



**Penge Cycle Club (incorporating Go Ride Penge)
Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2017**

Wednesday 12th July, 8pm, at Melvin Hall, 29 Melvin Rd, Penge. SE20 8EU.

Committee members present - Warren Adamson, Alison Coates, Conor Crossinggum, John Haile, James Hanscomb, Andy and Louisa Harding, Marilyn Pogson, Andrew Stroud, Phil Taylor, Kate Vergette and Yvonne Wright.
(Total present at AGM = 29).

1. **Apologies for absence** – Liz Begley, Frances Bonikowski, Felicity Carus, Stephen Crispin, Bryony Hooper, Tim Jones, Marco Peduzzi, Emma Porter, Joe Thomas and David Watts.
2. **Minutes of the previous AGM** - approved.
3. **Chairman's Review of the year 2016/2017** – see below.
4. **Secretary's report** – see below.
5. **Financial report** – see below.
6. **Election of Club Officials** – Penge CC is a volunteer run club so a big thank you to all our club volunteers and for everyone's continuing support. All main roles and sub-groups from club roles list were read out and agreed with show of hands.
7. **Open discussion (Q&A).**

With our finance do we have planned expenditures? Why have a profit margin if have nothing to spend it on?

We need to have a strategy and keep to it but this is not set yet. We don't need to make profit – with club kit only having slight margins – but we do need to be self-liquidating. Any suggestions are welcome such as more turbo beat, ride leader training or having our own Audax.

We could sponsor young riders. Could we get a fast youth team together to sponsor? What can we do with them/offer them. A nurturing fund? Need a plan put forward. Club is happy to pay for coaches if need to.

Bigfoot have stricter joining rules but still have a drop out with kids of secondary school age. Bigfoot's big advantage is that they have more kids to get camaraderie/having kids grow up together.

Go-ride session is 'The Hour Record' this Saturday - open to all.



Penge CC AGM - Chair report

12th July 2017

Introduction

Welcome once again to our AGM. Thank you for taking the time and making the effort to come. After last year, where I promised (and I think delivered) a chairman's summary of Churchillian proportions, I was tempted to make this year's a bit more succinct. Let's see how that goes.

Firstly, a reminder of why we have an AGM. We all contribute our subscriptions, payment for kit and events and give up our time to help the club and we trust a small group of volunteers to keep it all together. It is vital that the volunteers are good at what they do for the benefit of the club and this is your chance, if you think it's time for a change, to put forward and vote for alternative committee members. That's quite tough when we are essentially a bunch of friends, but our only certainty is that the club will change and we need the right people running it for it continue to thrive. Tonight, we have another Chinese-style election, where you only have a choice of one candidate per role because no one else has come forward. If you feel you have something to offer, then don't feel you have to wait until we have an AGM – everyone is invited to join or support the committee and we can use the AGM for confirming an appointment.

We also have an AGM to review the past year to look forward to the next 12 months. I have the enviable task of cheerleading this part of today's meeting.

State of the nation

Last year I said that it was plain for everyone to see that the club was in a rude state of health. I think I understated it.

We passed 300 members back in February and are now around 350, we have money in the bank, our membership is up to date. Both sides of the club have a wide range of things going on over and above the regular Saturday and Sunday rides and we all have a collection of Penge CC branded kit. By any measure you look at, this is a club that stacks up. Yet all of that ignores the single most important thing that makes this club what it is. We struggled to come up with a strapline that summed it up, and we settled on one that we have not really put out there yet, but which works nicely. We wanted something that had a cycling word in it, maybe that had a range of meanings and we wanted a word that encapsulated our friendly, inclusive ethos.

"Pedalling" fits the first of those. As well as the literal meaning, there is an element of evangelising about it.

"Cameraderie" – literally "mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together" seemed to fit pretty well too, with its hints of gallic origins.

So "Peddling Camaraderie". You only have to go on Facebook after a set a Sunday rides to get an idea of how much people enjoy their riding with Penge CC and that's the key to our success.

This doesn't just happen and I'd like to thank everyone who has contributed to the success.

All members of the committee give up a good amount of time to help ensure the club is well run; that our finances are in order, that our social events are frequent and well attended, that our rides grow and develop and that we have almost endless supplies of Penge branded kit. They all do a fantastic job and I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of all of us to say thank you.

I would also like to thank everyone who has volunteered in any way – whether that is ride leading, marshalling, coaching, helping out at events. We are wholly reliant on volunteering to keep the wheels turning and it's vital we all do our bit. If you are not contributing, then I would urge you to do so.



