

Newforce 160

Spring 2022



Dear All

Welcome to Newforce 160. This is the bit where I normally prattle on about how good or bad the recent weather has been and try to offer some encouragement for you all to get out and join in the club activities. So here goes. As is usual spring has been going through it's 'will it, won't it' phase but overall the riding conditions are far better than they often are at this time of year, unless you really like mud and puddles to splosh through. Will that do?

Despite the drier weather and trails I have found myself spending a little less time on two wheels than most recent years. Why? Well apart from many of my Tuesdays off coinciding with poor weather it's because I've been doing more running. And why running? Well, three years ago I went for a post Christmas trot round a local circuit that a good many years previously I once managed in just under twenty minutes. This time I couldn't get under *thirty* and what started as an attempt to redress that has evolved into a newfound enthusiasm for running, fuelled largely by my determination not to succumb to the process of aging. At least not without a struggle, no matter how undignified that may end up! Unlike the triathlon period of my life in the 80s and 90s this time I have been doing a lot more intervals, sets of short sprints or longer efforts, often with hills. That has made it a lot more interesting than just going out and plodding along at the same pace all the way round and now I've joined the running club I get to do that with other people of a similar ability and indulge my competitive inclinations at some of the many inter-club events that are free to enter.

So am I abandoning cycling? Of course not and the fitness boost from the running is very welcome when I am on a bike. I'm sure it won't have done me any harm for the UK Fatbike Championship I'll be riding in mid May. That event is being run as a subcategory of the Torque In Your Sleep event at Minley Manor in north east Hampshire and will be a six hour race. I'll let you know how I got on in the next newsletter.

Until then, happy riding to you all and please please please take some photos while you're out, I've got a calendar to produce in the autumn.

Upcoming rides:

May 1st Wilverly

May 15th Corfe (day ride)

May 29th Stanstead Park, near Emsworth

June 12th Inkpen Beacon (day ride)

June 26th Moyles Court

July 10th Isle of Wight from Lymington (day ride)

July 24th Farley Mount

Full details can be found on the club website at <https://www.newforce.org.uk/rides-list/>

NewForce Committee Ordinary Meeting

via Zoom

Tuesday 8th March 2022 at 8.00 pm

Minutes

1. Attendees and Apologies

- 1.1.Present: Roger Shephard, Sue Marsland, Stu Rogers, Keith Whitten, Karen & Nick Clark, Clive French
- 1.2.Apologies: Eleanor Rutter, Steve Keith, Martin Wheat, Malcolm Streeton

2. Previous Minutes

- 2.1.No matters arising

3. Rides and Riding

- 3.1.A discussion on amending the current Covid protocols following Govt relaxation led to a decision to remove the current requirements, instead asking riders to be Covid-aware and not to attend rides if they have tested positive for Covid. A notice to this effect will be introduced by Sue in the "Rides List". Roger will post on the forum in advance of the next Sunday ride announcing that riders will no longer be expected to sign up on the forum, but to consult the "Rides List" and to just turn up at the relevant time and place.
- 3.2."Tikka" evening rides will be listed on the Forum, also with no requirement for riders to sign up. Due to the reduction in the range of evening rides likely to be offered, the "curry scale" will be abandoned, and references to it will be removed from club publications. Clive to provide detailed change request to Jack Lawry for amendment to the website.
- 3.3.The current ride list extends to 21st August and will be extended at the next committee meeting. Sue requested that more consideration should be given to the location and terrain for each proposed ride, to avoid consecutive rides being too similar to one another. All-day rides should be distributed carefully through the year. Sue also pointed out that consideration should be given to the likely ground conditions and the relevant time of year when considering ride locations. The "Rides List" appearing on the website is to be considered definitive. An error was noted in the listing of the Corfe Castle ride. Sue to correct.
- 3.4.More ride leaders are always encouraged, but present arrangements to allocate leaders "in the background" seem to be working satisfactorily.
- 3.5.Trips away
 - 3.5.1. Elan Valley: 22-23 people are signed up for this trip. Sue proposed that payments for accommodation be handled through the club bank account. Clive / Sue / Roger to review insurance arrangements to ensure that this does not cause difficulties.

3.5.2. Lulworth: Clive proposed a trip to Lulworth using the Youth Hostel, which the club has used in the past. It was agreed that this would be interesting. Clive to post on the forum to gauge interest.

4. Treasurer's report

4.1. Accounts statement issued by Clive (attached to the agenda) was considered. No matters arising.

4.2. Transfer of responsibility for accounts from Ian Taylor to Clive is complete. Ian remains a signatory to the PayPal account for now. Signatories to the PayPal account are Clive and Ian. Signatories to the Lloyds account are Clive, Nick and Linda Hawkins.

5. Membership report

5.1. Committee membership is confirmed and corresponds to the e-mail from Roger dated 28 December 2021:
WITH PORTFOLIO

Roger Shephard

Martin Wheat

Clive French

Sue Marsland

Keith Whitten

Jack Lawry

ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEMBER

Linda Hawkins

Eleanor Rutter

Steve Keith

Malcolm Streeton (Max)

Stu Rogers

Karen Clark

5.2.Current membership stands at 113, being a reduction of 5 this quarter. 4 new members joined, and 9 former members chose not to renew.

6. Web Site and Facebook

6.1.Use of Facebook is to continue, with club rides listed there. While providing a useful venue for communication, concern was expressed over the possibility of non-members arranging rides through the Facebook page and possibly looking to the club for insurance cover. While participation of users is to be encouraged, any club liability must be excluded. Roger assured the meeting that the club insurance would not cover any such ad-hoc rides, and Roger will craft a suitable notice for Sue to include in the Facebook page.

6.2.Apparently, the photo content of the website uses an archive stored on Flickr, to which it is no longer possible to add new photos. An alternative solution using Google Cloud for photographs has been proposed, but the meeting was not inclined to discuss the technicalities. Sue to request comment and assistance from Jack Lawry.

7. Any other business

7.1.See 3.1 above

7.2.Historically, NewForce has had some representation in New Forest Access forum, and has been involved in discussions of access for cycling in particular. The meeting decided that NewForce would not pursue such representation at present.

7.3.It was decided that committee meetings will be held three times per year, one of these being the Annual General Meeting. These meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of February (AGM), June and October. It is intended that future meetings will be held in person, at a venue to be selected. The New Forest Inn at Emery Down was no longer considered suitable, and proposals were made for familiar pubs in Winsor and Ashurst. Noting the geographic distribution of members, the meeting may be held at various venues in rotation to allow reasonable access for most members. Roger to circulate an e-mail asking for proposals.

7.4.The current absence of a Club Secretary was noted, and discussion showed the meeting in favour of appointing one. Roger to circulate job description of Club Secretary.

8. Cranbourne ride

8.1.Clive to contact Steve Keith to ask him to contact the brewery and request permission to use their facilities.

9. Honorary Memberships

9.1.A proposal to introduce a class of honorary membership was not accepted.

10. Date of next meeting

10.1. Tuesday 14 June 2022, *venue to be decided*

15 March 2022