

**READING CYCLING CLUB**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 2020**



Date: Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Venue: Zoom Meeting with Zoom Poll Voting

Incumbent Committee: [redacted] (Acting Chair), [redacted],  
[redacted], [redacted], [redacted],  
[redacted], [redacted], [redacted],  
[redacted], [redacted]

Also Present: [redacted], [redacted], [redacted],  
[redacted], [redacted], [redacted],  
[redacted], [redacted], [redacted]

Copy to: Whole Club

Minutes by: [redacted]

*The meeting began at 19:45 and The Acting Chair welcomed all comers.*

## 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from: [redacted] (voted by proxy), [redacted], [redacted],  
[redacted], [redacted] (voted by proxy), [redacted], [redacted],  
[redacted]

## 2. Minutes of 2019 AGM

The minutes of the AGM held 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019 were approved and taken as read. There were no matters arising.

## 3. Officials' Reports 2020

### ***General Secretary***

This was my third year as club secretary. I continue to be proud of our club as we progress in making our sport more inclusive. There are so many opportunities available to encourage more people to enjoy riding both competitively and non-competitively and our club helps its members develop by supporting and encouraging them to take on new challenges. The regular club runs we offer continue to be an important entry point for new members wishing to develop their cycling, even under Covid restrictions and are also a great way for club members to connect and keep company with like-minded people.

Although we've cancelled many of the events we normally promote during the year, the events that did take place were successful. The Club Dinner and Awards Night was popular and entertaining and had the biggest attendance in years and so many of us rode the reliability trial together in memory of club member Anthony Maynard. [REDACTED] organised and took us to a high-quality coached track session at Newport be. As soon as we got the green light to start club time trials, [REDACTED] put in place a "Covid-secure" plan for what was left of our club TT season and we've had healthy numbers of club members attending these races including quite a few new to time trialling. They even come back for more!

We have 1 open event that is still scheduled to take place in 2020 provided restrictions at the time still allow. The RTTC 2020 National Hill Climb on Streatley Hill, 25/10/2020. We'll need your help to make it a success, so watch this space.

I'd like to thank the Reading CC committee for all the support and advice they provide in running the Club and in guiding me and helping me to find my way as Club Secretary these past 3 years. We're volunteers that work well as a team in running a Club that we love.

### ***Treasurer***

This was my fifth year as RCC Treasurer. Full details of the accounts can be found in Appendix 1 (A1.)

The club started the year with funds of £12785.77 and finished with £12195.02, a loss in the year of £590.75. The main contributors to this were:

1. We made some clothing orders in the first half of 2020, listed below, which were delayed due to COVID-19, and so at the end of the financial year we're still holding a larger clothing stock than normal. The Castelli stock is expected to sell quite rapidly.

a. £900 for Big Bobble Hats

b. Approx. £1200 of additional Castelli stock from March 2020 order.

2. The timing of the 2019 road race meant that pre-event income was in 2019, but the expenses all appeared in the 2020 financial year.

The club has two types of income and expenditure.

1. Membership subs, clothing purchase and sales, and the other normal costs of running the club. Including the clothing orders and sales, this part of the account made a loss of £827.56. This is largely explained by the excess clothing stock mentioned above.

2. Event promotions. We made £236.81, compared to £2425.26 in 2019

a) Club time trials made a large loss, as all the events in H1 2020 were cancelled, and the accounts include the annual CTT Levy payment for all CY 2019 events.

b) Open TTs made less profit, partly due to the Open 50 being cancelled, as the course became unavailable at short notice.

c) We couldn't run the 2020 Road Race due to COVID-19, and the 2019 expenses are present in these accounts.

d) The Cyclo-Cross made about the same as last year.

The committee has agreed to use our financial good health to subsidise various activities and merchandise for the benefit of active members. In 2019/2020 these included:

1. Newport Velodrome trip, which was available at just a nominal charge.

2. Additional 10% discount on Castelli clothing orders

3. We charge for Club Time Trials at a price that covers the CTT levy only (£3).

4. Service charge for annual dinner

Although 2020 didn't look as healthy as previous years, this is mostly due to the impact of COVID-19, and given our reserves, I see no need to raise the subscription level for 2020/2021.

The club still holds the "Bill Blake Aspirant Fund", now at a value of £611, which was a kind donation from a long-standing member, to support young riders with equipment purchases, or help towards racing. If you would like to nominate a recipient, please contact the committee.

The Co-Op bank branch in Reading has closed, which makes dealing with cheques even more inconvenient, so please use electronic transfers in club business wherever possible. It also reduces the workload of the committee if people pay their subs online through British Cycling, rather than via individual payments as a few have still chosen to do.

