

Committee Meeting 20 March 2025 on Zoom Notes of Meeting

Present: Meg Andrews (Chair), Mark Beswick, David Keighley, Neville Andrews, Andy Beecroft, Sandi Kinkead, Tim Scarrott

Apologies: David Leigh, Sharon Kaye

1	Minutes of 20 February meeting	Agreed other than to note that the WoW vinyls bought by David K were £20 not £40.	
2	Matters arising	No reply from WMDC had been received following Mark's submission of our CRM requests which were inexpensive. No reply had been received from WMDC to Meg's request to further amend the speed limit on Oakenshaw Lane	
3	Rides Programme and Ride statistics	Most locations throughout the District now have the 2025 leaflets There is a problem covering the WoW rides. The next is on 6 April. Sandi offered to back mark one of these ahead of leading a WoW ride herself later in the year. Andy volunteered to lead both the April and May WoW rides.	Tim
4	Treasurers Report	The current balance stands at £76,302.12. Since the last meeting there has been expenditure of £619.95 on vinyls and printing ride leaflets. Income has been nil. David L provided a summary of the account in the 2024-5 financial year up to 27 February. This showed a brought forward balance of £73,594.66, income of £7109.15 and expenditure of £4401.69, leaving a balance as shown above.	David L
5	Workdays and equipment	There had recently been quite a bit of activity. Two quick sessions in Nostell had taken place last week and the next workday would be on the canal cutting. WMDC have supplied the edgings and a grant from the TpT had allowed us to purchase another 50%. However, no work can proceed at present on the canal following an accident at Syke Lane Bridge. All equipment other than the trailer had been moved from Pugneys to the container at Thornes Park. It was agreed that the trailer, which had not been used in over two years, should be sold. Andy now has a van and Mark's Renault Scenic, latterly used to pull the trailer, would be permanently off the road in April	Andy

6	Bike bags for loan bikes	At the Thornes Park easy ride on 1 March three ladies arrived having pre-booked bikes. They all had water bottles, handbags, keys and other items with nowhere to put them. After discussion it was agreed that the Forum purchase 14 small rucksacks (two for each venue with loan bikes).	Sandi
7	Earth Day 27 April	The Forum had attended this event at the Tile Yard in 2024 and had a separate bike doctor session. With the emphasis on active travel, it is desirable to have a stall this year. It was acknowledged that this date clashes with two other Forum events.	All
8	Canal and Riverside path in Wakefield District	<p>David K and Andy had a useful meeting with Mark Robinson of WMDC on 10 March. The Forums aspirations were explained. Mark was examining a possible cycle path on the north side of the River Aire between Ferrybridge and Knottingley.</p> <p>However, the big issue at present is the Sustrans study into the possibility of reinstating the 1.3 km riverside missing link from Thornes Lane Wharf to Denby Dale Road. A 40metre section of the original path was washed away in 2016 and it has been closed since.</p> <p>The reinstatement faces huge challenges as the area is a flood plain, there are significant ecological challenges (water voles, etc) and none of the existing landowners will co-operate with the scheme (although Network Rail may be prepared to enter into discussion)</p> <p>The planned route is through the edge of Boylinns container yard, then along and under the rail viaduct on the Leeds-London main line and then either beside the river or across a farmer's field to end at Green End Lane. This latter option is shown on maps as a footpath.</p> <p>Costs range from £1.9million to £6.3 million.</p>	
9	Armed Forces Day and the Liquorice Festival	It was agreed that the Forum would not have a stall at the Armed Forces Day but volunteers would be sought for the Liquorice Festival on 13 July	All
10	Any other business	<p><u>Anglers Care and Repair Session:</u> Malcolm Morris had run a session on 9 March.</p> <p><u>Fitzwilliam Easy Ride 15 March:</u> This had run for the first time and attracted five participants, one of whom was local. It turned out to be a relatively short ride with a trip around the Water Park followed by a ride to Ackworth. WMDC are heavily promoting the ride locally but all facilities in the park are shut until Easter. There is currently nowhere to store bikes at this location.</p>	Neville

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		<p><u>Louise Galloway's new assistant:</u> Tilly will be assisting Lou from 7 April.</p> <p><u>Plans for 10 August event at Pugneys:</u> Meg will be meeting with Lou shortly and it seems that the format of the day may be very different from that in 2024. Nothing is clear yet.</p> <p><u>Towpath collapse:</u> Andy advised that the towpath at Healy Mills (below Ossett) was unrideable at present but that bikes could be walked past the collapse.</p>	Meg
11	Next meeting	19:00 Thursday 17 April on Zoom	All

MTWB 25.3.25