

South Manchester CTC Member Group

Minutes of the 8th Annual General Meeting held on 3rd November 2016, at Cheadle Village Hall, Cheadle, Stockport

The meeting commenced at 19.35 hours.

1. Election of Chair for the meeting

David Billington was elected as Chairman for the meeting, proposed by David Street and seconded by Harry Burton, and accepted unanimously.

2. Apologies for Absence

These were received from Steve Gouldstone; George Ellis; Mike Tierney; Phil Ridgway; Bill Cox; Alison Ashton; Peter Vickerman; Robert Reader; Peter Williams; Chris Lumb; Matt Ellis

3. Minutes of the last AGM held on 6th November 2015

These were proposed for acceptance by Albert Smith, seconded by Mike Phillips and accepted unanimously.

4. Secretary's Report (Harry Burton)

Harry Burton read out the following:

“We are into our eighth year as a CTC Member Group continuing with the same formula, which has proved so successful over many years, although we are always ready to listen and learn from you our members of any suggestions you may put forward, which will help in the administration and efficiency of the SMCTC.

Again, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the members, and of course the committee to which I give my gratitude and thanks again, I always like to give a special thanks to Roger Hubbold as our Website Manager and Publicity Officer.

The “C” Group continues to be run by David Street and continues successful with the help of Sheila Smith, my thanks to David and his group for their continued support.

Further thanks to all of the “ RUNS Leaders” who have managed to provide a continuous and varied itinerary of enjoyable and challenging “RUNS“, “Job Well Done”.

Our Christmas dinner was held again at Royal Hotel in Hayfield with fifty-eight members attending the celebrations, an increase of thirteen people.

New Year saw fifteen from both the SMCTC and the RSF (Rough Stuff Fellowship) meet up at YHA in Edmundbyers in County Durham. On New Year's Eve we all dined in the local Inn to celebrate the incoming 2016.

The clubroom this year has had one film about a 1950's cycling club, plus committee and runs list meetings, and the occasional Quiz night and of course our AGM. Most of our normal club nights have seen up to fourteen people attending.

Again, there was no club weekend away at Easter. Four of us met up at Wortley Hall near Sheffield to attend to the RSF (Rough Stuff Fellowship) annual meet. Brian Carter and myself stayed in the hall; John and Caroline Palfrey stayed in their motor home in the grounds of the hall.

On Monday 11th April Mike Phillips and I boarded a train from Piccadilly to Ravenglass from where we rode to Workington for the night. We had pre-booked our accommodation for the five day tour of Hadrian's Wall coast-to-coast ride. On Tuesday morning we set off along the coast, passing through Maryport stopping in Silloth, before following the coast road round the Solway Firth. Unfortunately the weather started to close in at this stage with heavy rain and mist; we could not see anything of the estuary, we were glad to arrive in Carlisle for the night. On Wednesday morning the signed route had us out into the countryside within a mile, stopping in Brampton for a break. Following along the most preserved parts of the wall, we passed through Haltwhistle and Haydon Bridge before arriving in Hexham.

On Thursday morning, riding out of Hexham there was a heavy mist hanging around until we reach Corbridge, turning off the B6530 dropping down to the Tyne, along the cycle path as far as Wylam where we had an elevenses stop. Passing Stevenson's Cottage we continued following the Tyne right into Newcastle where we stopped for lunch. Hadrian's Way cycle route goes all the way to Tynemouth before turning north as far as Whitley Bay where we stayed at the York House Hotel. The next morning we made our way back to Newcastle catching a train to Manchester at 14.00hrs.

Having completed a preliminary survey of Hadrian's Way cycle route, we went up by train again to Ravenglass, on the 12th September this time with David Billington, Brian Carter, Eric Gill and Paul Druck, completing the route in five days returning home on the 16th of September.

Footnote: I highly recommend Hadrian's Way coast to coast!

