**Chippenham & District Wheelers Annual General Meeting 2024 Minutes**

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| **Date Of Meeting:** | 26/11/2025 |
| **Location:** | Bowls Club, Chippenham SSC |
| **Meeting Start:** | 19:30 |
| **Meeting End:** | 20:30 |
| **Chair:** | Andy Cook |
| **Secretary:** | Rich Buckley |

**1. Attendance and apologies received**

Apologies received from: John Eames, Simon Cox, Emily and Andy Lockwood, David and Claire Brady, Neil Lewis, Rachel Clarkson, Jacqui Cook, Mat Wingrave, Cath Ferris.

Attendees: 19 members present, listed at the end of these minutes.

The Chairman explained that there were an insufficient number of members present to meet quorum requirements for voting however there were no rule change motions submitted so this was a non-issue.

The Chairman read the start of his report which recognised the passing recently in 2025 of club stalwarts Winn Bond (Vice President), Mike Edwards (President), and John Else, (Vice President). A minute's silence was held to recognise their life and contribution to the club.

**2. Previous minutes**

a. 2024 AGM minutes were approved. Proposer Paul Winchcombe, Seconded Rob Duncumb.

b. No matters arising.

**3. Retiring club officers reports.**

a. Chairman's report, Andy Cook read the following report:

*Dear Members,*

*I'd like to begin by acknowledging the sad news that during this year we lost a number of long-standing members who contributed enormously to the growth and success of our club.*

*We lost two Vice Presidents.*

*Firstly, Win Bond, wife of our long-time Secretary, Dick Bond. Win was always a great supporter of club activities, helping at events on the tea stall or signing riders on at the Good Friday races.*

*We also lost John Else, who gave so much to the sport and to this club. John held many committee positions, organised the National Hill Climb on behalf of the club in 1983, promoted the CTC Birthday Rides in 1981, and won the prestigious BCTC Final in the mid-1970s. He was a true all-round cyclist.*

*Our Club President, Mike Edwards, also passed away this year. Mike served as President for just over 40 years, taking over from founder member Jack Nunn. Mike played a huge part in the running of the club and, like John, was ever-present on the committee in a number of roles. He was also a tremendous support to Sheila, a highly respected timekeeper in the West Country, acting as her observer at thousands of open events including National Championships.*

*We also sadly lost two other long-standing members from that era: Tom Davis and Pat Cole.*

*Without individuals like these, the club would not be in the strong and respected position we enjoy today—not just in our region, but nationally.*

*Many of you will have heard me speak often about maintaining the very best of the club's traditional values, instilled in us by the people I've just mentioned. At the same time, we must be forward-thinking enough to adopt new ways of working and embrace change where it's relevant. Balancing tradition with progress is a*

*subtle process, and it requires careful management. That is why we have such a strong governance structure in place.*

*There are many new clubs operating without a formal structure, and while that may work on the surface, it can lead to major problems if, God forbid, a serious incident occurs. Our affiliations—to British Cycling, Cycling Time Trials, and Cycling UK—ensure that club officers have the necessary protection. A strong constitution, formal minutes, and the approval of rides remain important elements of what we do.*

*That's the "boring" part out of the way.*

*What matters most is fostering new ideas. This club belongs to all of us, and every member is entitled to contribute thoughts and suggestions. I would like to thank the existing committee for their time and dedication in ensuring the club continues to deliver such a broad range of activities—from racing through to leisure riding.*

*Although I don't usually single out individuals, I would like to give special thanks to Ange Dunford, who has taken over as Treasurer and turned the accounts around. We are now in a position where we can clearly see our financial status and consider how best to use club funds to further develop cycling in the town. This year's finances have been exceptional for reasons Ange will outline. However, as a community-based club, our intention is not to make money, but to operate as a "not-for-profit" organisation, reinvesting any surplus back into club activities.*

*This leads me nicely into one of the year's best success stories. Rich Buckley, James Eccleston, and Gordon Aitkenhead have successfully resurrected the Go-Ride sessions that were so well run pre-Covid by Jacqui, Sue, Paul Freegard, and myself, along with others. I'm pleased to report that attendance from young riders has been very strong. Both James and Rich enrolled on a British Cycling coaching course and are now qualified, demonstrating once again the club's commitment to investing in its members and supporting the development of youth cycling.*

*To sum up, I believe the club remains in a strong position, delivering a wide range of cycling events and activities. But we must never become complacent. I encourage all members to share their ideas so we can remain relevant, continue to develop, and ensure the club thrives for years to come.*

*Andy Cook*

*Chairman, Chippenham Wheelers*

b. General Secretary's Report, Rich Buckley read the following report.

*The club membership currently stands at 125 with 23% female.*

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| *Honorary members* | *2* |
| *Life members* | *2* |
| *Second claim members* | *2* |
| *Seniors* | *118* |
| *Unders 18* | *1* |

*It is recognised that the youth section of the club is severely depleted. We have ideas about growing this in 2026. The first few steps have been taken with the training of additional coaches and the running of four GoRide sessions at Castle Combe in 2025. Our club rules rightly require under 16s to be accompanied by a riding parent. This seems to put off many enquiries who would like a drop and collect service like many facility based clubs.*

*2025 saw the full transition of all members to annual renewal around 1st April in line with that of the Sports and Social club. We would like to thank all members for the patience with this but now it is in place, it has proved much easier to manage. Comms and reminders can go out on-mass and the club receives the revenue in a sustained block which makes the Treasurers life easier and allows the club to plan and budget.*

