1st Annual General Meeting at The Wellington in Seaford on 20th January 2010

Present

Andy Lock (Chairman) Ann Smith Clive Aberdour (Secretary) Rod Smith David Hester-Lock (Treasurer) Nicky Easton Ian Cairns (Website Manager) **Eon Matthews** Rod Lambert (Committee member) James Benning **Denis Bass** Roger White Jamie Lynch John Reeve Gillian Tait Sylvia Caten **David Wilton Damian Coutts** Jane Wilton **Duncan Dray**

Welcome

Andy welcomed everyone to Cycle Seahaven's first AGM and announced the sad news that Philip Moore, one of the club's founder members, had recently passed away following a short illness. Andy said that our thoughts were with his wife Stephanie and her children.

Apologises for Absence

2 The following members were not able to attend this meeting and had sent their apologises:

Eddie Collict (Campaigning Issues) Martyn Harries
Sue Turner (Women in Cycling) Ian Sawyers
Paul James Chris Goodchild
Delia Westley Colin Mitchell

Colin Hedges

Chairman's Report

3 Andy presented his report which had been issued with the 'Notice of AGM' and is attached to these minutes at the Appendix. Membership was continuing to increase and had reached 66. Andy explained that in 2010 we needed to concentrate on getting people out on their bikes.

Treasurer's Report

- David explained that a Treasurer's Trust Account was opened at the Nationwide Building Society on 3rd April 2009. The account had a cheque book and any cheques issued required two signatures. The current signatories were Andy Lock, Clive Aberdour and himself. The balance as at 31st December 2009 was £295.56.
- 5 He said that 66 people had joined the club, the membership fee being £5 pa. The meeting agreed, by a show of hands, to keep the membership fee at £5 pa for 2010.

David explained that it was now possible to pay by standing order and hopes that it will soon be possible to pay by Direct Debit. Denis offered assistance to set up the system.

The financial report will be issued shortly after the handover to the new treasurer.

Committee Nominations

Andy explained that the current committee members, apart from Clive Aberdour (Secretary), David Hester-Lock (Treasurer) and Sue Turner (Women in Cycling) were offering themselves for reelection in their existing roles:

Andy Lock (Chairman)

Ian Cairns (Website Manager)

Eddie Collict (Committee Member for 'Campaigning Issues')

Rod Lambert (Committee member, originally Publicity & Recruitment)

- 8 The post of Membership Secretary, previously known as Publicity & Recruitment Officer, was currently vacant although it had been undertaken by David Hester-Lock on a temporary basis.
- 9 The post of Events & Rides Co-ordinator was also vacant. Clive Aberdour was offering himself for election to this post.
- 10 Three new posts were being created:

Campaigning issues: two further members were required to work with Eddie on this subject.

Schools Liaison: Gillian Tait was offering herself for election to this post.

Election of the Committee

11 The following members were elected unopposed:

Chairman: Andy Lock

Proposed by: Jamie Lynch Seconded by: Denis Bass

Secretary: Denis Bass

Proposed by: Andy Lock Seconded by: Rod Smith

Treasurer: Nicky Easton

Proposed by: Andy Lock Seconded by: Eon Matthews

Membership Secretary: Rod Lambert

Proposed by: Clive Aberdour Seconded by: Gillian Tate

Website Manager: Ian Cairns

Proposed by: Andy Lock Seconded by: David Hester-Lock

Committee member for Campaigns: Eddie Collict

Proposed by: Ian Cairns Seconded by: David Hester-Lock

A second committee member for Campaigns: John Reeve

Proposed by: Andy Lock Seconded by: David Hester-Lock

A third committee member for Campaigns: Rod Lambert

Proposed by: Jamie Lynch Seconded by: Denis Bass

A fourth committee member for Campaigns: Ian Cairns

Proposed by: Eon Matthews Seconded by: David Hester-Lock

Schools Liaison committee member: Gillian Tate

Proposed by: Rod Lambert Seconded by: Ann Smith

Events & Rides Co-ordinator: Clive Aberdour

Proposed by: David Hester-Lock Seconded by: Nicky Easton

Publicity: Ann and Rod Smith

Proposed by: Denis Bass Seconded by: Rod Lambert

The post of 'Women in Cycling' committee member was not filled and would be discussed at a future committee meeting.

Weekly Rides Programme for 2010

13 Clive explained that in his new role of Events & Rides Co-ordinator he would strive to ensure that there were plenty of bike rides and events for members this year. There would be a weekly programme of 4 rides comprising:

Tuesday evenings: Club night for those using road bikes.

Thursday evenings: Club night for those using off-road bikes.

Saturday mornings: Off-road bike ride Sunday mornings: On-road bike ride.

- The Sunday morning rides had already started, the first one being the previous Sunday, 17th January. It had attracted 10 riders. The club night rides would resume in March.
- 15 Clive explained that the club caters for a wide range of cycling abilities so a grading system was being introduced for rides so that members would know in advance whether a ride was suitable for them.
- There were now 9 members designated as Ride Leaders which should be plenty to organise and lead rides of all types.