Nine SMCTC members (Harry Burton, Mark Dougal, Eric Gill, Neil Hepburn, Roger Hubbard, Mike Phillips, Robert Reader, Geoff Southworth and John Thorogood) made a centre-based tour of Normandy from 17th to 27th May. Based in Forges-les-Eaux, we made day rides of 45 to 50 miles to explore all points of the compass. Prime movers behind the tour were Robert and Mike, while Robert and Roger planned the day-rides and created GPX files. To get there, we travelled by Pendolino to London and on from St Pancras to Brighton for an overnight stay. The next morning we cycled to Newhaven for the ferry to Dieppe. Eric and John were able to take their e-bikes on the ferry, which is not possible when travelling by plane. From Dieppe to Forges is 35 miles along a Voie Verte — a superbly smooth, surfaced former railway line.

In Forges, we stayed at the Hotel Continental, owned by the local casino and possibly subsidised by it, as room rates were reasonable for such comfortable lodgings. Local routes were put together using a variety of sources: maps and guides, and on-line resources from local cycling clubs. We managed to find quiet roads and attractive countryside, although the weather could have been warmer. On two days we had torrential rain, including the day we arrived — an inauspicious start! After flooding the floor of a local cafe with our dripping clothes, the proprietress responded to our

comments about the weather with: “C’est la Normandie!” (i.e. just like Manchester). Forges-les-Eaux had several decent restaurants, and excellent boulangeries, where we were able to buy sandwiches and pastries for lunch. It’s a good town from which to explore the region.

Plans are already being hatched for a tour in 2017.

Brian Carter and I enjoyed our annual cycle camping trip to France, which as always was organised by Pat and Mike Strauss. We joined the Bike Bus at Meadowhall on Saturday 11th June, alighting in Montpellier on the Sunday morning. For the next 3 weeks we cycled through the Cevennes and Tarn Gorges, before meeting the bus in Toulouse for the return journey on the 3rd of July having had 3 glorious weeks of sunshine.

The annual Birthday Rides were held from the 15th to 21st at Framlingham College, a private boarding and day school, on the northern edge of Framlingham, rural Suffolk. This large site has lovely vistas over the surrounding countryside, in particular Framlingham Castle and Mere, the perfect base for exploring Suffolk’s varied landscapes and country lanes and villages. With 23 SMCTC members attending (an increase on last year), the majority either camped or stayed in their motorhomes, with the rest of the group in residential accommodation. There was a choice of over 20 different rides with distances ranging from 10 to 90 miles.

Roger and I attended Cycling UK Annual Members’ Get Together on 8th October held at the Holiday Inn in Aytoun St, in the Manchester City Centre. The morning seminars included Member Groups Promotion, Big Bike Revival Showcase and Space for Cycling Campaign, followed by lunch and the Volunteer Awards Ceremony. There were three afternoon seminars, Member Groups Growth, Our Community Champions and Off Road Cycling Campaign. On the whole I would say a very informative day!

The Reunion of the of the French cycle-camping trip was again organized by Michael Stainer and was held from 9th to 11th October at Leominster YHA, with 23 cyclists attending, including Brian Carter and myself. On the Monday night we had dinner at the nearby Talbot Hotel.

The 2016 Hill-climb competition will be held on Sunday the 6th November, at Cloud Side with lunch after the event at the Robin Hood at Buglawton, Congleton.

As you are all aware our Wednesday rides are now part of the SMCTC calendar. This is our fifth year in its present format and we still meet in Grove Street, Wilmslow at 09.30am. What is interesting is that nearly all of our new members started off just riding on our mid-week rides.

I would like to thank David Billington on your behalf for the very diligent and professional way he has gone about ordering and organising our new cycling tops. The new tops have no doubt helped to contribute to the growth of our membership, which now stands at 119.

To summarise, I have now been the secretary for the last 17 years and in all that time have seen the club grow and prosper, so much so I now feel we are now one of the most successful cycling clubs in the Manchester area. I would like to thank you all for your continued support of the SMCTC.”