I am not singling out individuals, except for one person. He is someone who always becomes uncomfortable when we start gushing about how wonderful he is, so I'll keep it real. Winnie is usually the first person a potential new member meets. He encourages them to join our rides, he often provides and helps maintain their bike. He is always available for advice, encouragement and we rely on him to be there on Sunday mornings to set us off on our different rides. Without him, the club would be much harder to run and way less fun. Thanks Winnie.

A big thank you also to all riders. It is the classic cliché that it is the members that make the club special. It's a cliché because it's true. We continue to be the club that people love to ride with because we are welcoming, inclusive and fun; and that is down to all of you.

Highlights of the year

Go-Ride

Go-Ride Coaches We now have Louisa, Andy, Phil Taylor, Rachel Hale and Alistair Baker and newly certified, Stephen Crispin. New coaches coming through are Ben Frost and John Bell with Alwyn Gosford and Andrew Stroud also joining the team.

Go-Ride Sessions now have around 35 kids with new riders coming each session thanks to PR work from Emma Vickers.

Notable achievements this year

8 youth riders rode to Brighton - Reece Jethwa and his younger brother Kai, Reuben Moisey, Lucy Benezet-Minns, Joseph Newman, Sam Little, Beatrice Stroud and Mathis Jouy. (Beatrice is Andrew Stroud's daughter and is diabetic).

SLGRRL Cup winners (1st places) 2016-2017 = Jacob Matthews (Under 6 yrs old), Evie Galbraith (U8), Lucy Benezet-Minns (U12) and Reece Jethwa riding under his other club VCL (U14). Out of 12 cups and 6 clubs Penge won 4 cups.

Tour de Penge

Now in its 11th year, this has, up to now, been more for the Go Ride part of the club than the adult section. This year, our hand was forced slightly by the Royal Parks in Greenwich offering to relieve us of a substantial part of our annual income for the use of the park paid for by our taxes to have our picnic, so we politely declined. Instead, we looped straight back to Penge where we joined the Sunday riders and Tour riders for a BBQ at Alexandra School. Conor Crossinggum did a great job organising the event, with massive contributions from Andy Williams and Ben Frost on the route, Ann Ferris, Paula and Lisa Minnet on running the sign-on, Liz Begley and a host of ride leaders on the day, Emma for some great advanced publicity and Andy Harding producing another brilliant T-Shirt and poster design. Kate Vergette and Fidelma Hegarty for a truly spectacular BBQ and party plus a large number of people who helped out on the day.

There were plenty of things we can improve upon, but the day was a massive success and really showed what we are capable of doing as a club. It also made me think; about what we really stand for as a club and how much a part of the local community we are. More of this later.

Paris Roubaix

Those of us who were there will never forget it. Some, because riding for 100+ miles, with cobbles for 35 of them on a 35mm tyres at 100psi (well, there was some debate about what the correct PSI should be); is profoundly uncomfortable. Others, because at the finish in the Velodrome in Roubaix, we were welcomed and cheered home by the growing number of Penge-branded riders seated high up on the banking. Read my typically verbose account of



the day if you want to get a sense of what it felt like. For me, it was one of those rare, life affirming events that make it all worthwhile. Obviously a number of you agreed with me, because we have 42 people signed up for Liege-Bastogne-Liege next year. I can pretty much guarantee that Penge CC will be the biggest club there. A few people at Roubaix commented on the ever-present sight of red, green and white; next year, double it!

Our track sessions, time trials and the hill climb are now established events in the calendar. It sometimes frustrates me that more people don't participate in these events. We have a great turnout and we are getting better and better at organising them, but there are a number of you who think, well, it's not really for me, I'll offer to marshal. The hell with that, get stuck and try it; no one is going to laugh at you. You are amongst friends. Then you can choose whether it's for you or not, but you won't find a more encouraging, inclusive club anywhere.

I was choked to miss out on the Brecon trip, though with my Welsh connections, I possibly should have warned the gang that the weather there can be 'changeable' and the rain horizontal at any time of year. There was some great riding and I think the appeal of communal living was there for all to see.

There have been some prodigious individual feats of cycling this year. Barry's Welsh adventure, David and John's Audax craziness, David Ward's fantastic adventures traversing America and Bryony's successful Lands' End to John O'Groats. Just last weekend, we had a huge number doing the night ride to Dunwich and we had Warren's heroic triple Ventoux; the 'Club de Cingles'. We may be inclusive and have all ages, shapes and ability levels, but we do certainly do some cycling.

We have added a new training activity, which I think suits the Penge ethos quite well. It is both serious; it's a really good training session, and sociable. Turbobeat is an opportunity to ride next to Stuart and Stephen (and Kate) and not get left behind. We are working with a company called Elite Performance – more of them later. These sessions have definitely added a new dimension to our riding, with some significant improvements in performance.

There is still plenty more to come this year, including the BBQ this weekend, the Hill Climb and New Forest trip in Sept and a Majorca expedition in September and we are already planning LBL and the Maratona for next year.

