

Hamsterley Trailblazers

Minutes of the AGM on Thursday 14th April 2016 at 7.00 pm at the Village Hall, Hamsterley

1. Welcome and apologies for absence: Richard Bower, Fiona Ewing, Matthew Ferguson, Emma Graham, Bill Grigg, Rob Myers, Alex Talks, Dan Small
2. Present: Paul Allison, Vicky Chilcott, James Dods, Gary Ewing, Ian Ferguson, Andrew Frankcom, Kathryn Gander, Neil Gander, Gary Goldridge, Olly Graham, David Holmes, John Lambe, Alex MacLellan, Mike Monaghan, Geoff Morson, Andy Raine, Shaun Rogers, Sarah Small, Lindsay Talks, Ian Tate, Andrew Walker
3. Annual Report – presented by Olly Graham
 - Trailbuilding – James Dods gave a resume of the Trailbuilding Activities of the club and the latest trail to have been opened this year. Thanks were also given to Alex Talks and the Students from New College, Durham, and staff from EE Cummings and Glaxo Smith Kline.
 - Future Plans – Olly Graham spoke about the £10,000 funding secured through the Tesco scheme and another £10,000 from Teesdale Area Action Partnership. Plans for the future include a pump track for children's coaching and pending planning permission for the Blue Route.
 - Youth Coaching – Shaun Rogers spoke about the activities of the Saturday and Summer coaching session for children. The sessions have been well attended and feedback from parents and children has been very positive. Some of the children now also take part in competitive events.
 - Awards – Kielder Forest/IMBA Europe Conference – Hamsterley Trailblazers were awarded Volunteer Group of the Decade and ALAO at this event the Inspiration Award was made posthumously to Kaye Graham.
The Barclays Community Champion Award was awarded to Olly Graham and presented at the House of Lords in recognition of all the work he has done with the charity and with youth and community groups associated with the Hamsterley mountain biking project.
The club's Chrome Gnome award was presented to Kathryn Gander.
 - Vicky Chilcott spoke about a new award which the club will be setting up; the Kaye Graham Young Persons' Mountainbike Achievement Award which will be in honour of Kaye's memory and all she did for the club. A new trophy is being commissioned to enthuse and inspire children and will be donated to the club by Vicky Chilcott.
 - Club Rides – Neil Gander outlined the events during the past year; there was some discussion about the format of these rides. Dave Holmes is in the process of setting up the ride programme and these will be publicized through the website and emails to members.
 - Diary dates and the British Cycling Race Series
 - Club Membership and Benefits

CTC affiliation renewal is to be considered in order to provide insurance for the less formal club rides and activities.

4. Annual Accounts and Independent Examiners Report: - Olly Graham presented this on behalf of our Treasurer, Emma Graham. See attached document
5. Adoption of Annual Reports & Accounts – the meeting voted to adopt the Annual Report and the Accounts
6. Election of Trustees and Officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Child Welfare Officer

| post | | proposed | seconded |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Chairman | Neil Gander | Dave Holmes | Shaun Rogers |
| Vice Chairman | Oliver Graham | Vicky Chilcott | Geoff Morson |
| Secretary | Shaun Rogers | Dave Holmes | Olly Graham |
| Treasurer | Emma Graham | Vicky Chilcott | Neil Gander |

Andrew Raine is to become the new Child Welfare Officer, taking over from Kathryn Gander

Other Committee Members:- Dave Holmes, James Dods, Geoff Morson, Gary Ewing, Alex Talks, Michal Monaghan

A vote of thanks was given to Kathryn Gander for acting as secretary over recent months.

7. Looking to the Future – see report above
8. Vote of thanks from the Forestry Commission – Alex MacLellan presented a vote of thanks and spoke about the collaborative working of the Hamsterley Trailblazers and the Forestry Commission. Darren Best and Laura Turtle were thanked for the great support they have given to the club for HTB events and children’s coaching sessions.
9. Update on the Open MTB advocacy group – Neil Gander explained that Ted Liddle had sent his apologies so this item was not covered. Neil gave a short resume of this venture.
10. Any other business – An outdoor specific First Aid course is being run by Alex Talks on 23rd & 24th April. Members to contact Olly or Alex if they wish to attend.
11. Close of Meeting – the meeting closed at 8.30pm