

Annual General Meeting 20th May 2019

Attendees: Barbara Rossouw, Francis Jacques, Simon Perking, Sandre Lee, Annette Covey, Bentley Cook, Carole Frost, Norman Johns, Karen Smith, Robin Hamilton, George James, Chris Jeggo.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Norman Johns

Thank you to all who have led and assisted with the Sunday Cycles - Carole, George, Barbara, Chris, Robin and Sandra - for all their good works.

I attended the Disabled Users' Meeting this month. My concerns regarding the ban on cycling between 10am and 4pm resulted in a repeat of the Chairman's comments about the Council's list of incidents involving cyclists and pedestrians. I will be challenging this and asking for details of incidents to be provided. The Commercial Way 10-4 ban and Lightbox to Barclays Bank ban are unnecessary.

The Disabled Group agree with the general concern about the crossing of the A320 by the Victoria Arch and they will join in a further complaint.

Will cycle group members let Carole know if serious pavement damage is noted. I am proposing a joint complaint to Surrey County Council.

Railway rebuild at Woking: there is a proposal that safety screens be provided between platforms and tracks to prevent accidents and suicides.

I asked Carole to canvass the opinions of our members on the LibDem manifesto commitment to improve cycling in Woking.

The main item of the one meeting of the Liaison Committee that Steve Millard and I attended was the proposed works to enable cyclists entering the town centre from the Chobham Road end to be able legally to cycle to the rail station.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT – Carole Frost

We have 25 paid up memberships representing 55 adults and children. I send out that WCUG matters to everyone whose email I have so a lot of people who aren't even members get it. I sent out the "Dues are Due" email this month and remind everyone that to keep the affiliated membership with Cycling UK, which provides third party cycling insurance, they have to keep their membership with us current since we have the code they need to use.

Sunday cycle rides

We had rides on the third Sunday of every month from April to October last year. There are usually 5-10 on a ride. Last year we asked for volunteers to help lead the rides and I want to thank everyone for their very willing assistance. Rides were led by Robin Hamilton, Norman Johns, Karen Smith, Julia Warner, Val Wye, Sandra Lee and myself. For the first time in my memory we actually had to cancel the first ride of the year due to the visit of the Beast from the East! A big thank you goes to Barbara Rossouw for leading the long all day ride to Shorham along the Down's link and to Karen Smith who led the long afternoon ride to Walton Bridge. Also a big thank you to Ralph Brown who set up a Treasure Hunt for our August ride. We were hoping to do another one

this year but I fear Ralph has not been in good health and so doesn't know when he will be back on his bike. I have posted our rides on the Horsell and Woking "interest me" web sites but I don't think anyone has joined us from that contact.

MATTERS ARISING/ONGOING – George James

Muddy Lane

The saga continues.

To refresh, the original application to Surrey County Council was made on 1st June 2013. That's almost exactly 6 years ago.

This year has been taken up with the Public Inquiry that resulted from objections to the Council's Map Modification Order which was made on 24th March 2017.

The Public Inquiry started a year ago on 22nd May 2018. A strong turnout from local cyclists was much appreciated with many of them giving verbal evidence to the Inspector. The session was then adjourned after just one day to consider new evidence presented by one of the landowners relating to the construction standards of the Motorway underpass.

The Inquiry was resumed on 6th/7th February 2019 when Surrey County Council presented their evidence and the objectors presented theirs. Again there was strong support at the hearing from local cyclists. Additionally a few members of the horse riding community had also, by now, heard about the Inquiry and turned up to give their support.

The third sitting of the Inquiry resumed on 19th / 20th March 2019 and following a completion of cross-examinations a site visit was held giving the Inspector the opportunity to see many of the features of the route that had been discussed during the proceedings.

We are now awaiting the determination of the Inspector. Typically this takes about two months so his report should be due any day now.

The story will be concluded at next year's AGM.

Highways England - M25/J10 Consultation

On 5th December 2016 Highways England launched a consultation concerning improvements at the M25 Junction 10 intersection with the A3. This concluded on 6th February 2017 with the selection of Option 14, comprising a new larger and elongated roundabout constructed around the existing one. Of relevance to WCUG is the dedicated cycle route stretching between the Ripley roundabout and the Painshill roundabout near Cobham.

To augment this work Highways England have budget available to improve cycle routes connecting local communities to this scheme. On 9th May 2019 they issued a request for comments on four proposed routes linking a) West Byfleet Station to Wisley, b) Cobham to Painshill Roundabout, c) Byfleet Road between Byfleet and Painshill Roundabout and d) Ripley Roundabout to Ripley.

Consultation is ongoing until 24th May 2019, and there is likely to be a public meeting at some time after that where interested parties can discuss the proposals directly with the planners.