What more can I say. Phenomenal. Awesome. Just brilliant. All superlatives are inadequate.

Challenges

However well we think things are going, there are always challenges in a club of this size. I talked last year about how change was inevitable and that how we managed it would be key to how the club developed.

I spoke about the fact that the committee was new and finding its way. We no longer have that excuse but whilst we may not have achieved exactly what we thought we would this year, we have certainly made some progress and I am really pleased with the way the team has responded to change and stepped up to the task of leading an ever-expanding club.

2 clubs

I also talked last year our biggest challenge as being that we are in effect 2 clubs; Adult and Go Ride. I mentioned the slight tiff we had between a group who chose to ride to Box Hill rather than participate in the Tour de Penge. Thinking about this made us realise that of course most of our adults don't want to ride the Tour – but a really happy to support and be associated with it. We came up with the idea for running separate rides and joining up for a celebration BBQ at the end. That seemed to work ok, so maybe we just celebrate that we are two adjacent clubs, joined by a shared love of cycling, a great outfit and a love of partying.

Growth of adult side

The next challenge I spoke about was the need to continue to manage the growth in the adult side of the club, maintaining the enjoyment of the Sunday rides and other events and adding new activities, without becoming a menace on the roads, without being a danger to ourselves.



We certainly managed the first part of that, though I am less confident we have been 100% successful on the second. To an extent, we are a victim of our own success. We can't send 100+ riders out in busy suburban roads without getting in some peoples' way and there are always a few who are in such a hurry that whatever we do, they will find fault.

Actions

So what are some of the key things we are going to do in the coming year?

On the Go Ride side

Louisa and Andy's ambition for this year was to plan for their succession. Since the club started, they have been absolutely critical to the success of Go Ride and as their own children grow up, it is the natural order that people step up. Louisa and Andy plan to keep coaching, but they have now recruited sufficient new coaches to enable them to share responsibilities on a rotation. New coaches, Ben Frost, Alwyn Gosford, Stephen Crispin and David Bell are all regular adult riders so that can only help the bond between the two parts of the club.

We wanted to be more sociable, but it continues to be a challenge to get the two parts of the club together, other than for the Tour de Penge. We conceived the New Forest/ Isle of Wight trip as a family friendly one, but it hasn't really worked out like that. We won't get everything right, but that doesn't mean we give up if we think it is worth doing.

On the adult side

Ride leading and group riding

We have already started some training on riding in groups. We had two groups of 12 ride leaders spend a Saturday morning with Elite doing some ride leader training. Much of it was about the discipline of riding in a group and gave us a chance to practice rotating the lead and reminded us of the importance of communication. We will run some more of these for leaders and start rolling out the training to the rest of our riders until we are all comfortable and safe riding together.

We have started rolling out the group riding. We'll do it carefully because it involves riding closer together, by default in pairs and learning techniques for communicating, switching the lead and singling out. We are working on some material to help people learn how to do it the 'Penge way' and will be setting up practical sessions, on closed roads if necessary, to get us all familiar with the techniques.

Sunday morning groups

A while ago, I asked for feedback from everyone on how we can make our Sunday rides safer and I had an overwhelming response. I have now collated most of that down into a number of key things that we will implement in the coming weeks. Before we do that, I plan to organise a Sunday rides meeting, aimed mainly at ride leaders, but open to anyone who wants to come. I am not a big fan of setting out 'club rules' but at that session I plan to set out the blueprint for 'How Penge Rides'.

I am also on the lookout for new ride leaders as ever and the very good news is that Warren Adamson has agreed to split the rides organisation with me, taking charge of the Short 4, Medium Long and Fast Long rides. He'll be working on new routes and other ideas to develop these rides and riders.

We will also continue to add new rides and events, with next year already looking pretty exciting even while we still have a load of great riding ahead of us this year.

Elite Performance

We are very lucky to have a set of sponsors who help us set up the club a number of years back. I am not sure we have done much directly to boost turnover at Designer Drapes, but our BBQs have made the most of Murray's, we tend to take over Blue Belle Café after our Sunday rides and SE20 Cycles, well, it's mutual and indivisible. The truth is, though, that we have not really needed money from sponsorship, so we have left this alone for years now. However, as



we grow and perhaps take our training a little more seriously, it seems the time is right to link up more formally with a set of coaches who can really help us.

Paul Mill, who is an ex elite Triathlete, pro footballer, my old postman in West Norwood and a top guy, and his team at Elite Performance are based in Crystal Palace. They already do our Turbobeat sessions and have started our ride leader training. We are working on a sponsorship package that helps Paul's business and helps our riders to improve. We'll be releasing details of this, some exciting training plans and perhaps another sponsorship deal in the next couple of weeks.

