

# Spokes Monthly Meeting



**Date:** 3 January 2018      **Venue:** The Lion, Newbury  
**Present:** Mike Butler, Ed Cooper, Josh Kerry, Caroline Lane, Gordon Oliver, William Pitt, Clive Tombs

Ref	Item	Action
1.	<b>Secretary / Membership Secretary Role</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Graham Hunt (GH) has announced that he is standing down as Secretary and Membership Secretary, which creates a vacancy / vacancies on the committee.</li><li>CT said that he would be prepared to do the Secretary Role, but he did not have capacity to take on the Membership Secretary Role as well.</li><li>GO mentioned that Ron Brown had recently joined Spokes and on his membership form he had indicated that he might be prepared to join the Spokes Committee. It was agreed that GO would email Ron to see if he would be prepared to take on the role of Secretary.</li></ul>	GO
2.	<b>Bank Account</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Following GH's resignation, it was agreed that Spokes should update the signatories on old and new bank accounts and close the old account.</li><li>GO to dig out the forms for the old account.</li><li>JK to transfer outgoing direct debits / standing orders to the new account and update the details held by West Berkshire Council so future cycle count payments go to the new account.</li><li>Need to write a cheque for the balance of the old account and pay it into the new one.</li></ul>	GO JK JK GH / JK / WP
3.	<b>Website Fees</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>GO passed receipts to JK. GO to get GH to countersign cheque.</li></ul>	GO
4.	<b>Member Feedback</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>GO circulated a summary of the results from the member survey.</li><li>A total of 104 people responded.</li><li>When asked about what Spokes should spend their time on, the most popular responses were:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Lobbying</li><li>Rides</li><li>Newbury to Didcot cycle route</li></ul></li></ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bikeability training for children</li> <li>▪ When asked about what Spokes should spend their money on, the most popular responses were:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Newbury to Didcot cycle route</li> <li>- Kennet &amp; Avon towpath improvements</li> <li>- A4 cycle route</li> <li>- Cycle maintenance training</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ When asked what help they were prepared to give to Spokes, the most popular responses were:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cycle count</li> <li>- Cycle audits</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ It was agreed that we need to tell members about the survey results and show how we intend to deliver their priorities. GO to update website.</li> </ul>	<b>GO</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Rides</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spokes has struggled over the last year to attract people to the rides. WP felt that we had lost our way a bit and needed to find a niche.</li> <li>▪ It was noted that Paul Hendry and Banjo were catering for the novice and experienced cyclists and that Spokes could best cater for intermediate cyclists (i.e. 20 to 30 miles at 10-13 mph with an optional café stop). WP to put together a programme of rides.</li> <li>▪ The current time was thought to be OK (i.e. Saturday at 9.30am) and the current meeting place was considered to be convenient for most people (i.e. West Mills at the side of Lloyds Bank).</li> <li>▪ It was agreed that we should publish a full list of all the rides on the website and social media pages, and promote through Paul Hendry and Banjo, as well as CL's Facebook page. We could then cross-refer to Paul and Banjo.</li> </ul>	<b>WP</b>  <b>GO</b>  <b>CL</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Member Comms</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It was agreed that Spokes should aim to send a monthly email to Spokes members summarising the current activities and issues and directing people to the website where appropriate.</li> <li>▪ The new Secretary will need to get the Mailchimp details from GH.</li> </ul>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Towpath</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spokes have audited the sections between Marsh Benham and Hambridge Road. Cllr Ardagh-Walter has audited the section between Thatcham and Woolhampton. JK to put the results on an A0 plan.</li> <li>▪ Cllr Ardagh –Walter has organised a meeting with the Canal and River Trust</li> </ul>	<b>JK</b>

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	<p>for 9<sup>th</sup> January.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ JK to invite Peter Challis of Sustrans to attend.</li> <li>▪ It was agreed that the Canal and River Trust's inspection regimes and intervention thresholds needed to change to ensure safety of cyclists.</li> <li>▪ It was noted that there was currently no coordination between Canal and River Trust and Sustrans volunteers.</li> <li>▪ CL and CT are both Sustrans Rangers, but get no feedback from Sustrans. This should be highlighted at the meeting</li> <li>▪ It was agreed that while Spokes could offer to put some of their funds towards the repairs, this would not go very far and it was felt to be absolving the Canal and River Trust of their maintenance responsibilities.</li> <li>▪ CT reported that he had spoken to three walkers while doing the audit – all had expressed disappointment at the lack of regular maintenance.</li> <li>▪ It was noted that £300k of developer contributions from the racecourse development will be spent on improving the section from Bull's Lock to Newbury. This serves to highlight the scale of the funding that is required.</li> </ul>	JK
8.	<p><b>General Data Protection Regulation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ EC is involved with a charity that will be looking at this in detail shortly. Lessons learned could be passed onto Spokes.</li> <li>▪ The recent member survey has put us in a good place in terms of providing evidence of people who want to receive comms from Spokes.</li> <li>▪ Members need to be able to opt out of future comms – this can easily be done through Mailchimp.</li> <li>▪ We need to review the information that we collect and we need to update the membership form to say what each bit of data is used for.</li> <li>▪ We also need a privacy policy. GO has started to look at this and will send round for comment.</li> </ul>	GO
9.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ It was agreed that JK can order 31 jerseys in a range of sizes.</li> <li>▪ CL indicated that she would like to start a kids bike club, but needed to get a British Cycling Level 2 coach award, which would cost £485. This was unanimously agreed.</li> </ul>	CL
<b>Next meeting:</b>	<b>07 February 2018 @ 7.00pm</b>	
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>The Lion PH, West Street, Newbury, RG14 1BD</b>	