

CTC Fife and Kinross

Minutes of 91st Annual General Meeting

Held at Falkland Community Hall at 7.00pm., on Friday, 8th November, 2013.

The meeting was **Chaired** and opened by President George White who welcomed the 28 Members in attendance.

Apologies were received from Hamish Dempsey; Linda Body; Kirsteen Torrance and Margaret Berwick.

Minutes of the 2012 AGM had been circulated to those in attendance. There were no objections and these were **Approved by**, Dougie Latto and **Seconded by**, Charlie Brown prior to being signed by President George.

Annual Reports:

Secretary's Report:

The committee have met 4 times and this is a summary of some of the discussion and decisions. Minutes of all the meetings will be available on CTC Fife and Kinross website so that members can keep up in more detail with what is happening. The website address is <http://www.ctcfifeandkinross.org.uk/>

This year the runs secretary has worked hard to discover new, and bring back some old destinations for our Saturday and Wednesday rendez-vous runs. There has been a good response and we have been pleased to welcome some new members to the regular runs. We've decided to award a prize for the most attended Wednesday runs, as well as Saturdays. The prize winner will be announced at the annual lunch in January.

We have also added monthly group rides on Sundays, for those who like to ride with a group. The buddy system has been revamped to encourage new members and less confident riders to come along and give it a try.

A week long holiday for club members was organised in early September, based in 2 converted farm buildings just outside Fochabers. The weather and accommodation were excellent and this area provided really good rides on quiet roads each day - all agreed we'd be happy to go back.

The annual women's cycling weekend took place in June. The group stayed at Pitlochry Hostel and found some good cycling in the surrounding area.

We aim to have a number of social events during the year; the first in Nov. 2012 was Bert Brown's 90th birthday celebration, bringing together many of his old cycling buddies, some from Glasgow and the Lothians, to share a birthday tea and cake in Kingskettle. In April we were also very pleased to be invited by Talking Tandems to the Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome in Glasgow, where some brave members had a chance to try out the circuit. Later that month our social secretary organised an evening talk on Moths and Butterflies –all agreed it was very interesting and this summer saw some of us attempting to identify unusual species as we sped along. In order to provide for more social events and to share images of cycling adventures further afield, we have now purchased a digital projector –which will be used for a slide show at the AGM.

The biggest change this year has been a major upgrade of CTC Fife and Kinross website. This is now more interactive and full of relevant information and we hope will encourage speedy communication between existing members and attract prospective new members. Early on we used the new website to promote an online survey trying to find out what changes members would like, and what might be preventing people from cycling with the club. We have already acted on some of these suggestions; such as Sunday runs and a survey will be repeated at intervals discover members' opinions.

CTC Fife and Kinross were represented at regular meetings with local cycle related organisations such as Make your Move Kirkcaldy, Fife's Cycling Forum and Fife Access Forum. This year we have also had a regular rep. at CTC Scotland meetings.

Peter Hayman from CTC Scotland,(our councillor at CTC UK) particularly wanted to update members about current work to tackle lack of CTC awareness amongst cyclists. Responses from 7,500members have contributed to plans to ensure CTC becomes highly visible and attractive to all, from current traditional cyclists to newer groups like families and commuters.

I'd like to finish by thanking all members of the committee who work together as a great team, sharing the tasks to get things done: particularly thanks to Jimmy Paton who is standing down as Minutes Secretary after several years doing a meticulous job of recording all meetings.

The Secretary's Report was **Approved by**, Morwyn Porter and **Seconded by**, Nan Shepherd.

Treasurer's Report:

Copies of the Financial Statement, certified by Beth Paterson had been circulated to the Meeting by Treasurer Maureen Latto who went onto to advise the Meeting as follows:- Our Financial Year ending, 30.9.2013, closed with a Balance of £ 1713.00. **Income** amounted to £337.61 with **expenditure** running at £ 320.27, giving the group a small surplus of, £17.34.