I'd like to thank [REDACTED] for reviewing the accounts. He's signed a copy of the summary page to indicate that he's reviewed them and not found any problems, but also wishes to point out that since we weren't paying for his services as an auditor, he can't professionally give an opinion on them.

### ***Points Classification Secretary***

Inevitably, due to the pandemic, the committee had to suspend the Points Classification for 2020 and hopefully it will be back in 2021. After running the Points Classification for a few years, it has been very rewarding seeing how well it was received by the club members considering their feedback and engagement. The Points Classification not only provided some entertainment to the membership but also allowed the committee to keep track of all the activities within and outside the club to better understand trends and preferences. The bonus point for wearing the RCC jersey has been very popular and fun. That was a way to tell everyone that representing the club by wearing its colours is definitely worthwhile. The last Award Dinner was fun too; with the Points Awards everyone who attended managed to get a prize from the £476 jackpot.

The position of Points Secretary is now vacant.

### ***Social Media Secretary***

Reading CC presence on social media is primarily through Facebook and Strava, although Twitter and Instagram accounts exist, as well as presence on the British Cycling club page.

On-going plans for development include better social media integration and alignment with the new website, once that is operational.

To ensure that we maintain a fresh image that reflects all activities and diversity of the club, as well as appealing to new members; new pictures with members participating different events, particularly of any of members in competitive events such as road and track would be welcome.

#### **Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/readingcyclingclub/>

Total group members: **1224** at end of July 2020, an increase of over **10%** year on year.

The RCC Facebook group has become the main vehicle for the club to openly interact between members, as well as prospective members and the wider cycling community, including members of neighbouring cycling clubs and organisations. Members are increasingly using it to share information on club runs and other club events, including use of the event feature. Admins ensure that key messages are pinned to the top of the timeline.

It is an 'open group', which means it is visible to everyone, although only members of the group can post or comment on the page. Membership policy managed by the admin's and currently is open to anyone who is genuine. It's a policy that continues to work; the club has attracted many new paid-up members through this route, with the number of external users who have had to be blocked being minimal, currently 14 (less than 1.5%).

Admins: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

In addition, a Facebook page has been created 'National Hill Climb 2020' to provide a forum for communication in the lead up to this event in October. If you haven't done so already, please 'like' this page to stay informed:

<https://www.facebook.com/NationalHillClimb2020>

**Strava:**

<https://www.strava.com/clubs/readingcyclingclub>

Total group members: 90 at end of July 2020

During July 2020, a new Reading CC Members Only Strava Group was created, this was to replace the original 'open' group which had grown to nearly 700 members, the vast majority of which had no connection to Reading, let alone Reading CC.

This has clearly proved a great success, with over 70 members signing up to the new group within 24 hours, it has since grown throughout the month to 90 members which represents around 50% of the club. Former active members of the club will be allowed to join on request, if they wish to retain an association with the club and its activities.

The old group has now been deleted.

Admins: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

**Twitter:**

@ReadingCC

This is currently an under utilised SM tool, although it will become more of an asset once it is linked to the new website. Other clubs that successfully use Twitter, tend to use it for providing quick live updates to the main website home page e.g. TT results, club run updates, etc. as well as re-tweeting other relevant tweets from other sources.

Access rights: [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

**British Cycling Club Page:**

<https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/club/profile/3529/reading-cc>

This page provides information on the club for those searching via the BC club finder. The page has been updated to include information on club runs, TT's and links to our main site.

Access rights: Club Secretary; those also with admin rights include [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

## ***Women's Representative***

I only joined RCC last August thanks to you [REDACTED] and when I met [REDACTED] heavily pregnant at the last AGM meeting I decided to volunteer to take her place so that it would give me the opportunity to meet and socialise with club members more quickly. Looking back I am glad I did it as it also made me willing to try and lead my first rides thanks to the great support and advice from fellow members [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

From September until March I tried my best to lead social rides to practise my new learnt leading skills and I am glad to have seen group social rides often gathering more women than men during that time period!

To celebrate International Women's Day, we did a great club ride with a group of 8 women and also attended a talk about "Women and Sports in Science" in London with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

I was planning to organise a "bike workshop for women" but did not get to do it as Covid hit us. I would still like to organise it for next year as I believe this would benefit a lot of us. There are 36 women in the club this year and we've gone from 16% women last year up to 18% this year. I am happy to stand again for my role as women's rep. to promote RCC and women in cycling.

