

Committee Meeting 19 October 2023 at The Brig, Altofts Notes of Meeting

Present: Meg Andrews (Chair), Neville Andrews, David Keighley, Malcolm Morris, Andy

Beecroft

Apologies: Mark Beswick, David Leigh, Sandi Kinkead

1	Minutes of the last meeting (21 September)	Agreed	
2	Matters arising	Ride Leaders' First Aid. An email was sent to the four Ride Leaders (DL, DK, LH, NB) who need to update their First Aid qualifications. Still outstanding.	Neville
		The dates and locations for the 12 WoW rides next year have been finalised and agreed with WMDC.	
3	Rides Programme 2023	So far in 2023 we have run 122 rides with an average of 8.2 cyclists per ride.	
3A	Rides Programme 2024	On 18 th October 23 a meeting was held with WMDC, between John Gallagher and Lou Galloway (WMDC); and Meg Andrews and Neville Andrews (WDCF) ostensibly to discuss funding for next year.	
		JG began with a presentation on 'Our Year', which consisted of various events that are scheduled to take place throughout 2024. 12 WoW rides and 12 walking events will be provided for what will be called 'The Moving Festival'. There will be a poster and social media campaign to make people aware of what is happening and all events will be advertised on the 'Experience Wakefield' website.	All
		The Forum has been asked to organise 12 monthly WoW rides from various locations including a WoW event in August – probably on Sunday 4 th August and based at Pugneys. The event will consist of 7 rides, only one of which will cover the full 21 mile route. The other shorter routes eg. Pugneys to Sandal Castle, Pugneys to Newmillerdam, should be suitable for people who may not feel able to cycle the full route. The proposed cycle hub at Pugneys will provide bikes on a similar basis to that used at Thornes ie. free to use but with a returnable deposit. We would be able to use these bikes to support our rides on other days.	
		The council will take care of registration for the August event and the 12 WoW rides using Eventbrite. The expectation is that we will see many more cyclists than we normally get on our rides and may need to draft in	

additional Ride Leaders, possibly from WMDC, Wakefield Clarion or other cycling groups. We will need to establish a 'break point' for each ride after say 5 miles at which point riders decide if they've had enough and want to give up and return to the start. After that, barring accidents, they will be expected to complete the ride. WMDC will have a vehicle available for anyone and their bike who needs collecting.

The WoW map redesigned by the Forum has been passed to the council for them to add the 'Our Year' branding. The map will then be printed by the council. It is intended to have an interactive and online version, so that the public can choose to get information about the Wonders, details of the trails for children, places to eat, toilets, bike repair facilities etc.

The WoW rides and associated route are an integral part of the council strategy for Our Year and the upkeep of the route and the removal of barriers will receive special attention from the departments concerned. The WoW route will be promoted and maintained by the council and be added to in future years by WoW2 and WoW3 in different parts of the district. The Forum's ideas for a Five Towns route or one taking in Harry Malkin's artwork, Malkin's Meander were mentioned.

The council are supporting the creation of several cycle hubs throughout the district with three categories – Gold, Silver and Bronze. A Gold hub would provide bike hire, bike repair, bike maintenance sessions, ride leader training etc. whereas a Bronze hub may only have a few bikes and a basic repair kit. All equipment would be funded via grants, possibly from WYCA.

IPugneys would be a Gold standard cycle hub with a cycle shop and bike loan on site provided by J's Cycle Shack and maintenance facilities provided by the team from The Brig. Rycroft, with a few bikes and basic tools would be Bronze standard.

Both John and Lou are now part of the 'Sport and Physical Activity' team, tasked with promoting two activities: -

- 1) Learn to ride by age 12
- 2) WoW rides.

Cycling now comes under Sport and Physical Activity with John Wilcox heading up Strategy, Martin Barnes Infrastructure and Barriers, John Gallagher Cycle Wakefield promotion and Lou Galloway Skills and Opportunities. It is hoped the new meetings will be more focused and last only about an hour.

		Martin Barnes Infrastructure (barriers) Looking our quote, WMDC will provide financial support for the 12 WoW rides, the WoW event in August and 10 rides from each of Eastmoor and Rycroft. These are the only events that they require us to do as part of the SLA and for which we need to provide the statistics. As loan bikes will be provided and maintained via the	
		cycle hubs, the part of our quote relating to bike replacement and maintenance was rejected.	
		The number of rides that we are being asked to provide has reduced significantly to just 32, the total grant for next year will be just over £6,000 and not the £10,000 we asked for.	
		Under the 2023 SLA, the Forum has reviewed and redesigned the WoW route and map. As part of the Our Year, WMDC will cover the printing costs of a WoW map with Our Year branding. They are seeking costings for the diversion to Sandal Castle and if this is not proceeded with, the original route will be reinstated and the route to the castle shown as 'proposed' in dotted lines.	
		Other Rides Programme related matters:-	
		In 2024 the Eastmoor ride be once a month instead of twice 2023.	David K, Malcolm
		It was agreed that all Ride Leaders should have had Ride Leader training, First Aid training and DBS certification.	Neville All
		For each WMDC associated ride, the Forum commits to providing a Ride Leader and a Back Marker.	Neville
		For ride events advertised on Facebook, it was agreed that the 'Chat' option would not be used.	INCVIIIC
4	Treasurers Report	The current balance of the account stands at £71,094.11. There have been no bank transactions since the end of September.	
5	Newsletter	The next issue will be out in December.	Meg

		Meg asked for articles and photos.	All
6	Workdays and workday equipment	There have been two mini workdays to clear the entrance to the new path at Nostell and the vegetation from beyond there.	
		No progress yet on the Canal at Altofts. We will request a quote and pursue this with the council.	Andy
		A request to rectify the hole near the boulder on the WoW alongside the canal near to the zig zag will be submitted to the council (David Houldsworth) at the meeting arranged on the 27 th October.	David K
		Castleford Mill bike store. A site meeting was arranged for Saturday 21st October to enable Andy to see inside. He outlined his repair plans for the leaking roof which will cost around £1,000. We would like to be able to open the store window install a solar panel costing	Andy, Neville
		around £180 to generate electricity for lighting etc. We will investigate grant funding. The Mill Chief Executive Has said she would grant us a lease following the repairs.	Meg
7	Wakefield Wheel Rides in 2024	It was suggested that these be on: 30 March, 29 June, 31 August and 28 September – all subject to weather. These will appear in the 2024 programme.	Malcolm
		In memory of Bob Newton, who died recently in the Prince of Wales Hospice, it is proposed to hold a special WoW ride, probably in August sponsored in aid of the Hospice. At the AGM next week, volunteers will be sought for a sub-committee to organise this.	
8	AGM	The AGM is on Thursday 26 th October at 7pm in Wakefield Town Hall.	
		Apart from Neville, who wishes to resign as Rides Coordinator, it is anticipated that current postholders are willing to stand for re-election.	
		It was suggested that next year's AGM be held immediately prior to an annual dinner as this might attract more participants.	
9	Purchase of a device to process card payments	This will be progressed. The device must be able to work in areas without Wi-Fi and allow multiple users	Mark
10	Any other business	Christmas Dinner:_It was agreed that this would take place in January 2024. Venues in the west of the District to be investigated. Mark would handle the necessary administration.	Mark



		A stall has been booked for us at Rhubarb Festival, Wakefield 16-18 February 2024. Malcolm met Cherie Miller from Trinity Health Care who is keen to encourage more people to use a bike.	David K
14	Date/Time/Venue of next meeting	10:00 Thursday 16 November at the Brig, Altofts	All

NSA WDCF 20.10.23