A big challenge

Maybe it's a little early still, but it seems to me that we have already proved that we can lift ourselves to organise and do some superb events. David Watts did an amazing job organising Roubaix this year and is taking 42 of us to Liege next. Kate took a large group down to Wales and we had Conor leading the team to organise a sensational Tour de Penge.

The question I have asked myself, and a few others who will listen, is; 'How far can we take this?' What could we achieve if we really tried?

We have talked in the past about maybe one day running our own Sportive, the way Dulwich run the Ride of the Falling Leaves. Or our own Audax? What about a Hill Climb, like Catford. Or a Brighton run like Bigfoot? What is our club's 'thing?' Maybe it is to take the Tour de Penge to another level.

All I want at this stage is for people to start thinking about it, to be bold and ambitious, Dare to dream. We are onto something special with this club and I'd love to see how far we can take it. We have the organisation and the enthusiasm and all that limits us is our ambition. Perhaps we can take a leaf out of the book of one of our Go Ride graduates, 14 year old Reece Jethwa.....

Here's to another amazing year with the best bike club there is.

Secretary's Report - AGM - 12th July 2017.

Club Membership numbers

At our AGM in 2014 we had 124 members.

At our AGM in 2015 we had 168 members.

At our AGM last year – we had 232 members.

This year for our AGM - we now have - 348 members.

(This includes 300 adults, with 204 men and 96 women and 48 go-ride members, with 28 boys and 20 girls).

Affiliations

Our affiliation with London's Women Racing League has already been mentioned.

We're affiliated with British Cycling – which we need to have to operate as a youth go-ride club - and this gives our members a reduced joining fee and very importantly 3rd party liability insurance.

We're also affiliated with Cycling Time Trials which allows our club members to enter and ride in time trial events and this has allowed us to host open and club time trials.

Youth membership – from September the youth membership will be changed to match the adult membership. This means new riders can join us for up to three of our Saturday sessions before having to become club member. Those who wish not to become members will be charged a higher subs of £5 when they attend (which is usually £3 per session).

Sub-groups

Sub-groups within the committee and the club are still being used when they are needed and are working well. This year we've had action plan, go-ride and Tour de Penge meetings which all give updates back to the main committee.



Financial Report for Penge Cycle Club 31st March 2017

Income and expenditure

Income

Membership Subscriptions	5,417.08
Go-Ride Fees	1,590.10
SLRRL Fees & Refreshments	510.00
Cycle Clothing	11,025.38
Leisure Clothing	998.00
Time Trial Fees	305.00
Track Session Fees	678.00
Bank Interest	2.04
Unidentified / Misc.	1,125.00
Other Events	0.00
Cycle Caps	990.00
Go-Ride Loan Bikes	65.00
Bufs	1,000.23
Turbo Sessions	1,709.50
Total Income	25,415.33

Notes

Also includes RiderHQ event income up to Nov '16

TdP 2016 & club T shirts

£500 fireworks volunteering, £500 donation for jersey @ HHV, £125 T-shirts

Expenditure

Membership Management	471.76
Go-Ride Venue & Expenses	1,951.04
SLGGL Levies	208.00
Cycle Clothing	11,141.42
Leisure Clothing	849.72
CTT Levies & TT Expenses	290.70
Track Session Expenses	377.08
Coach/Volunteer Training	910.00
Affiliations	311.00
Marketing & Publicity	1,133.48
Tour de Penge	20.00
Other Events	1,080.04
Cycle Caps	1,541.22
Bufs	740.99
Turbo Sessions	1,739.25
Social Events	429.66
Total Expenditure	23,195.36

Go-Ride & SLGRRRL activities just about break even, not considering membershi

inc. £1,323.84 balance on Feb '16 order. £1207.80 profit made on 16/17 sales
TdP 2016 T shirts

Go-Ride coaching, first aid courses
BC, CTT, London Women's Racing League, Clubworks
Flyers, social media, Herne Hill Velodrome banner, seat & jersey in club house

£823.84 gazebo, £231.20 SE20 Cycles maintenance sessions
inc. £779.01 on Mar '17 order. £227.79 profit made on Sept, 17 order
£259.24 profit
intended to break even
BBQ & Xmas party

£2,219.97 overall profit in 2016/17

Balances

Funds carried forward from last year (if any)	7,194.65
Funds received in year	25,415.33
Funds spent in year	23,195.36
Total	9,414.62

Liabilities

Have not received invoice for HHV track session Feb, Mar & April. 3x £286 for 22 riders	858.00
Balance - Liabilities	8,556.62

Notes:

RiderHQ income before Dec '16 all identified as membership income. RiderHQ income only correctly allocated to membership and events from Dec '16 onwards, due to invoicing limitations.