

Minutes of a meeting of Hamsterley Trailblazers held on Monday 5 June 2006 at 6.30pm in the Forest Classroom

Present: Andy Samanjoul (in the chair)
Marie Brown
Vicky Chilcott
Mat Clark
Gary Ewing
Neil Gander
Ollie Graham
Chris Goldsworthy
Robin Lofthouse
Alex Maclennan (FC)
Bill Pike
Fiona Simpson
Martin Stout
Sean Sturley

Apologies for Absence were received from Jamie Butcher, Kathryn Gander, Christine Grevson and Chris Wright.

1. Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 3 April 2006 were approved as a correct record.

3. Statement of Accounts The Statement of Accounts for the end of May 2006 was presented together with latest membership details. It was noted the first commission cheque had been received from Wiggle. It was also noted Internet Banking was operative.

3. Insurance Bill reported that IMBA could no longer operate trailbuilding insurance for voluntary groups and alternatives needed to be explored urgently to allow future voluntary trailbuilding to take place. Alex and Robin agreed to examine possible alternatives, including an FC cover option.
(Action: Alex/Robin/Bill)

4. Phase 2 It was noted a planning application had now been made for the new Red Cycle Route and Visitor Centre and that a Public Consultation Weekend had been held over the Spring Bank Holiday (26-29 May 2006.) Views on proposals were invited up until September 2006. It was also noted match funding was needed in order to progress an application to ONE. Match funding would be easier to find after planning permission was secured. It was agreed to progress planning, design and costing of the new cycle trails as quickly as possible, so that when funding was secured Phase 2 could be commenced as quickly as possible. (Action: Alex/Ollie/Matt/Vicky)

5. Volunteer Trailbuilding 2006 It was noted a timetable was needed as soon as possible for 2006 trailbuilding days, subject to resolving the insurance issue and obtaining planning permission for the new Red Route.
(Action: Matt/Ollie)

6. Cycle Jerseys Marie circulated a sample cycle jersey for information and it was agreed a bulk order for between 15 and 30 jerseys be

placed as soon as possible over a variety of sizes, subject to Marie obtaining cost breaks on quantities of 15, 20 and 30. (Action: Marie)

7. Member Discounts Vicky reported that the Cross Keys Pub, Hamsterley would give members a 10% discount on drinks and food on production of a current membership card.

8. Website It was noted a number of revisions were urgently required to the website. (Action: Dean)

9. Black Route Robin reported that the Black Route was now fully open again

10. Trailhead Signage Robin said new signs for the Trailhead were expected within the week.

11. Trailblazer Publicity Posters Alex asked for posters publicising Trailblazers that could be used in FC locations and Vicky said she would liaise with Ollie over this. (Action: Vicky/Ollie)

12. Singlespeed Championship Andy and Robin reported on a very successful Singlespeed event in the Forest over the weekend. Some 150 people had taken part, with one of the main prizes going to a member of Trailblazers.

13. Chopwell Forest Festival Alex invited Trailblazers to promote the group at the Chopwell Forest Festival on 8 and 9 July and it was agreed to see if a Trailblazer stand could be organised. (Action: Vicky/Ollie/Andy/Matt)

14. IMBA AGM Alex drew attention to the IMBA AGM at Kielder Castle between 29 September and 1 October and invited Trailblazers to organise a presentation and talk on their work. (Action: Vicky/Ollie/Andy/Matt)

15. Calendar of Events

- **Club Ride** – Sunday 11 June 2006 – meet 10.30am Bike Hire Car Park, Hamsterley
- **Chopwell Forest Festival** – Saturday and Sunday 8/9 July 2006
- **Club BBQ** – fundraising event for Polish Charity Bike Ride (Jayne Emsley) – Saturday 8 July – more details to follow
- **Club Ride** – Sunday 9 July 2006 10.30am
- **Club Ride** – Sunday 13 August 2006 10.30am – Bike Hire Car Park
- **4th Co Durham GMSR** – Sunday 17 September 2006

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting It was agreed the next meeting be a Social Evening at the Cross Keys Pub, Hamsterley on Monday 3 July at 7pm.

