

Marlow Riders Annual General Meeting 2021– Minutes

Location: Zoom

Date: Wednesday 23 June at 7:30pm

Apologies

We had apologies from Ruth Frost, Joe Duhan, Simon Morgan, Rob Allen

Attendees

30 people attended via Zoom

Approval of last year's minutes

It was noted that the AGM minutes are published on the website.

Chairman's Opening Remarks

Russel noted it was a shame that we couldn't meet in person

Membership and Finances are in a good state

Thanks were extended to Chris Heath as outgoing Chairman and to the team who have taken over organisation of the Easy Tigers Gill, Matt W and Mike D

Thanks were extended to Jonathan Smith who is stepping down as member representative

Financial Report

The Financial Report was covered in brief by Russell as the Treasurer was unavailable. The attendees and broader club are welcome to read the report and submit any questions to the treasure at treasurer@marlowriders.org.uk

- This has been an extraordinary year with the outbreak of the Coronavirus which saw lockdowns across the country and indeed the world. Due to the turmoil and the fact that members weren't able to ride and meet together the membership was extended until 31 March 2022. Membership at the year end was 355.
- The Club has a healthy cash position which is used to support members activities and the general running of the club, and for charitable purposes.
- During the year we raised £4,400 through a Covid-19 appeal and members contributed a further £4,000 from the Club's retained funds.



- The annual Red Kite sportive was suspended this year, but the Club continued to support local and national charities, albeit on a reduced scale.
- Sportive nominated Charities - Samaritans, Wycombe Homeless, Young People with Dementia, Thames Valley Air Ambulance and Marlow Sports Club. The total amount raised for good causes over the eight years since the inaugural event now exceeds £75,000
- Accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021 have been finalised and approved by the committee

Future plans

- Maintain the membership fee at £40
- Cap membership for the foreseeable future at 375, in order to ...
 - Retain the 'one club' feel
 - Ensure we have the appropriate number of Ride Leaders to ride safely
 - Remain within the capacity of our coffee stop venues
 - Gain support for club social events
- Promote safety and the enjoyment of cycling through ongoing training and coaching for our members
 - "Ride Leaders", "Group Riding" and "First Aid" courses
 - Educational Talks on Nutrition, Exercise and general Health & Wellbeing
 - Bike maintenance, puncture repair & route planning workshops
 - Provision of free helmet tags and foil blankets
- Continue our important support of local charities

Reappointment of Marlow Riders Committee Members

Jonathan Smith has decided to step down as Members Representative. He will be much missed and the committee would like to extend their thanks for all that he has given to the running of the club.

The remaining current committee members are happy to continue in their current roles and there have been two changes as follows:

Chairman:	Russell King (new)
Treasurer:	Rob Allan
Captain:	Ken McCrorie
Vice Captain:	Jane Eastman
Vice Captain:	Kylie Grant (new)
Club Secretary:	Elaine Iley
Red Kite Director:	Graeme Badenoch

The committee will discuss the best way to fill the role of Members Representative over the coming months.



It was noted that it takes many members to make the club work, including Dafina on membership and Andi running communications amongst many others providing background and organisational support.

Roles voted in:

Russell was proposed as chairman by Ken McCrorie and seconded by Karine Kylie was proposed as vice captain by Any Lee and seconded by Judi Badenoch

Operational Cycling

Focus on the positives:

- Members still riding but Solo or in Twos
- Members adopted WhatsApp ! Social distanced riding in groups of 6 - it worked
- Members meeting in locations in and around Marlow
- Zoom Calls to new members to welcome them to the club
- Unlock - 40 Riders took part in **The Captains Ride Isle of Wight**
- **Members Red Kite Ride** ending with Barbeque - 100 tickets sold ! A great opportunity to meet members
- Introduction to **TEAM** - A new way to arrange rides
- ETs under new leadership
- ETs meeting back at MSC

