

Blaydon Cycle Club First Meeting

7pm 30-1-14

La Taverna Blaydon

**INITIAL MEETING CALLED FOR 'THE CLUB' (BLAYDON CYCLING) TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE PLANS
AND GENERAL 2014 AIMS.**



THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED BY THE CLUB AT THE MEETING AT THE TIME ABOVE 'THE CLUB' OR 'BCC' FROM HEREIN WILL REFER TO BLAYDON CYCLE CLUB.

Item A - Club Affiliation

It was discussed that BCC should be affiliated both for the purposes of promotion and insurance. British Cycling offers Affiliation advantages and organisational tools.

The agreed format to be reviewed at the next meeting is a 'Pay Per Ride' scheme. a club ride would be set at a fixed cost to new and old members alike until the affiliation fee is met. any excess money could then be used for social events and club events (such as hiring venues, transport, accommodation) **The Agreed subscription fee was agreed at £2**

It was also agreed that riders should be covered *personally* through an organisation of their choice (British cycling, CTC, 3rd Party insurer) to cover themselves for personal loss and liability to other members and the public. **This is to be actioned as soon as possible after some initial research.**

To comply with BC structure the following was proposed by those present:

For the role of chairman Paul was nominated by Kevin, Steve seconded, no opposing votes unanimous decision

For the role of secretary Rob was nominated by Phil, Paul seconded no opposing votes

For the role of treasurer Kevin was nominated by Steve Phil seconded no opposing votes.

PC (not present at meeting) is to work on a club constitution document for BCC.

Item B - Members area

The BCC website and club wishes to develop partnerships with the local community links to local businesses and potential discounts for members are to be explored, if any members have their own business interests they are welcome to offer members discounts under their own terms.

Item C - Joint Rides, Planning and promotion of rides etc

Our current ride planner is Garmin Connect, we appreciated that not everyone has a GPS device on their bike, we from now will provide verbal instructions and keep groups together so there is always a group on route (for example faster and slower group when numbers allow) that has some form of route knowledge. We will all re-group at designated RVP's which are usually cafe stop or other easily identifiable places on the ride. At the beginning of any ride a designated person will highlight any issues that may arise during the ride, any known hazards and instructions what to do if help is needed.

We also wish to begin offering 'Taster Rides' for newer riders which are both easier in terms of mileage and climbing - these would be offered on evenings on an ad-hoc basis as well as on our spare week (between fortnightly club runs). These rides will have the aim to encourage new riders on shorter routes to develop their skills and get a sample of what the club does. Our fortnightly club rides will continue as usual which will be the main ride event for the club.

Other ad-hoc rides suggested were social rides to watch events (such as cycling being shown at The Cycle Hub) as well as short rides of around 20 miles and evening events introducing people to riding in groups as this may be new to some riders.

it was agreed our current social media output was working as it was what has got the club where it is as of today. We are to soon introduce a forum / community area where members can discuss issues such as new kit, their own rides or ask advice on cycling or their bikes in general. our mainstay for communication will continue to be Facebook & Twitter but a forum / community is a great way of having more on topic and lengthy discussion.

The idea of bringing clubs together for a big event was also discussed and it was agreed that we would wait until the club was more established before we attempted to engage with larger clubs. We do have intention to engage with smaller 'social' cycle clubs such as Spennymoor CC and NTR (North Tyneside Riders)

All the two weekly rides will continue to begin from La Taverna as is the case now, but the beginners rides and other ad-hoc rides will be ran from a central location, such as The Cycle Hub. RH to meet with Cycle Pad on this to be introduced to local agencies and partners. (The Hub and other local organisations could help us further network with local businesses and clubs etc to further promote BCC)

As for training, it was agreed to maintain our 'social routes' as opposed to running training rides we would link popular news articles from well known sources such as Cycling Weekly which commonly features tips on riding, preparation for sportives and how to stay healthy on the bike. We will also use PW's Sky Ride experience to help us promote all rides on sky ride once we are affiliated.

Our social feeds will mainly focus on the 2 weekly rides and beginners ad-hoc rides, but all members are free to ask 'is anyone out?' outside of meetings to find riding buddies and undertake personal rides with fellow members.

Item D - Trips away sportives and events

PW Discussed the idea of going to the tour de france in Yorkshire 14 and to go as a club to an official camp such as the Rapha Camp (around £85) PW to look into this and offer further information soon.

Other Sportives that were being undertaken by members included the Northern Angel, Virgin Money Cyclone, Haydon Hundred, Columb and GNBR (Great North Bike Ride)

Another possibility would be a 2 day C2C ride with a potential stopover in Alston. Logistics of this such as accommodation, getting there and support all to be discussed at a later date.

Item E - Any Other Business.

Safety: SC raised the issues of emergencies, this is an **urgent** requirement for all riders. we will for the sole purposes of Emergency Contact get contact details (mobile) for all riders as well as an emergency contact (family etc) we would be able to inform if an incident on route occurred, this information would be held only for use to contact riders and ICE contact when needed. The issues of helmets was brought up and it was agreed that some people refuse to wear them but the club strongly recommends all riders wear an approved and properly fitted helmet when on a designated club run (information on the website already states if we believe the condition of a rider or cycle is deemed unsafe we reserve the right to refuse a rider to take part in that individual event to safeguard all other members, the member involved and the public)

Clothing: Club clothing (other than jerseys) was discussed the general consensus with this that was that uptake would be low from a majority of those in attendance, we would concentrate on the jerseys (a winter / fleece one is a possibility, but it was decided that these would be a consideration at the end of the season before the next autumn / winter.

sports wear such as hooded tops would be a consideration again maybe later in time when the club is more established and there's a greater chance of higher order numbers. It was felt that jerseys would suffice now for club identity with potential development of shorts and gillet over coming months depending on our supplier.

Meeting Ended 2120 and next meeting to be arranged in 3 months to discuss clubs initial development and progression.