Income is made up from CTC Members each donating £1.00. to assist with the hiring of Halls as appropriate. £200 being the flat rate that we claim from CTC annually, to support us in running our Member Group and £20 from advertising fees, combined with a little income from our Hut.

Expenditure was from Hall hires, our 90th Birthday celebration, AGM Admin, floor covering for our hut at Loch Earn and a small outlay for our Newsletter. Our main expenditure this year was for the projector which the Group will enjoy the use of for many years to come.

Maureen confirmed the Member Group's finances remained healthy, with a bank Balance of £1668.73. and 'petty cash' amounting to £44.27, giving a total as shown above of, £1713.00. Maureen added that since last year we no longer receive interest on our Bank Account balance.

Maureen concluded her report by thanking Beth Paterson for her work in certifying and approving the Accounts.

Membership Report:

President and Membership Secretary, George White reported to the Meeting that our Membership Groups numbers as of October 2013, stood at 308 which shows a slight increase over last year's figure.

The Membership is well spread across the County but, as is the norm, the number of active members remains a small proportion of the total number with many, it would appear, joining for the security of the insurance which CTC offers.

The problems of inaccurate and untimely reporting of new members from National Office have now diminished, as the new system of contracted-out data-handling has bedded in.

George further advised that, since the establishment of our Groups new website, there has been an increase in the number of new members replying to the welcoming letter/e-mail which is sent out and this offers a good opportunity for a more personal approach.

Runs Report:

Runs Secretary Nan advised the Meeting that the average attendance at our Runs over this year stood at 15, with two or three of the Runs attracting very low single figure attendance. This latter phenomenon, thought to have been due to dates conflicting with the Fochabers Annual Group holiday.

Two camping week-ends were included in this year's Runs activities, with much the same regulars attending on these occasions.

Nan mentioned the re-introduction of Sunday Runs and they were sufficiently successful to be retained however, the longer mileage Saturday Runs didn't seem to be too popular and Nan will re-think the mileages for future runs.

Nan concluded her Report by thanking David Gibson for kindly arranging the successful overnight run.

Newsletter:

Newsletter Editor Dougie Latto advised the Meeting that there had been 3 issues of our Newsletter, 'Fife Wheels' published since the last AGM and, that he would endeavour to have the 4th issue (Autumn 2013) published in the next few weeks. Dougie was a bit short of photographs for the next issue and intimated he would be pleased to receive any material from Members, particularly if the images were accompanied by some text.

Dougie reported that we'd attracted an Advertiser to the Newsletter, the first time in a few years and that he, 'Dave's Bike Shed', had taken a half page advert for the next 4 issues. The business which services and repairs bikes is located in Aberdour and is used by some Members at the moment. Anyone using the facility should mention having seen the advert in 'Fife Wheels'.

Dougie expressed his apologies to the 5 people remaining on the postal list for their copy of 'Fife Wheels', as there had been no printed copies produced since the Winter 2012 edition. This had initially been due to sourcing a company who was willing to print such a small run and the company used latterly has indicated that it too, is not willing to undertake this small quantity. Dougie assured the Meeting that he was still trying to seek some way to affordably get the newsletter printed.

At the conclusion of his Report, Dougie thanked all those who had contributed to the Newsletter by way of sending in articles and photographs as, without such material, 'Fife Wheels' would cease to exist.

Following Dougie's Report, President George thanked him for his hard work in producing a Newsletter of much improved quality for our Members and others to look forward to.

Hut:

George Berwick, on behalf of his wife Margaret, Hut Custodian informed the Meeting that during this year, they had replaced the floor-covering in the Hut and reported that the rest of the Hut is in reasonably good condition.

There had been the usual number of 'bed nights' i.e. very few and it would be good to see more of our own Members using the facility. It was good to see the Hut being the Meeting place for one of our Rendezvous – Rides this year. George concluded by encouraging Members to make more use of the hut which has stood in the woods beside Loch Earn for the last 80 years.