## ***Sportive Secretary***

RideLondon and most national sportives were cancelled due to the pandemic. The only event run this year so far was the Reading Cycling Club's Anthony Maynard Reliability Trial.

Despite some challenging weather with high winds and some early rain, the event was well attended and ridden in good spirit.

The event winner was [REDACTED] and his son, Finley in a time of 3:40 against a forecasted time of 3:40! The event raised a total of £152.80 which was split equally between World Society for the Protection of Animals and the local Air Ambulance service.

## ***Clothing/Kit Secretary***

This has been my first year as clothing secretary. The club continues to partner with two kit suppliers - Castelli for the centralised twice-yearly summer and winter kit bulk orders, and Jakroo for individual one-off kit orders.

This year's order with Castelli for summer kit was well subscribed, with 37 members (almost a fifth of the club) placing orders and taking advantage of a subsidy provided by the club of 10% on top of a further 10% discount that Castelli continue to offer us from their list prices.

Feedback on the quality of Castelli's kit continues to be excellent, so the discounts available make for a cost-effective way to acquire quality cycling kit. Details on this year's Castelli winter kit order will be available shortly, if not before the AGM.

I hold several of pieces of surplus Castelli kit in stock and I keep the list of what's available updated along with prices here

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NIOlg12AzsbQ3-clELqCLJ6zY7KyOXDy3QXiTE5Ei0A/edit?usp=drivesdk>.

Do contact me if you'd like to buy anything on the list.

Our Jakroo website is also available all year round for one-off purchases at

<https://shop.jakroo.com/storefront/Reading-CC>

If you see something on the wider Jakroo website that you'd like to order but which doesn't appear in the RCC shop let me know and I can get them to make it available in club colours. Jakroo sometimes offer us discount codes, so let me know before you order anything so I can check whether there's one available. The feedback I've had on Jakroo's kit and service has also been excellent.

From the photos I've seen of recent club rides, it looks like we're now at a point where a majority of riders are wearing at least one item of club kit on club rides, which is a fantastic position to find ourselves in. Not only does wearing the club kit help to foster a sense of club identity, it helps to advertise the club to would-be members and road users. It also sets us apart from other clubs in the area who I know sometimes struggle to get their members to wear their club kit, so please do continue to show off club colours on your rides!

## ***Track Secretary***

Like everything else this year, track cycling has inevitably been disrupted by the pandemic. After a successful club visit to Newport Velodrome on the 1st March, lockdown came only a few weeks later.

Racing did eventually start at Reading Track League with two test events on the 17th and 24th August where ██████████ represented RCC. I understand that there was a provisional plan to continue racing during September, but I am not aware if a final decision has been made as yet.

It is unlikely that I will be racing regularly at track league next year and I think the role of track secretary would best be filled by someone in touch with events there. I would be happy to stand down now if anyone else fancies taking it on. If not, then I can continue in the role if required.

## ***Club Coach***

Well it has certainly been an interesting first year as club coach. After [REDACTED] stepped down last year leaving the position vacant, I volunteered to take it on, did my BC Level 2 coaching qualification during the winter and no sooner had I received the certificate that we went into lockdown.

As part of the assessment on the coaching course I planned and delivered a series of six training sessions at Palmer Park track to a group of riders including three RCC members. It was certainly a useful learning experience for me and hopefully also the riders. I would be happy to run similar sessions in future if there is any interest within the club.

I realise that with the lockdown and pandemic restrictions along with much of my time taken up with other commitments there has been little opportunity to get involved with coaching related activities since completing the course. During lockdown I did take the chance to complete a few additional online coaching related courses though, including the BC course Using Rollers in Your Coaching. If there is any interest amongst members in learning to use them for the first time, or for the more confident, the one-handed track stand on rollers then we could perhaps look at trying to run something in future.

I am happy to continue as club coach and provide any training related help or advice I can to RCC members.

## ***Club Runs Secretary***

My third year as Club run secretary has certainly been an interesting one, never did I imagine we would head in to the summer with all club runs cancelled, fast forward 3 months and we are now back with the humble club run albeit slightly smaller and socially distanced, It's been great to see the social rides flourish in recent weeks and see the return of the fast ride, the key things for me going forward are ensuring BC and Government guidance is followed across all RCC rides and leaders come forward in advance, Those of you who are worried about leading please pick up a conversation, leading my first ride was the best thing I ever did in my cycling career!