David Billington (DB) said that club members are encouraged to join any of the tours arranged by SMCTC, but often it is the same members who go on them. There are, however, a limited number of places, for reasons such as limited accommodation in hotels. Mike Phillips said another reason to keep the group small is that trains in the UK only take a very small number of bikes. DB asked members to let him know if they would like to organize a group holiday.

Barbara Mills (BM) said that members have said to her that they wished there was some discussion about various issues, which arise in the club. DB said that members can air their views on Thursday evenings and over café and pub stops on rides. He said it was necessary for the SMCTC committee to have meetings to organize the various events. DB said that nine members took part in a Sportif ride last Sunday, 30th October. Albert Smith said that he only heard “last minute” about the sportif. It was questioned whether such events could be advertised on our website, but DB said a policy decision had been made not to do so because various groups have asked Roger Hubbard if they can advertise their event on our website and we have declined. Sue Watts said that some clubs advertise events on a Facebook page, which can be set up as a “closed group” to limit access to authorized users. DB said that using Facebook had been discussed by the SMCTC committee previously and it had been acknowledged that we would need someone to run it. He asked AGM attendees if anyone wanted to do this, but there were no volunteers.

Steve Owens asked if SMCTC members can attend Committee meetings. DB clarified that these are only for Committee members, but members can join the committee if they are willing to do a job. Steve Owens asked about the handicap system for the Hill Climb. DB said the Committee had decided to introduce a handicap system based on the age of riders, as advertised on our website, to make the hill climb more fun. The committee have suggested we try it this year and review its popularity. He said the cost of getting the competition trophies engraved was £85; the Freewheel competition has become more dangerous traffic-wise and the Committee has decided to discontinue it. Steve Owens then referred to members needing to reveal their age in the Hill Climb competition. DB said that members taking part in the Hill Climb competition should let John Palfrey know their age and the information would be kept confidential. DB said that the main aim of the Committee meetings is to discuss ways of giving members a good time cycling. Barbara Mills suggested that members be made aware of issues to be discussed at Committee meetings so that members can give their views to Committee members beforehand. DB said that, prior to Committee meetings, he will ask members for items they would like to be discussed. Eric Gill said that members have not got an avenue through which to discuss issues with Committee members. Glyn Griffiths suggested there be some kind of forum at which members could express their views – a “Blue Sky” annual meeting at which members could actively attend. He said that issues are whispered about a lot on rides and never aired. Barbara Mills said it would be interesting for members to hear the background thinking to any Committee decisions. DB concluded

that the club should hold forum meetings for members twice-yearly at which all members will be welcome to air their views.

David Goatman asked if there was a representative from the CTC Council at the AGM. He was told that there was no representative present, and Roger Hubbard said that the structure of head office has now changed: there are now trustees for the charity and there are no longer regional representatives.

The acceptance of the Group Secretary's report was proposed by Brian Carter, seconded by Gwynedd Miller and accepted unanimously.

5. Chairman's Report

David Billington read out the following:

“As I'm sure you all know during the year the CTC organization rebranded itself to the name UK cycling. The name change has had little effect on our club with the exception of now receiving a reduced contribution from them in the coming years, more of which our treasurer will elude to. Our current website address has remained the same and we are still SMCTC. We have no intention of changing our name in the foreseeable future.

At the last AGM held in November 2015 we put forward several objectives for the coming year, I'm pleased to report we have achieved many of those objectives.

Although we have not been successful in offering regular structured Thursday evenings we will this coming year try and increase more structured evenings and I would ask if any of you wish to present or know someone who can, please let me know.

Probably the most obvious achievement in the year is the design and delivery of our new jerseys. We now have 62 members with a club jersey and I think you will all agree we look a very 'professional' (in a loose sense of the word) group. I would like to thank all those who ordered a jersey and made the orders possible. We can and will re-order more but as with all bespoke jersey manufacturers a minimum quantity of 10 is required.

It is worth noting that your committee decided to stand the one-off design cost and the delivery charges so we could pass on the jerseys at cost price to you all.