Website:

George McDermid, builder and person responsible for our Group's excellent website, hoped that all those in attendance had accessed the site and advised that he continued to work to ensure the website was as dynamic and flexible as possible. Regular updates are made on scheduled Runs and all the other activities embraced by our Member Group and he encouraged all to visit the site regularly to keep up to date with what was happening.

The website proved to be a good tool when conducting surveys and revealed such facts as, 20 per cent of those completing a recent survey didn't cycle with us: Sunday Runs showed a big positive: and overnight/week-end runs were also popular.

The website has links to 'Facebook' which is an effective way to share information/photographs and George advised that you did not have to have a 'Facebook' Account to access such information, but you do require such an Account to make comment. Likewise in accessing, contributing to 'Twitter'.

George went onto advise the Meeting that our Member Group had been chosen as a Pilot Group by CTC Scotland, in respect of assessing the success and development of our website project.

Finally George reiterated and encouraged the use of the website as this was where last minute changes to Runs and other activities could be found together with all information relating to our Groups activities.

President George White thereafter delivered a vote of thanks to George McDermid and congratulated him on his work on the development of the website on behalf of our Group.

Right to Ride:

George Berwick reported that he had attended a recent Fife Access Forum Meeting at Glenrothes and complemented Fife Council on the formation of this good cycling group, which he feels is doing a worthwhile job. The Forum would like to develop more routes suitable for cycling, but have to do their best within the constrictions of a limited budget.

Social:

Social Secretary, George Shepherd reported to the Meeting on a well attended and very successful Annual Lunch which was held in The Upper Largo Hotel in January 2013. This venue has again been booked for the forthcoming Annual Lunch with menu and prices still to be confirmed.

The Annual holiday was held in Fochabers this year and the 17 Group Members who attended enjoyed an excellent time with generally good weather for their cycling activities.

CTC Scotland:

George McDermid, our Groups CTC (S) representative, advised the Meeting that, following recent change when CTC achieved Charitable status, they very much want to emphasise this status and, to this end, have amended the logo to incorporate the word 'Charity' viz:- CTC Scotland Cycling Charity. Such change may impact on our own Member Group Logo and we should give some thought as to whether our logo should reflect the National change.

Chris Oliver was awarded CTC Volunteer of the Year for Scotland and will be taking over as CTC Scotland Councillor, following the recent retiral from the post of Peter Hayman.

Following the above Reports, President George thanked the various Committee Members for their contributions and Hut Custodian Margaret Berwick for her continued assistance before moving onto the next item on the Agenda.

Election of Officers and Committee Members, 2013 – 2014.

Nomination Slips had been received as follows:-

Secretary: Kaye Lynch **Proposed by:** J. Paton. **Seconded by:** G. White.

Treasurer: Maureen Latto **Proposed by:** G. White. **Seconded by:** K. Lynch.

Other nominations had been received from, George Shepherd, George White, Jimmy Paton, Nan Shepherd, George Berwick, Dougie Latto and George McDermid, all of which were unanimously approved.

App. of CTC Scotland Rep: George McDermid. **Proposed by:** G. White. **Seconded by:** J. King.

App. of Auditor 2014: Beth Paterson **Proposed by:** Maureen Latto. **Seconded:** Lorraine Allan.

A.O.C.B.:

Gordon Paterson queried as to whether we could revert to publishing the Runs List for a 6 monthly period and not as has been the case recently, where the said list has been more or less monthly. Advised this was a temporary situation and we hope to return to the original arrangement very soon.

Dougie Latto enquired as to whether it was possible to bring new Committee Members 'on board' during the year and not just at the AGM. President George explained there was a mechanism to do this by co-opting new Committee Members.

Linda Gibson then proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee for their work throughout the year and this was much appreciated by the Committee.

There being no other business the Meeting was closed at 7.55pm.

The Meeting was followed by Tea and Biscuits and a slide presentation by Stuart Allan and George Berwick.