Events for 2010

- 17 Clive described some events that were being planned for 2010. Events were different to rides in that they're 'one-off' so not part of the weekly ride programme. The events being planned at present were:
 - 17.1 **South Downs Way Charity Event** This would be a 4-day event along the South Downs Way, from Winchester to Eastbourne, to raise funds for the East Sussex Branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association. The dates were Friday 28th May to Monday 31st May.
 - 17.2 **National Bike Week** It's intended to run four events, all different, during National Bike week in June. The date of National Bike Week would be confirmed by the Bike Week organisers later this month but it's likely to be Saturday 12th June to Sunday 20th June.
- 18 Further details of both this events would be given in the club's first newsletter to be issued later in January.
- 19 Clive said that he intended to run a one or two 'Weekenders' in Dieppe. This would involve staying overnight in Dieppe for one or two nights, depending on ferry times. There may be some other events depending on demand.
- In answer to questions from members Clive explained that generally events would, for insurance reasons, only be open to members. However, National Bike Week events would be open to both the general public and members as the Bike Week organisers provided the insurance. For the regular bike rides our insurance allowed us to have a maximum of 5 non-members on a ride if they're taking part with a view to joining the club.

Campaigns for 2010

Andy explained that the priority issues which Cycle Seahaven would be pursuing in 2010 were:

Completion of the National Cycle Route 2 from Exceat to Newhaven.

Safe routes to schools.

An alternative to the C7 for cyclists, ie from Newhaven to Lewes.

- Andy stated that Cycle Seahaven supported the local campaign for a 20mph speed limit on the roads around schools.
- The meeting was given the latest information on the work to be carried out on the bridge across the river at Southease and in Friston forest.

Cycle Jerseys

- lan would urge design of a cycle jersey. James Benning stressed the importance of having quality jerseys and offered to help with this aspect. Rod Lambert (Mr Cycles) would also get involved.
- The majority of members indicated by a show of hands that they would buy a cycle jersey.
- 26 Eon Matthews said he could get embroidered T-shirts if required.

Date of Next AGM

The next AGM would be held on Wednesday, 19 January 2011.

Appendix - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cycle Seahaven has had an encouraging start since the suggestion to set up as a formal club earlier this year. The initial meeting was arranged by Eddie Collict and Ian Cairns for 13th January and was well attended, indicating a need for a local cycling club. Now that demand had been established a second meeting was held on 24th February to formalise the club. By this time we had a name, a website, some eager participants and a very broad remit. On March 10th we held a committee meeting to adopt formal rules and a constitution, become affiliated to the CTC, and opened a Building Society account.

This is my first appointment to a committee, let alone as Chairman, so it's been a steep learning curve. Fortunately I had the support of a great committee from day one, including Clive (Secretary), Ian (Webmaster) and Rod, our local bike guru and Publicity & Recruitment officer. Their experience and drive have been instrumental in the continued success of the club. David also jumped into the unknown by volunteering to be club Treasurer. Despite his efforts to avoid it, Eddie joined the committee soon after and has been a valuable source of drive and knowledge. Sue Turner and Gill Tait are recent additions to our committee for Women in Cycling and Schools Liaison, and their support and insight has been a very welcome addition. Also new to us are Denis, Jamie and Mark, three very capable cyclists who have volunteered to be ride leaders.

Due to the efforts of the committee, Cycle Seahaven is formally recognised by both East Sussex council and Seaford Town Council. We have already had several meetings with both town and county officials, and we have put forward our ideas in creating a cycle friendly infrastructure for all to enjoy – thanks to all who gave us feedback and ideas. As a local cycling club we will be consulted on local transport issues. This is amazing progress for our club and the way has been paved for us to help define the local transport plan and push for better cycling facilities. Congratulations to all involved.

We have a great relationship with the Seaford Gazette, too. Reporter Joanne Smith joined the club on an off-road ride and we received great publicity with a full colour article. Joanne continues to show an interest in Cycle Seahaven and regularly publishes news and article for us.

We have run many road and off-road rides of varying length and difficulty. As a club our aim is to help increase cycling for all abilities. Cycling can be enjoyed by everyone and, being a fully inclusive club, we have found it difficult to meet everyone's expectations. Our mid-year survey received a huge response and we gained a valuable insight into the cycling needs of our members. The committee responded with more rides over more days and more ride leaders. Despite this many our rides remain poorly attended. To help make things simpler to understand we have introduced a grading system and a fixed layout for ride notifications. We will be looking to our members for further feedback and suggestions to help develop our club into 2010, including cycling for women.

Clive Aberdour will be stepping down as club secretary so that he can concentrate on organising rides. Clive has done a fantastic job as Secretary, for which I owe him a huge debt of gratitude, and I'm sure he will be as equally successful in organising rides. Next year's rides fixtures will be more comprehensive and planned much further in advance. We also have some major events in the pipeline including charity and long-distance rides.

Now that the groundwork has been laid we can concentrate on more rides and fully meeting your expectations as club members. We welcome your comments and feedback and look forward to further improving Cycle Seahaven.

Many thanks to the committee and ride leaders for their continued work and support. 2010 is shaping up to be a great year for our club.

Andy Lock

Chairman