- Ride Leader Training - 3 x courses - If any new ride leaders want support or to buddy up please contact Ken

- New members introduction ride on Good Friday 3 x groups
- **All groups returned to MSC June 6th**

Thanks given

- Thanks to Richard Moir for setting up the Teams app, it is useful for letting coffee stops know who is riding as well as organizing the rides
- Thanks to ride leaders and those organising the rides

Red Kite Sportive

Plans for 2021 Red Kite event

- Sunday 5th September 2021
- Ninth running of Red Kite Ride
- Three routes remain as per 2019: 100, 80 & 50. (with exception of Eythrope Park in 100)



- 5 Charities: Samaritans Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead, Thames Valley Air Ambulance, Wycombe Homeless Connection, Younger People with Dementia and Marlow Sports Club
- Price kept same as 2020 at £35
- Entries launched on 5th March. Currently capped at 600 but will be reviewed in the coming weeks.
- 382 entries so far, 150+ more than this time in 2019 with limited marketing.

Volunteers

They need a minimum of 120 volunteers to fill around 250 roles. So far only 95 survey responses received from 369 members with many of those advising unavailability.

There was a request to complete the survey ASAP at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RedKiteRideVolunteersSurvey2021>

Andi was asked to put this in the next newsletter

MSC Update

- MSC is a charity of which we are a member.
- The MSC Committee have done a really good job at surviving Covid
- They got a grant from Buckinghamshire Council and finished the year with a small surplus
- Thanks to Dawn for her work for MSC and support for Marlow Riders

Club Kit

WHY?

- Contract with Primal expired
- Club member, Helen Grimster, offered an opportunity to work with Stolen Goat
- Benefits:
 - Similar prices to Primal (basically c40% off SG's retail prices)
 - Better quality, better value, better service - delivered direct to members' homes at no additional cost
 - No order windows (order any time) - great for new members and easier to administer,
 - Better quality winter kit (similar to Castelli),



- Addition of non-Club branded shorts and tights at 40% off retail

HOW?

- Consulted about 20 or so members from all groups and considered a similar number of design variants.
- Committee approved the final designs and the associated website.

WHAT?

- History - three red-based jerseys and one black - from three different suppliers Owayo, Endura and Primal
- Design is an iteration on the most recent design with all the key elements remaining - Chevrons, Logo, Text, orientation of Text
- Intend to remain with the design/supplier for the next five years.
- White sleeve hasn't returned and the white side panel has also gone. There was feedback that the large areas of white were prone to staining/discoloration
- Black kit discontinued for both safety and identity reasons
- No personalisation - have tried to find a high quality supplier that can do that but not successfully
- There will be some accessories available with the new system

WHEN?

- Winter Kit "launch" in mid July

WHO?

- Helen Grimster takes over from Mark Humphrey as Kit Captain many, many thanks to Mark for all his excellent work on Kit over the years.

Questions

- Gill N: How to get kit now ? As the current window has closed the purchase of new kit will need to wait for the opening of the winter kit. It was communicated during the last primal window that it will be the last.
 - Suggestion by Gill: Marlow Riders buy and Sell Facebook page
 - Suggestion by Stephen Tolmie: Team App– could have a different section for selling kit



- Judi B– did we go back to Primal to discuss what they could do to compete with Stolen Goat. Answer: No we didn't do a competitive tendering process
- Andy Lee confirmed that Endura was not great service and Primal had similar issues
- Nigel – can we see samples ? No but they have sizing charts and a video. There are Covid restrictions to sharing samples around.
 - Suggestion: Can try in retail shops for size or order online and return
- Noted – the wearing of kit is optional and we welcome all kits to be worn. It is not mandatory to buy new kit.

Any other Business

- Andy Lee – what is membership capped at - 375
- Next year is 10th anniversary of Marlow Riders starting

Closing remarks from the Chair

Thanks to the committee and for the others who help the club

The committee are here to talk to – please come and find us