*The club website continues to be the authority on club events. Unfortunately, the news and newsletters are thin on the ground as we do not have anyone collating this month to month. I have some ideas on making ride registration easier that I want to try out over the Christmas break.*

*2025 saw the introduction of a series of WhatsApp channels managed by the club. The committee felt it was important to have a community only containing members. When new members join, they are invited to the community. When a member does not renew, they will get removed. This seems to be working well but we must be mindful that not all members are using it and email is still the only way of communicating with the entire membership.*

c. Treasurer's report, Ange Dunford

*Ange discussed the accounts provided as an attachment to the minutes. The club had a surplus of income to the value £7265 largely due to the success of the Good Friday Racing at Castle Combe and the "discovery" of a large quantity of unclaimed race cash prizes from previous Good Friday sessions. The headings under "Administrative Expenses" in the accounts are standard headings and a description of where of our expenses such as affiliations were allocated was given.*

*Ange received thanks from the members present for the work getting these accounts up and running. A question was raised regarding the current cash position of the club which was answered. The discussion ran asking for ideas on where to invest these funds for the benefit of the club.*

*John Duckenfield asked about governance such that future non-claimed race prizes can be recycled as event proceeds sooner. This was acknowledged by the event organisers present as something where a "term of racing" could indicate that race prizes not claimed after two months would be considered unclaimable.*

d. Racing Secretary's report, Paul Winchcombe

A full report was signposted at:
https://www.chippenhamwheelers.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/2025_Chippenham_Club_Time_Trial_Report.pdf

Paul read out some highlights from this report.

e. Non-competitive Cycling Co-ordinator's report, Stewart Smith.

A short report was read out by Stewart.

Sukie Headley spoke about the changes to the 2026 Audax series with a new £10 entrance fee to cover the whole series, new routes and reliance on local cafes rather than village halls. We also discussed that the Open Audax - Fletchers Flapjack will not be run in 2026.

Paul Winchcombe raised the question of fees should only a single event be being ridden. This was to be taken back to the organising committee for consideration. The £10 fee was subsequently waived to simplify start proceedings and encourage participation.

James Eccleston asked about notes from a recent Wednesday club night meeting where leisure riding etiquette and programme was discussed. The secretary responded that these would form part of the minutes of the December committee meeting.

**4. Proposed motions**

There were no proposed motions.

**5. Election of Club President and Vice Presidents**

Paul Winchcombe proposed Andy Cook for the position of President and read out a moving account of Andy's club history, racing achievements and positions held on national and regional cycling bodies. This was seconded by Sue Andrews and carried by unanimous vote in favour.

Andy gave a humbling acceptance speech indicating that the governance structure of the club would be something to be looked at by the committee in the next year. The club needed to be relevant and accessible to members in 2025 with some structures now appearing dated. With this in mind, the committee are consciously not proposing adding to the reducing number of Vice Presidents and Honorary members.

Mr. J Beavan was reelected as a Vice President and a brief description of his historic involvement in the club was given. Proposed by Sue Andrews, seconded by Andy Cook.

**6. Election of 2024 – 2025 Committee Officers**

All members of the committee were willing to stand for another year.

The Chairman asked the consent of the members present for the existing committee to continue. No objections. Proposed Gary John, seconded David English.

Chairman: Andy Cook.

General Secretary: Rich Buckley

Treasurer: Ange Dunford.

Competitive events coordinator aka Racing secretary: Paul Winchcombe.

Non-Competitive Events Co-ordinator: Stewart Smith with support from a sub-committee including volunteers: Rob Wild, Dylan Spencer, Midge Rouse, Sukie Headley, Sheni Jiwa.

Social Events Coordinator: Sue Andrews with support from a sub-committee including volunteers: Fiona Waind and Linda Hitchcox.

Ordinary Members: Rob Duncumb

We also had the grateful expression of interest in joining the committee in the form of ordinary members from James Eccleston (proposed RB, seconded PW), Sukie Headley (proposed RD, seconded RB) and David English (proposed PW, seconded AD).

These three new ordinary members were elected en-bloc. Proposer Mark Otridge, seconded by Sheni Jiwa.

**7. Election of ex-officio posts**

The names listed below were willing to continue in the role for the next year. Nick Ferris expressed interest in club archivist and it was also suggested that Paul Freegard may also be interested in this role. Should there be interest in these roles throughout the year, the committee will be permitted co-opt into the role.

Governance Coordinator: Sheni Jiwa

Youth Coordinator:

Coaching Coordinator:

Community Coordinator:

Communication Coordinator:

Website Coordinator: Rich Buckley

Club Archivist:

Welfare Officer: Rachel Clarkson

The above ex-officio posts were approved en bloc.

**8. Election of Honorary Members**

Honorary Members. Mrs. M. Burden, Mr. N. Curram, Mr D Hunt were re-elected en bloc for services to the club.

Proposer Andy Cook. Seconded Rob Duncumb.

**9. Any other business**

a. Club Christmas social to be held on Wednesday 10th December including hog-roast.

**10. Close meeting**

Meeting closed at 20:30

**Signed as Approved and Agreed Minutes of Meeting**

**(Chairman)** _____

**(General Secretary)** _____

**MEMBERSHIP PRESENT ON 25/11/2025**

Andy Cook
Rich Buckley
Sheni Jiwa
Paul Winchcombe
Nick Ferris
Rob Duncumb
Stewart Smith
John Duckenfield
Ange Dunford
Sue Andrews
Mark Otridge
David English
Gordon Aitkenhead
Stephen Preece
Sue Wingrave
Gary John
James Eccleston
John Little
Sukie Headley