We now have an additional ride to our A – B – C – Vets rides and that is the Saturday A+ ride. We have held five Saturday rides and although these may be ridden at a reasonable pace the whole point is to ride for around 2+ hours, 37+ miles without stopping, enjoying a coffee and food on our return from where we started, so far I have only selected relatively flat rides throughout Cheshire. These rides are open to any member and we are hoping to extend the number of rides to around two a month but this does depend on finding a few more leaders.

Another thought I have had but not discussed at committee, is summer evening rides, with pretty much the same format as the Saturday rides.

Our membership continues to grow and we seem to attract new members in several ways: Existing members bringing friends, the website, casual meetings with other cyclists and word of mouth.

Several of the new members are bringing the age demographic down considerably, which of course bodes well for our future.

It should be remembered that to be a member of our club one has to be a Cycling UK member and officially we only allow three club rides before we expect the new rider to join.

At our recent committee meeting we discussed the awarding of the annual trophies. The majority are very old, in poor condition and cost the club £84 a year to be engraved. It was decided to cut the annual awards down to one award but no cup. Instead a £25 voucher to be spent at Evans Cycles for the 'Club Person of the Year' a meritorious award decided by the committee for the member who has done a lot for the club during the year.

The support over the years for the annual hill climb and downhill time trials has been diminishing and it was thought that the downhill has become a little more hazardous due to the increase in traffic and the potential very fast nature of the event, so it has been decided to cease the downhill competition.

We will be keeping the hill climb but changing the format with a handicap system. The details are now on the website but basically, its minus one second for every year over 60 years of age (no limit) and plus one second for all those under 60 years of age to a maximum of 10 seconds. Looking at the times posted in the past years this should create a more level playing field and we think a lot more fun. This year is a trial and I'm sorry to say if the hill climb is not well supported we may consider scrapping it the following year. The other good news the lady and gents winner will both receive a £25 voucher.

On a personal note starting in May, I along with Glyn Griffiths planned and cycled from St Malo to Nice recording a distance of 1092 miles, a ride I would highly recommend for its scenery and challenges. The statistics for our ride are on the club website.

As always I would like to thank all the ride leaders who week on week lead us all on safe pleasant rides with Cheshire and Derbyshire being our main cycling counties. Over the year our club with all its rides takes us over 9000 miles a year, all that takes planning, and dedication.

I would like to thank all the committee who willingly give their time for meetings, numerous telephone calls and I am pleased to say the club is in safe hands.

Have a good year to come cycling and ride safe."

The acceptance of the Chairman's report was proposed by Sue Watts, seconded by John Palfrey and accepted unanimously.

6. Treasurer's Report for the year ended 30th September 2016 (John Palfrey)

John Palfrey (JP) read out the following:

“Our financial year comes to an end on the 30th September and each year we must send the audited accounts to Cycling UK by early December. This enables Cycling UK to collate the accounts from all Member Groups and present them for audit in early January. Sometimes we have to submit our full accounts for them to carry out their own audit.

You may have noticed that over the years we tend to fluctuate from having a small surplus one year to a small loss the next. As you can appreciate, certain expenses do not follow a repetitive pattern.

This year the accounts show a surplus of £267.56. This is due in part to the fact that we have not yet replaced or replenished the Leaders' First Aid Kits; this is something that is ongoing and will be completed in the coming months. Also donations from members totalled £351.00, a considerable amount of money; we are also grateful for the Grant from Cycling UK HQ which is the same as the previous year at £491.59, we need to note that this has now been reduced to the flat rate of £200.

The first major event of our financial year is our Christmas Lunch and presentation of prizes at The Royal Hotel in December. Again this year the lunch was a successful event and we also received £210.00 from the raffle. The raffle prizes were all donated by our members and this is very much appreciated as it provides entertainment and helps to keep South Manchester's accounts in the black.

You will see that without the donations, or the raffle money, there would be insufficient funds to meet our routine expenses like the clubroom, website, postage etc.

