



WHITTLESEA BICYCLE USERS GROUP INC.

No. A0055678W

Annual General Meeting Minutes

26-11-2014

Page 1 of 5

1. Meeting Time and Venue

7:30 pm in the Fountain View Room, Whittlesea Council Offices.

2. Attendance

2.1 Members: Peter Duncombe (President - Chairman), Glenn Eckardt (Vice President), Lee Robinson (Secretary - Minutes), Ron Harvey (Committee Member), Kevin Balaam (Committee Member), Robert Sutton (Committee Member), Ashley Sutton (Committee Member), Nathan Duncombe, Alex Shepherd, David Stephens, Peter Patterson, Alison Kenworthy, Alan Kenworthy, Graeme Williams, Aldo Farchione, Paul Formosa, Joshua Collins, Mark Collins.

2.2 Visitors: Michael Lamers (Whittlesea Council Guest Speaker), Cr Rex Griffin, Cr Mary Lalios, Bromwyn Halfpenny (MLA for Thomastown).

3. Apologies

Michael Bates (Treasurer), Andrew Murdoch (Member), Bronwyn Murdock (Member), Ryan Murdoch (Member).

4. Welcome by the Chairman

Peter Duncombe welcomed the members present and councillors Rex Griffin and Mary Lalios to the Annual General Meeting of the Whittlesea Bicycle Users Group Inc. (Bromwyn Halfpenny arrived later) and acknowledged the traditional custodians of the area.

5. Determination of Voting Members

As there were more than five (5) members entitled to vote and personally present, a quorum was available to conduct the business of a General Meeting.

6. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion That the minutes of the Whittlesea Bicycle Users Group Inc. Annual General Meeting held on the 27-11-2013 be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Moved Graeme Williams

Seconded David Stephens.

As there were no objections the motion was declared carried.

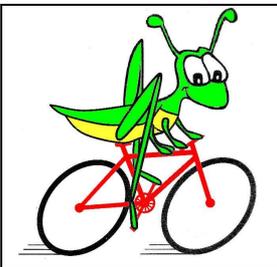
7. Business arising

None.

8. Guest Speakers

Michael Lamers from Whittlesea Council gave an update on cycling related information:

- Current major works
 - The continuation of the upgrade of Darebin Ck path from the tennis



WHITTLESEA BICYCLE USERS GROUP INC.

No. A0055678W

Annual General Meeting Minutes

26-11-2014

Page 2 of 5

courts to McKimmies Rd expected to begin in Jan 2015 at a cost of \$300k.

– Edgars Ck path from Spring St to Main St (\$71k) on hold due to budget limitations.

– Yan Yean Pipe Track works, Gordons Rd to Hawkstowe Pde. Design work and limited construction expected in Feb 2015.

– Minor works refuge in Settlement Rd at Darebin Ck (\$32k) and “Bike Safe” signage (\$5k).

- Next Year's Projects (2015/16)

– Darebin Ck path to continue from McKimmies Rd to Sycamore Reserve.

– Edgars Rd bike lanes from M80 to Victoria Dve.

– Yan Yean Pipe Track works, Gordons Rd to Hawkstowe Pde.

– Cooper St, Hendersons Bridge widening.

– Design works for Plenty Rd shared path from McKimmies Rd to Wealthiland Dve and Merri Ck path extension to the Hume Fwy path.

- Cycling Strategy 2015-2019 – Nearly complete and hope to get it endorsed in 2015. Current strategy was created in 1999 and updated in 2005 but is still basically sound.

- Cycling Participation and Rider Survey

– 16% cycle frequently, at least once a week, 21.5% cycle approximately once er month.

– Up until the age of 24 Whittlesea has good cycling participation but then drops with age.

– Whittlesea participation for older people lower than the Melbourne average, reasons unclear.

– Female participation only 12% compared with males at 21%. Strong female participation is considered a good barometer of a strong cycling community.

– More of road paths and better connections to schools, shops and public transport were seen as the highest priority from surveys.

- Suggestions from Meeting – A few suggestions from the meeting for minor improvements that people considered shouldn't cost much prompted Michael to point out that even minor works generally required going through a permit process with Melbourne Water and similar bodies and this greatly added to the cost and complexity of what would be termed simple projects/minor works.

9. Committee Reports

Presidents Report

Peter gave a brief description of how we came about and our general aims. He also gave thanks to Glenn Eckardt who had chaired the committee meetings and taken over the running of the BUG for most of the year while Peter was interstate.



WHITTLESEA BICYCLE USERS GROUP INC.

No. A0055678W

Annual General Meeting Minutes

26-11-2014

Page 3 of 5

Peter said that the committee had been very productive with a full calendar of rides, improvements in the web site and the creation of WBUG merchandise and he thanked the committee for their hard work.

