

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

AGM 2021 – CYCLE SEAHAVEN

It is true to say that the past 12 months have certainly been a trying time for us all.

Faced with Pandemics, internal investigations and quite a few changes within the committee it has definitely been a year of reflection, a year to think outside the box and a chance to make some positive changes for the future.

The purpose of the club is to promote Cycling in our local areas of Seaford, Newhaven and Peacehaven and to encourage participation in those areas.

The committee standing for 2021 believe in this ethos and are dedicated and ready to face the challenges that may still come our way. We are looking forward to working closely with our Ride Leaders to help facilitate them in offering a variety of rides to suit all our members.

Three members of the committee will sadly be stepping down at this AGM and I would like to offer a sincere Thank You to each of them for the hard work they have done supporting and representing Cycle Seahaven. Simon McFarlane, Sarah Winser and Andy (Gus) Lock.

On behalf of the committee and our members I would like take this opportunity to thank Andrew Webb for his kind agreement to store the club's bike trailer, Denis Bass for his continued support in the use and servicing of the trailer and Rod Lambert, Mr Cycles who supports all our members with a generous discount.

You will find attached separate reports from each member of the committee covering in more detail the work they have achieved over the past 12 months. As Chair I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of them and to highlight some of those achievements.

Treasurer's Report - *prepared by Sarah Clark, Treasurer*

Following the Committee's investigations, as mentioned previously, it was agreed that the report should be prepared in a more open and detailed way to give you, the members, a clearer picture of the monies received and spent and how your membership money is allocated.

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank Sarah Clark for the extra time and work involved during the past year in her role as Treasurer. Sarah will continue to stand on the committee for the forthcoming year however is looking to swap her role with Vivienne. The two will continue to work closely together on both Treasurer and Membership matters.

You will note from the report that the club is currently hosting a rather healthy balance. As listed some of the money is already allocated but still leaves a rather decent balance. This is in part due to the fact we have been unable to organise any social events or larger rides for the club.

The committee will be looking at ways to use this money in the forthcoming year to benefit all our members and ride leaders and will keep you all informed once decisions are made.

Ride Leaders – prepared by David Sutton, Ride Leader Co-Ordinator (Road) and Sarah Winser, Ride Leader Co-Ordinator(MTB)

Our Ride Leaders have faced the most challenging year to date. With covid restrictions changing continuously throughout the year it has at times been hard to keep up.

David Sutton has had an extremely busy time reading, understanding and then producing new rules at every change handed down by government and for that we must offer a Massive Thank You.

Alongside his work on Safety, David has also been researching, preparing and launching Ride with GPS. This has involved a massive amount of time and effort and we are all grateful for the help he has been given by many of our members. You will see in his report who has been involved in this amazing project. If you have not yet uploaded the free app and signed in then you really should. The app will help you all to continue exploring our countryside in safe hands until our Ride Leaders are able to return.

Our Club cannot function without our Ride Leaders and it has been a great privilege to see the commitment and dedication of them to continue to lead rides through a pandemic.

You will see from both reports just how successfully our ride leaders have been.

On behalf of the Committee and our members I would like to offer a sincere THANK YOU to all our Ride Leaders and look forward to seeing their rides back on the calendar as soon as it's safe to do so. A particular shout out to Tony Roswell who has been the first ride leader to post a ride each time it has been safe to do so, so thank you. And a big thank you to Kate Carver for getting the social rides back up and running when possible.

Sarah Winser has served on the committee for the past three years as MTB Ride Leader Co-Ordinator and has done a tremendous job supporting our Ride Leaders and Members. She will be stepping down at this AGM but has offered to continue to support us and whomever takes on the role.

Sarah will continue to be a Ride Leader for the club and I am sure you will all agree when I say thank you to Sarah for all her hard work and very much look forward to joining a ride with her again.

David Sutton whilst remaining on the committee will be handing over his role of Ride Leader Co-Ordinator to Carol Bryant who is joining the committee at the AGM.

Dr Bike – prepared by Lee Turner

A massive congratulations goes out to the Dr Bike team who over the past twelve months have done some amazing work behind the scenes to adapt and conform to the very strict covid guidelines.

Their hard work has meant that Dr Bike was able to continue successfully for most of the year. In a time when many people are taking up cycling once again the team have been able to reassure and help riders to know their bikes are safe.

You will see in their report the amount of bikes worked on by the team. Their constant professionalism and safe working conditions have helped to promote our Club within the local community, created new contacts for the club and have and will continue to bring new members our way.

Alongside this Dr Bike has raised an incredible £985.12 for our Charity, 'Seaford Down's Syndrome and Special Needs Support Group'. An additional £85.76 has been allocated to the charity made up of overpaid membership fees and the raffle held at the 2020 AGM.

As in previous years, the committee have agreed to round up the donations to £1,100.00 and a cheque will be forwarded to the charity after the AGM.

Huge thank you to Lee and Donna Turner and the whole of the Dr Bike team.

Campaigns – prepared by Simon McFarlane

The Club endeavours to support as many local campaigns as feasibly possible to improve the infrastructure for cycling in the areas of Seaford, Newhaven and Peacehaven.

The work involved by our Campaign Co-Ordinator, Simon McFarlane, is incredibly time consuming and as a Committee we are looking to set up a Sub-Team to help distribute the work that is currently being undertaken. As a member of the club, if you feel you have an interest in supporting the campaigns then please let us know.

You can see from Simon's report the changes that can be made as a result of the work carried out on campaigns.

Simon has led the campaigns for the past few years and although he will be stepping down from the Committee at the AGM he has agreed to continue to support and feed back to us on the campaigns he is still currently involved in.

On behalf of the Committee and the Club I would like to thank Simon for all the time he has given to supporting Cycle Seahaven.

I do hope that you take the time to read through each report as it will give you a great insight into the work your committee does for you.

Your committee are also working to improve communications amongst its members and ourselves.

The club's social media pages have taken a battering over the past 12 months and as a result some of you have decided to step away from using them.

Thanks to Charlie Ireland we have seen a new positive approach to these pages and a growing number of members interacting once again.

Our facebook pages are for you all to share your rides, your photos and routes and the committee hope that with this positive approach you will all feel happier engaging with each other.

Alongside our facebook pages is of course our website which will continue to be the main contact with our members so be sure to check it out regularly and keep up to date with what is going on.

Clive Aberdour was co-opted onto the committee just a month ago to take on the role of webmaster and has agreed to remain on the committee for 2021.

He is already doing a superb job of working his way around the complicated website design and will support the committee in managing the site and posting our blogs.

I would also like to take this opportunity for thanking Clive in his superb work on preparing our club's newsletters which I'm sure you will agree make a great read.

And of course, you can contact your committee, via the website link, to share your concerns, comments or just to ask a question.

I stepped into the role of Chair just two months ago and am happy to continue in this role following the AGM.

The Committee, Your Committee consists of 10 Members, all passionate about cycling, passionate about your club and passionate about its members. As a committee we will continue to support our Ride Leaders and look at new ways to help and protect them in these new times, we will continue to look at ways of supporting our members and offering services to keep you riding when our Ride Leaders cannot and we will continue to build and grow strong relationships within the local community making us all proud to be part of Cycle Seahaven.

Joanne Barlow
Chair