

National Clarion Cycling Club

National Committee Meeting

By Zoom

Tuesday 7th October 2023 at 20:00 (8pm)

Present: Steve Clarke, Edward Gilder, Charlie Harvey, Edward Ireland, Jonathan Leigh, Clive O’Connell, Neil Shand, Michael Stainer. Ian Clarke attended for items 5 – 7.

1] Apologies for absence: None

2] Minutes of last meeting: Agreed.

3] Any confidential items in minutes: None.

4] Matters arising, not covered elsewhere in the agenda: Charlie asked about marketing emails he received on bike@clarioncc.org . Edward said he always deleted them and tried to unsubscribe from further mailings.

5] Easter Meet 2024 at Newark : Ian C was pleased that the NC was supportive of a Newark meet. The idea was that the Saturday dinner would be the main activity of the meet with cycling events on the Saturday and the Sunday so members would only have to be in Newark for two days though they were welcome to stay for longer if they wished. That way, it would be cheaper than the traditional four day event. He was looking at various venues, the Ram Hotel, the Town Hall and the Civil War Museum. As regards rides, a 100 mile ride, which could be made an Audax, a gravel ride and a gentle ride to Lincoln were possibilities. There were two local TT courses but no local cycle circuits. There were two local cyclists’ cafes. As regards accommodation, there is a Travel Lodge, a Best Western and a campsite. It was on the East Coast Main Line and the “Castle Line” and on the A1. He suggested a post on the Facebook page seeking members’ views on what they’d hope to see at the meet. Steve had drafted a survey to members also to give their views on what they wanted to see at the meet.

6] Update on the insurance excess: (Jonathan / Michael): Michael said it was pointless to try and get a quote this early in the year but he would contact the broker later on to try and get an early quote. Ian C explained that when the cover was originally set up, an excess had been retained to discourage frivolous minor claims and keep the premiums down.

7] Clarion archives: Charlie had previously taken most of the paper records from our storage space in Peterborough and sorted and catalogued them and deposited them up to 2000 at the Working Class Movement Library (WCML) in Salford. He had now sorted out all the papers he had up to 2010 and the WCML had confirmed that they were happy to have these as well. He had asked Steve to check if there was anything left at Peterborough. The more recent records had been put on a memory stick by Ian C and had been given to Steve and Edward G. Charlie would check with the WCML what formats they could take. As formats change, he asked if he should print off paper copies in case the changes in IT format made them unreadable. The NC took the view that most records were now stored electronically and that once a memory stick had been given to the WCML, it was their responsibility to ensure that our records were kept in a readable format.

8] Proposed Summer Meet at York Rally: Michael was at the last York Rally committee meeting. Steve may be able to run grass track racing unless it clashes with the National Masters. Some members could lead rides. These had to be approved by the Ride Coordinator. We won't need to have a gazebo as cycling organisations can use space in the trade tent. We could have a Clarion area in the camping area. Edward G wanted to know the size of our display boards so we could have a display different from C1895. In particular, we wanted to have a map showing where our sections are. **Action: Steve** to let him know the dimensions of our display boards. We can publicise our presence on our Facebook page and ask the York Rally organisers to put it on theirs.

9] Expenses and procedures of January 6th meeting in Birmingham: Jonathan asked if reasonable travel expenses can be paid, including mileage at 45p per mile (the current HMRC amount). Charlie wanted to confirm that it would for be one day only so those who wanted to could have an early supper afterwards

and still get a later train home that day. We agreed to give Sustrans a £100 donation for use of their premises.

10] Inclusion of Dronfield Clarion in the list of sections for the Liaison

Officers: Michael asked why Dronfield Clarion had been left off the list of sections the NC had a liaison contact for. Charlie would write to Barry Raynor (Dronfield Section Secretary) to explain we normally don't bother to set up liaison contacts for sections who have members on the NC as it is assumed that we have contact with the section concerned. Steve suggested that Section Liaison should be a standing item. Clive volunteered to be the liaison link with London and Brighton & Hove sections. **Action: Charlie** to write to Barry Raynor.

11] Recruitment of a new National Secretary and Data Protection/

Compliance Officer. Standing item. Edward would be publishing a further appeal for a volunteer in the next B&S Extra.

12] Legal structure of the NCCC (e.g. Limited company, charitable status, company limited by guarantee). Any update?: Clive hadn't had time to discuss this yet with Edward G. He suggested that insurance for NC members and other officers might be a better option.

13] Membership report: Paul had little to report. He would be working on providing a list of members for Jonathan so he could calculate the subscriptions sections needed to pay and a list of members addresses for the distribution of Boots & Spurs.

14] Treasurer's report: Jonathan reported that we had £51,385-13 in the Barclays account and £113-08 in the PayPal account. He has given Michael access to the PayPal account with a view to taking Ian Clarke off it.

15] IT update: Michael had little to report. He wanted to contact all the Section Secretaries to consult them on what they wanted to see on the new site. He was no longer using Mail Chimp to send out information to members as it had become very expensive. He was now using Sender. Steve asked if all members were getting emails. Michael replied that the mail opening rate was in the high 50% and similar to Mail Chimp. He suggested that we need to use Facebook

and the website as well. We could also send information out to Section Secretaries to pass on to their members. It was also agreed to set up a WhatsApp group for the NC.

16] Safeguarding: - any update. Nothing to report, Ian H not present at the meeting.

17] Boots & Spurs / Boots & Spurs Extra: Edward G reported that the next B&S had gone to the designer and should be with the printers next week. The next B&S Extra should be out shortly.

18] Competitions and Events. Steve reported that the Autumn Weekend had had to be cancelled as there had only been bookings from Bury and Fenland. The Hill Climb had gone ahead and had attracted a reasonable field. He will produce official results shortly. He will be writing to sections re: claims for trophies, records and medals and details of any events they were organising. He still had a few medals to send out.

19] AOB:

Section Liaison – Steve reported on his contacts with Teesside, Heanor and West Lothian and on developments in Fenland. Charlie had reported on his contact with Gosport.

Martin Hickman has moved to Ireland and had given some cycling memorabilia to Neil, some of it relating to the Clarion. Charlie suggested that they go to the Working Class Movement Library (WCML). He would send an example of his donations to Neil and the contact details of the WCML. **Action: Charlie**

18] Time and date of next meeting (on Zoom). The future meetings agreed are: Tuesday 7th November, Tuesday 5th December, (in person in Birmingham) Saturday 6th January.