Peter also paid tribute to our good working relationship with Whittlesea Council.

Treasurers Report

- **Financial Statement**

Audited and tabled. Copies available at the meeting.

- **Membership Fees for 2015/16**

Membership to remain at \$10 single, \$20 family, \$5 concession.

Membership Report

Ron Harvey reported that we currently have 46 financial members and over 100 on our email list.

Ron explained that the membership fee hardly covered the insurance we are currently required to have to participate in council events.

Rides Report

Ron Harvey reported that we had organised 45 weekend rides, generally on Sunday morning which typically covered 30 to 60km although there had been at least one ride around 100km. Longer rides generally gave options for shorter routes or the ability to do part of the journey by train if required. These rides generally attracted from 6 to 15 riders.

Rides to the North covered Craigieburn and Humevale, to the West, Melbourne Airport and Sunshine, South, Newport and Western Hwy and to the East, Warrandyte and Wheelers Hill.

During Daylight Savings Ron also held evening rides on Tuesdays which covered around 15 to 20kms.

Advocacy Report

Glenn Eckardt gave a report on our advocacy progress:

Priority 1 Dalton Rd – an important link to paths and roads to and from the city. Some good work has been done by council but more work required between the M80 and Cheddar Rd. Signalisation of the Settlement Rd crossing would be a big benefit. We are pushing for continuous improvement of this important piece of infrastructure.

Priority 2 Darebin Ck Shared Path – again council have completed some excellent work in the area but the BUG's vision is to see the path extend to the South Morang Rail Extension path and then to Bush Bvd and Plenty Road and back to the M80 creating a safe 17km circuit for riders and others.

Barry Rd Grasslands Bike Path – an important link to Hume Council area and beyond, currently in very poor condition and virtually unusable in bad weather. The BUG is applying for a Local Landcare Enhancement Program to try and improve it.

City of Whittlesea Budget – Glenn reported that the 2013/14 budget figure was \$780k but the 2014/15 figure is only \$625k, which was a bit disappointing.



WHITTLESEA BICYCLE USERS GROUP INC.

No. A0055678W

Annual General Meeting Minutes

26-11-2014

Page 4 of 5

Glenn concluded by saying that it has been good working with council and people like Michael Lamers and councillors such as Mary Lalios and Rex Griffin who understood the importance of good cycling infrastructure.

Web Page / IT Report

Peter Duncombe gave his thanks to Ashley and Robert Sutton for their ongoing work in maintaining and improving our website and providing their expertise on other internet and social media technologies.

The website and Facebook page made it easier to advertise rides and provide news and allowed people to easily find out more about the BUG and join our email list to be kept informed of our activities.

Marketing Report

Water Bottles – Glenn Eckardt reported on the new Whittlesea BUG drink bottles which Ashley Sutton had done a lot of work to introduce. These promoted Whittlesea BUG and helped spread the “Share the Road” message. These were being supplied to people as they joined or renewed their membership.

WBUG Jersey – Glenn also had a sample of the WBUG jersey that had been developed with a lot of input from members. This should help raise the profile of the BUG as we ride around in our distinctive riding tops.

10. Committee Elections

All current positions were declared vacant. Nominations had been received for all positions from current committee members. A call was made for nominations from the floor for any positions but none were received and as such the following positions were declared filled by those who had been nominated:

President

Peter Duncombe.

Vice President

Glenn Eckardt.

Treasurer

Lee Robinson.

Secretary

Lee Robinson.

Ordinary Members

Ashley Sutton, Ron Harvey, Robert Sutton, Kevin Balaam.

Peter Duncombe thanked all the new and previous committee members and requested that those present consider joining the committee as fresh ideas and a wide range of views are required if the BUG it to truly represent the people riding, or thinking of riding, in Whittlesea.



WHITTLESEA BICYCLE USERS GROUP INC.

No. A0055678W

Annual General Meeting Minutes

26-11-2014

Page 5 of 5

11. Other Business

- 11.1 Cycling Map – Peter Duncombe asked the people present to send emails or other indications of support if they felt that a traditional cycling map (Travel Smart Map) for Whittlesea is required. The maps are expensive to produce and justification will be required if it is to be considered.
- 11.2 Nicola Davis – The WBUG committee acknowledged the tireless work done by Nicola to encourage people to cycle and to improve cycling conditions in Whittlesea as a WBUG committee member and as a Whittlesea councillor. Her energy and enthusiasm seemed limitless and she is sadly missed by the WBUG committee and the wider cycling community.

12. Meeting closed

Peter Duncombe thanked everyone who had made the time to attend the meeting and help support cycling in Whittlesea and closed the meeting at 9:15pm.