The introduction of new club jerseys has proved very popular and has attracted considerable attention from other cyclists and members of the public. Our thanks go to our Chairman for all of his efforts in dealing with orders, distribution and the like. The club has borne the set-up and design costs, also delivery charges and costs for returning samples; this is so that members paid only the cost of the jerseys and not any add-ons. As well as looking good on the road, the exercise is a very good advertisement for our club and for Cycling UK. You will notice that our income and expenditure are considerably more than last year – this is because of the costs involved with the club jerseys.

The costs for using this clubroom remain extremely good value but we need to note that the charge has increased since last year and might rise again. Cheadle Village Hall is run by a committee of volunteers, just like our committee, and it does need help from time to time; we need to bear this in mind. The facilities have been improved and continue to provide a very suitable venue.

Our Website is being very well managed and has proved essential to attract new members to Cycling UK and new riders to our Group.

A summary of the financial situation is given below:

Balance Brought Forward 2014/15	£1,626.39	
Income for the year 2015/16		£4646.06
Expenditure for the year 2015/16		£4378.50
Balance at Nationwide Building Society 30/09/16	<u>£1,893.95</u>	<u> </u>
Giving a surplus for the year of	<u>£ 267.56</u>	<u>£ 267.56</u>

The spreadsheet itemising every receipt and payment is available for all to see at the AGM or you can request a copy by email. At the 30th September 2016 the total money in the Nationwide Building Society is £ 1,893.95”

David Goatman asked if the reduction in the grant from Cycling UK HQ caused the Committee concern. JP replied that the club needs the money from the Christmas raffle and club members’ donations to stay afloat. DB said that he had been talking about a 3 year plan with the Treasurer and this will be done. He said we have computers owned by the club which will probably need updating/repair. He said we have contingencies such as we could decrease the frequency of clubroom meets. Eric Gill thought that the figure of £210 raised at the Xmas raffle was lower than in previous years. A discussion then followed on other ways to raise money for the club. These were: Peter Dyson – another event during the year like the Christmas lunch and raffle (it was pointed out that such events need organisers); Caroline Palfrey – a “bring & buy sale of bike parts at the clubroom; Mark Lucas – a donations box for Thursday evening meets (Albert Smith said that this works well at the meetings he attends of the BHA). HB said that the same members supply the tea, coffee and milk on Thursday evenings; Mike Phillips asked if we could specify members should pay £5 as a membership subscription, but JP explained we are not able to ask for a subscription as members already pay their subscription to Cycling UK HQ. David Street questioned whether Committee members are liable for any loss made by the club, but JP clarified that by being a Member Group of Cycling UK the Committee are not liable. DB summarised by stating that at present we are financially very sound but we don’t know what expenses might arise in the future.

The acceptance of the Treasurer’s report was proposed by Gwynedd Miller, seconded by Eric Gill and accepted unanimously.

7. Welfare Officer’s Report

Barbara Mills said that her role as Welfare Officer is one of mediation, where she is available to discuss with members any grievances or issues which need sorting. She said that no members had reported any specific issue to her. She asked members to tell her what they want from her in this role - is there anything members want her to do? She said she was prepared to continue with the job, but thought club members should be encouraged to consider Committee member roles and whether they want to offer themselves for election.

The acceptance of the Welfare Officer’s report was proposed by David Street, seconded by Brian Thomas and accepted unanimously.

8. Website Manager and Promotions Officer

The following was read out to members by Roger Hubbard (RH).

“SMCTC website and publicity report

The website remains our primary means of recruiting new members and publicising our activities. Most new members seem to have discovered us through web searches. The colours of the website have been changed to match the black, white and orange of the new club tops. Otherwise, the structure of the site remains unaltered, as it's familiar to most users, but the content is updated regularly. Photographs and other materials are added as and when they are provided to me. I also endeavour to take a few photos of different rides to try to refresh the site periodically. Photos and suggestions for improvements are always welcome.

