

Wakefield District Cycle Forum
Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting
Held on Thursday 26 October
Old Restaurant, Town Hall, Wakefield

In attendance

Meg Andrews, Neville Andrews, Mark Beswick, David Keighley, David Leigh, Isabelle Leigh, Sandi Kinkead, Andy Beecroft, Neil Battersby, Lisa Wilson, Sharon Kaye, Malcolm Morris, David Wilcox, Steve Byles, Louise Galloway.

Apologies received

Cherry Oldham, Sandy Clark, Janet Taylor.

1 Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. She asked that we take a moment to remember regular Forum Member Bob Newton, who had recently died

2. Minutes of 2022 AGM

These were accepted as a true record other than to correct the spelling of Kidz Funday.

3. Matters arising.

Covered in the agenda

4. Election of Officers

Chair - Meg Andrews (Proposed by Mark Beswick Seconded by David Keighley)

Vice Chair – Sandi Kinkead (Proposed by Neville Andrews and Seconded Meg Andrews)

Secretary – Mark Beswick (Proposed by Meg Andrews and Seconded by Malcolm Morris)

Treasurer – David Leigh (Proposed by Malcolm Morris and Seconded by Neville Andrews)

Membership Secretary – David Leigh (Proposed by Malcom Morris and Seconded by Neville Andrews)

Statistics Officer – David Leigh (Proposed by Malcolm Morris and Seconded by Neville Andrews)

Campaigns Officer – Vacant. Will be filled when necessary.

Publicity and Communication – Sandi Kinkead (Proposed by Mark Beswick and Seconded by Meg Andrews)

Events Manager – David Keighley (Proposed by Neville Andrews and Seconded by David Leigh)

Rides Co-ordinator – Malcolm Morris (Proposed by Lisa Wilson and Seconded by Neville Andrews)

WMDC Liaison – Mark Beswick, David Keighley, Meg Andrews (Proposed by Neville Andrews and Seconded by Andy Beecroft)

Facebook Administrators –, David Leigh, Neville Andrews, Malcolm Morris

Website Administrator – Neville Andrews (Proposed by Malcolm Morris and Seconded by Meg Andrews)

Workgroup Manager – Andy Beecroft (Proposed by Meg Andrews and Seconded by David Keighley)

Auditor – Neville Andrews (Proposed by Mark Beswick and Seconded by Andy Beecroft)

Safeguarding Officer – Cherry Oldham (Proposed by Mark Beswick and Seconded by Meg Andrews)

5. Treasurers Report

Opening balance at 5.4.23	£82,588.68
Income	£ 489.00
Expenditure	£11,983.57
Closing balance at 29.9.23	£71,094.11

The most significant expenditure in the year was the construction of a cycle path beside the A639 within the Nostell Estate (£6431.39) and a payment to Northern Light Media (£4250.28) for the new website. This latter sum had been previously paid to the Forum by Wakefield Council in 2022.

Following on from comments made at last years AGM, the Treasurer provided a full breakdown for the 2022/2023 financial year. This showed:

Opening balance at 5.4.22	£89,959.54
Income	£ 49,113.00
Expenditure	£ 56,483.86

Closing balance at 31.3.23 £82,588.68

The meeting approved the Treasurers Report

6. Ride/Events Report

(A) Ride Report

So far in 2023 we have led 124 rides which have attracted 998 cyclists. This is an average of 8 cyclists per ride (10 in 2022). The riders were made up of 138 individuals (112 in 2022) Of the 998, 344 were female (34.5%) broadly similar to 2022.

71 were new to our rides (48 in 2022) - 63 adults and 8 juniors. Of the 138, 59 were female (43%)

Our bikes have been loaned to ride participants 110 times this year.

It was noted that the weather this year has caused the cancellation of more rides than in any previous year.

The breakdown of rides has been as follows:

Location	Ride type	Total rides	Average riders	% Female
WoW rides	Steady	10	11.1	32
Nostell	Easy	20	10.6	46
Thornes Park	Easy	9	8.2	53
Thornes Park	Steady	9	7.0	22
Darrington	Steady Plus	9	7.8	14
Pontefract Park	Easy	10	7.3	38
Pontefract Park	Steady	7	6.1	14
Castleford Mill	Easy	8	9.3	43
Castleford Mill	Steady	9	12.0	21
Rycroft	Easy	9	5.3	41
Agbrigg	Easy	12	7.7	42
Eastmoor	Easy	12	2.8	15

Leading riders this year were:

David Keighley, David Leigh, John Shaw, Meg Andrews, Neville Andrews (all over 30 rides) with Sandi Kinkead leading the field with 41 rides

Holiday Wednesdays

The Forum Team attended five 'Holiday Wednesdays' sessions at Nostell Priory this year and led 8 guided rides around the grounds. 368 children tackled the skills course (210 girls and 158 boys)

18 individuals helped at some or all of these events with a total of 284 volunteer hours being clocked up in total.

At the request of WMDC we held a Kidz Cycle Day at Thornes Park in August which was attended by 6 volunteers and 44 children. This was part of the school holiday activity programme.

Work Days

There have been 6 work days this year so far. With 4 individuals helping (60 volunteer hours)

Membership Report

Membership now stands at over 1200. The newsletter is taken by 744 and around 80 members are currently actively cycling with the Forum.

7. Liaison with Wakefield Council

The year has been somewhat of a disappointment after the achievements of 2022. Some useful meetings have been held with the Council but little has resulted from them.

Treasury cut backs have unfortunately caused the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to pause schemes on Barnsley Road, Leeds Road and Doncaster Roads in Wakefield. These would have included measures to assist cyclists. However, the Newton Bar Roundabout was completed incorporating some cycling improvements.

The new WMDC Website was launched in June making it easier for individuals to access rides, training and general assistance in relation to cycling. The Forum played a significant part in the development of the website.

Changes at Pugneys mean that we can no longer hold meetings there but on a more positive note our trailer and equipment can remain there for the time being.

As members are aware the Service Level Agreement between the Forum and the Council was significantly changed for 2023. The changes required for 2024 are even more significant. These require only:

20 rides from Eastmoor and/or Rycroft

12 monthly Wonders of Wakefield rides

Participation in a Ride Festival on 4 August at Pugneys, involving 6 rides.

The annual payment from the Council to the Forum has reduced as a consequence of this.

8. Future priorities.

- It was agreed that all Forum members should carry at least a couple of Ride Programme leaflets when participating in a ride so as to have these available to potential participants/members.
- The Secretary is investigating the purchase of a device to take card payments at events in view of the increasing number of people who no longer carry cash with them.
- It was suggested that a significant proportion of our current bank balance be transferred to a "Paths Fund" although this would always have to form part of our year's turnover/assets.
- The major event planned by the Council on Sunday 4 August 2024 at Pugneys will require a Forum Sub Committee to be established to consider the logistics required.

9. January dinner

It had been agreed that the annual Christmas Dinner would be replaced with an evening meal in January to reduce costs to individuals. This will be held at a venue in the west of the Wakefield District. Sandi Kinkead will research suitable venues and Mark Beswick will handle administration/payments. As in 2021 and 2022, a subsidy is being considered.

10. Any other business

The question of publicity was raised. It was agreed that whenever practical Forum events should be publicized through Facebook, the Newsletter and the Website

11. Date of next AGM

Provisionally, this would be held in May, possibly involving a barbeque.