeovil Recreation Centre. Ashley was formerly employed by the council to manage the site and is sympathetic to our needs.

He suggested that we move over to the Athletics Centre off Marsh Lane. There we would have ample parking with no restrictions, if we need it, access to better toilets in the Joanna France building and somewhere to shelter if it's inclement weather before we start off. The Yeovil Olympiads don't use it on Sundays, except perhaps a couple of times a year, so we would be left alone.

The only downside I can see, is the road surface on Marsh Lane is abysmal and I will have to edit about 180 Garmin routes to reflect our new start point.

I don't really think we have a choice and this is the only option but I would value any comments you may have.

I would like the move to be in place by Sunday 24th September.

9. Records Secretary's Report

DN reported that he believes Will Salter has improved the club 5 mile Junior and Male records. The committee will also review the trophy situation in light of the clubs desire to have both male and female versions of a trophy in a discipline when there are both sexes competing, and to change the Points trophy to be awarded on Age Adjusted Times (AAT) for 2024.

10. Newsletter Editor's Report

Three editions of The Pedaller have been published so far this year, January, April and August. Next January's edition will be sent out in December. Thank you to all the club members that have contributed articles this year, it certainly helps to increase the variety of content.

If you are doing, or have completed, an interesting cycling related activity please consider sharing it with your fellow club members. You can email me pictures and a rough text, I am happy to edit the content for you.

The number of emailed copies are steadily increasing, about 70 members currently choose that method. If you would prefer to get your copy by email please let Mark Boxall know and he will update your preferences. If you are not getting yours please check your Junk mail or make sure Mark has your correct email address. We are working on updating the website so all the back issues are available

11. Welfare Officer's Press Secretary's Report

Nothing to report.

12. Press Secretary's Report

No-one in post, although Mark Fisher has submitted several reports to the Western Gazette.

13. Motions

13.1 From Mark Fisher – that the existing Race Support Scheme continues, subject to an annual review by the committee.

Last year Mark Fisher was the only member using the race support scheme. This year 2 members will be getting support. It should be seen as a long term goal to encourage people to take part in racing with a view to growth over the next few years. Cyclocross is the only discipline which has been supported so far.

Sam Fox seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

14. Election of Officers

All officers are willing to continue in their roles

Officers for 2023/4 are therefore:

President	Garry Michener
Honorary Vice President	Derek Todd
Executive Committee:	
Chairman	Dave Notley
Deputy Chairman	Derek Todd
General Secretary	Sandra Wills
Treasurer	Derek Todd
Time Trial Secretary	Vacant
Membership Secretary	Mark Boxall
Road Race Secretary	Nick Armstrong
Runs Secretary	Martin Wills
Records Secretary	Nick Young
Newsletter Editor	Dave Notley
Press Secretary	Vacant
Welfare Officer	Sue Nisbet
Committee Members	Robert Galvin
	Mark Edwards
	Mark Fisher

The meeting was asked if there was anyone prepared to shadow committee members to gain and understanding into the roles. Mark Fisher was prepared to shadow Nick Armstrong but as Race Secretary not Road Race Secretary. Nick stated that there are distinct areas and he does not feel that BC activities should be combined. Nick and Mark to discuss further.

Mark Fisher volunteered to be Press Officer with a view to changing the role title to Media Officer.

15. Affiliations

It was agreed unanimously to continue with affiliations to British Cycling, Cycling UK, CTT, Western TT Association and Road Peace.

Mark Fisher suggested the club should make a donation to the Dave Rayner Fund which encourages young cyclists. Martin read a report detailing how the lack of freedom of movement since BREXIT means that the fund is not tenable at the moment. Mark agreed to withdraw the motion and for the club to decide where a donation should be made.

Mark Fisher proposed that the club should donate to Ride for Charlie. This was seconded by Lynn Hawkins and the motion was carried. The club will donate £250 this year.

16 Any Other Business

- 16.1 Mark Edwards requested that club members submit more photos for the website as those being used are rather limited. It was suggested it should be done as a competition with prize(s) for the winner(s). Agreed

Attendees were thanked for attending the meeting which closed at 8.50 pm.

Appendix A

Record of Attendance of Non-Committee Members

Stuart Wroot

Julia Boxall

Neil Cochrane

Nigel Andrews

Dave Driver

Bob Bennetts

Alex Thompson

Lynn Hawkins

Karen Hawkins

Marius Evans

Steve Talbot

Richard Bevan

Sam Fox

Marc Powell

Yeovil Cycling Club Income & Expenditure 2022 – 23

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Opening Balance	15741.63	Affiliations:	
Membership Subs	2477.50	CTT (2023)	30.00
		WTTA (2023)	15.00
		British Cycling (2023)	74.00
		Cycling UK (2022-23)	85.00
		Road Peace (2023)	25.00
		Forum Venue Hire (2023)	104.50
Race Promotions:			
Evening TTs (2022) After CTT levies of £510.00	284.82		333.50
		Marston Magna Village Hall (2023)	287.50
	284.82	Catering (Sandras 100)	130.00
		Italian Evening	169.03
		Engraving / Trophies (2023)	77.00
Cheque(1564) not presented from 2022	156.00	Kit Purchase	50.76
Bike Box Hire (Less refurb costs of £135.99)	110.01	Newsletter Postage / Printing	257.83
Deposit A/c Interest	5.06	Web site	0.00
Kit Sales	50.60	Membership Sec. Expenses	146.00
	18825.62	Equipment Storage	468.00
		Member Racing Expenses	200.00
		Welfare Sec - BC Membership 2022 & 2023	83.60
		Donations / Cards / Flowers	0.00
Income for Year	3083.99	Total Expenditure for Year	2203.22
		Santander (Current A/c)	5968.26
Excess of Income over Expenditure	880.77	Santander (Deposit A/c)	11074.61
		Cash in Hand (inc £50 TT float + £334.93 DTs FD a/c)	515.13
			17558.00
		Less current year's eve TT income to date	935.60
			16622.40
		Sep 2022 Balance plus current year's surplus	16622.40
		Non cash assets:	
		Stop watches, £5, Trophies (£100), Car signs (£30), Display boards (£45), Safety signs (£45), Bike boxes (£250)	475.00

Derek Todd (Hon Treasurer) 01/09/2023

Derek Todd

Assisted by Tim Watkins 2/9/2023

Reviewed