Harry Burton and I attended a Cycling UK event in Manchester on October 8th at which member recruitment was one of the topics discussed. An idea from this was to print business cards, carrying contact details and the website address, that our members can give to potential new members. Cycling UK would be prepared to help with this, but the cards would then carry their branding. Harry and I are of the opinion that we should design our own, using our new club colours, as we have not adopted the Cycling UK branding. It may be useful to get the approval of the AGM for this.

A recent change has been to alter our domain manager from UK2 to GoDaddy. When Michael Lacey was responsible for the web pages they were hosted at UK2, and they continued as the domain manager after our website was moved to GoDaddy. The recent change means that everything is now hosted and managed at GoDaddy, which saves us £24 a year in redirection charges. The cost of our website is made up of two parts: hosting the web pages cost £135 for three years, due for renewal in 2018; the domain name smctc.org.uk, was renewed this year for two years at a cost of £16. Thus both of these will be due for renewal in 2018, with nothing to pay until then.

Lastly, I am happy to continue to maintain the website for the club. I use a Mac computer for this, and a Mac-only software package called Sandvox. As I also use these for other purposes there is no cost to the club.”

RH said he welcomed members' suggestions of changes to the SMCTC website and their photographs. He referred to the recent Cycling UK event in Manchester (see HB's report above). He said a lot of the focus was about “Inclusive cycling”, e.g. disabled people; young people; recycling bikes and getting out to people in the community to encourage them to cycle. He said that some member groups have “business cards” which advertise their activities, which they give out to cyclists they meet. David Street said these are cheap to produce, e.g. 500 for £10. Eric Gill thought it was a very good idea – we could print contact details on one side and a précis of our activities on the other side; he said business card size would be ideal, but we could fold the card over if we can't get all of the wording on. HB showed members examples of cards which he had been given at the Cycling UK event. Peter Dyson suggested these be given to bike shops to put on counters for customers to pick up. DB mentioned that he had produced a few flyers advertising the club, which he had made available to his customers in his office, but no new enquiries had ensued.

As mentioned in his report, RH emphasised that the website and domain are now hosted by one company, rather than two, which has saved us £24 a year, and the subscriptions for these have been renewed until 2018. RH said he would be happy to continue with his role, but equally happy if a member wants to take over. There are other software packages available (see RH's report for the one he uses) and this would not, therefore, be a problem if someone else took over.

David Street asked if we had considered having an area on the website where members could post "blogs" and RH said that he had made a forum available for club members, but it was attacked by robot software on the web, trying to gain access by registering fake accounts. All members wanting to use the site had to register and be approved as bona fide users. The burden of dealing with fake requests had become too great, and, as relatively few members were using the forum, it was removed from the website. Sue Watts again mentioned the possibility of SMCTC using Facebook. RH said if some members wanted to set up a Facebook group then that would be fine, but it would require somebody to volunteer to maintain it. RH said that he would not want to deal with that personally, as he does not trust Facebook's record on privacy.

Nigel Bayley requested that more information is given on the Website by ride leaders about their rides, such as inclusion of tracks or a particularly hilly route. He said he had mentioned this at the last AGM and he felt that the information posted is still not sufficient. Members need to determine the type of bike they should use and if their ability matches the ride.

David Goatman asked if the Website would be adopting the corporate logo of Cycling UK. DB told the meeting that there are strict guidelines given by Cycling UK HQ for the types of font that can be used and terminology and it has been decided to remain as South Manchester CTC on our website. We do, however, state that "We are Cycling UK" on our home page.

The acceptance of the Promotions Officer and Website Manager's report was proposed by Brian Carter, seconded by Nigel Bayley and accepted unanimously

9. Membership Registration Officer's Report (Alison Ashton)

David Billington read out the following, on behalf of Alison Ashton:

"My apologies that I cannot attend this year's AGM, I send my best wishes to all.

There are currently 1399 members registered with South Manchester; this is 38 less than the same period last year, with 39 new or returning members joining in the last three months. I understand from Harry that approximately 106 of these either ride regularly or have other close associations with the club.