## 4. Election of Officials 20209

The following incumbent officials offered themselves for re-election and were accepted unanimously:

|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Treasurer</b>              | ██████████ |
| <b>Membership Secretary</b>   | ██████████ |
| <b>Club Runs Secretary</b>    | ██████████ |
| <b>Women's Representative</b> | ██████████ |
| <b>Kit/Clothing</b>           | ██████████ |
| <b>Social Secretary</b>       | ██████████ |
| <b>Track</b>                  | ██████████ |
| <b>Audax</b>                  | ██████████ |
| <b>Club Coach</b>             | ██████████ |
| <b>Social Media Secretary</b> | ██████████ |
| <b>Accounts</b>               | ██████████ |
| <b>Master of Trophies</b>     | ██████████ |

The following people were elected unopposed and unanimously:

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>Chair</b>                           | ██████████ |
| <b>Points Classification Secretary</b> | ██████████ |
| <b>Sportive</b>                        | ██████████ |
| <b>Road</b>                            | ██████████ |
| <b>Social Media</b>                    | ██████████ |
| <b>Webmaster</b>                       | ██████████ |

The following people were elected by majority vote, including proxy votes:

|                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Welfare Officer</b> | ██████████ (18/24) |
| <b>Secretary</b>       | ██████████ (16/24) |

The AGM was most grateful to [REDACTED] for his vision and all his work as Point's Classification Secretary and to [REDACTED] for stepping up to take over from [REDACTED].

The AGM was most grateful to [REDACTED] for stepping up at short notice to take over as Chair from [REDACTED] until the AGM.

The AGM was most grateful to [REDACTED] for his dedication to the Club over many years in various committee roles including the role of Chair.

The AGM was most grateful to [REDACTED] for all his work as road race secretary.

No one was willing to be Cyclocross Secretary, but it was noted that the Club's cyclocross riders regularly engage with the Club through social media.

## **Open Event Organisers**

The following members offered to organise these events in 2021

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| <b>Open 10 TT</b>                      | [REDACTED]          |
| <b>Open 25 TT</b>                      | [REDACTED]          |
| <b>Open 50 TT</b>                      | [REDACTED]          |
| <b>Open Hill Climb TT</b>              | [REDACTED]          |
| <b>Road/Crit Race</b>                  | [REDACTED]          |
| <b>Bill Higson Memorial Cyclocross</b> | [REDACTED] and team |

The AGM was most grateful to [REDACTED] for all his work as Open 10 TT organiser over past years.

## 5. Propositions

Two club members had provided votes by proxy and the General Secretary counted their votes in addition to those present.

### ***A. Amendment to part 7b of the Reading CC constitution to “The Club shall hold the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the month of November”***

The AGM should be held during November. September is a busy month for the club and its members with 2 open events occurring. During August many of the committee members are away on holiday and unable to attend the August committee meeting and this makes the preparation for the AGM somewhat challenging.

Proposed: [REDACTED]

Seconded: [REDACTED]

The AGM decided that Club promotions should be decided at June/July/August committee meetings rather than at the AGM. Club members and guests are welcome to attend committee meetings provided they give advance notice of their intention to do so to the General Secretary.

The proposal was put to a vote

For: 22 Against: 0 Abstentions: 2

**MOTION CARRIED**

### ***B. Honorary Life-Time Membership for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]***

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are both long standing Reading CC members who continue to volunteer at club events every year, even though they are not in a position to attend club runs or access various other club benefits. They are both a real credit to the club and have been for more years than many of us can remember.

Proposed: [REDACTED]

Seconded: [REDACTED]

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **C. Club Affiliations**

That the club affiliates to the following bodies for 2020-2021:

- British Cycling
- Cycling Time Trials/ London West District of Cycling Time Trials
- Cycling UK (formerly CTC)
- Wessex Cyclocross League

Proposed: Committee

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **D. Club Promotions**

That the club promotes the following open events for 2021, subject to organisers being found:

- **Open RCC Crit Races at Hillingdon ( [REDACTED] )**
- **Open 50m TT ( [REDACTED] )**
- **Open 25m TT Clive Pugh Memorial ( [REDACTED] )**
- **Open 10m TT Colin Roberts Memorial ( [REDACTED] )**
- **Open Hill Climb TT ( [REDACTED] )**
- **Bill Higson CX ( [REDACTED] and organising team)**

Proposed: Committee

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 6. Nomination of Delegates

The following members agreed to act as delegates on behalf of the Club and were unanimously elected.

- London West DC (CTT) [REDACTED, REDACTED]
- British Cycling [REDACTED, REDACTED, REDACTED, 3/5]
- Wessex League CX [REDACTED]

## 7. Any other Business

It was agreed that future AGMs be held in person rather than by Zoom as the preferred way of meeting.

The results of the voting were clarified before the meeting closed.

*The meeting was closed at 20:35.*