Our database covers a range of postcode areas with some members riding with South Manchester area but residing elsewhere. The breakdown from the database is as follows:

Cheshire, Lancashire and Greater Manchester (1246)

Derbyshire and the High Peak (141)

Cambridgeshire (2)

Oxfordshire (2)

Shropshire (2)
 Staffordshire (2)
 Somerset (2)
 Stirlingshire (1)
 Suffolk (1)”

DB said he intended to meet with Alison to ask her to explain the figures which show members who appear on our database, but who live outside Cheshire, Lancashire and Greater Manchester. David Goatman questioned whether we need to contact those people on the database who are lost members. DB said that we are no longer writing to new members of Cycling UK to tell them about our local group, as it had been found that very few members had joined us from that source. Sarah Faulkner said that she had joined the CTC a couple of years ago and a letter from Alison had alerted her of the existence of our group. Caroline Palfrey said that she thought that Cycling UK should notify new members of their local group when they join; however, she asked Gwynedd Miller, a new SMCTC member, if she had received information on the club with her joining letter and she had not. Eric Gill referred to the 1246 members mentioned in Alison’s report who live in our area and asked if we know who they are. DB said he thought there were 24 new members in SMCTC. David Goatman said he had noticed that notices of AGM meetings are no longer announced in the club magazine and that the new executive was reducing the status of the AGMs, and forthcoming meetings were only announced on the Cycling UK website.

The acceptance of the Registration Officer’s report was proposed by Brian Carter, seconded by Barbara Mills and accepted unanimously.

10. Election of Officers for 2016 – 2017

The meeting agreed to vote for all officers in one block vote, as follows:

<i>Position</i>	<i>Nominated Member</i>	<i>Elected to post</i>
Chair	David Billington	Yes
Secretary	Harry Burton	Yes
Treasurer	John Palfrey	Yes
Welfare Officer	Barbara Mills	Yes
Website and Promotions	Roger Hubbold	Yes
Registration Officer	Alison Ashton	Yes
Runs List Secretary	Eric Gill	Yes
Hon. Auditor	Caroline Palfrey	Yes

11. Any Other Business

Eric Gill referred to the shortage of Runs Leaders for both the A and B groups. He said he would like to encourage members to lead runs and pointed out that Cycling UK do formal training for Runs Leaders. HB said that SMCTC has 26 leaders registered with Cycling UK. DB pointed out that we are reverting to having a Runs List discussion meeting to decide on the programme of rides; Albert Smith asked HB to still email the runs list to members for those who cannot attend the meeting. RH said there is a copy of the Ride Leaders' Handbook on the SMCTC website now.

Steve Owens asked whether Runs Leaders have to be registered with Cycling UK and DB said that they are registered formally with Cycling UK for insurance reasons.

It was questioned whether SMCTC should have a Ladies' section; however, the consensus amongst the ladies present was that they didn't want this – they would have joined a ladies only club if they had been looking for female company only.

Nigel Bayley asked if A+ rides could be held on Sundays instead of Saturdays. DB pointed out that that had been his original intention when he introduced the category, but, again, pointed out that he needs help with leading rides. Nigel Bayley said he would lead an A+ ride.

Eric Gill said that a young rider, Ben Metcalfe, aged 15, has been riding with the 'B' group for the last few weeks. It was questioned whether we should have a young people's group and DB replied that it would, again, need a member to organize such a group. HB said that "he had written permission from Ben Metcalf's parents". Sarah Faulkner said that there are a number of ways we could approach this, e.g. by working with known groups who have an interest in children; we would need someone in the wider membership who is part of one of the organisations. It was pointed out that CRB (Criminal Records Bureau) checking is a requirement. DB suggested that we should define the objectives of the club.

The Chairman closed the meeting, thanking the Committee and all present for their attendance. He said that the Forum meetings are a very good idea, which he will put in place, informing members through our emailing system.