

**Bike Leichhardt
Committee Meeting
Monday 13th February 2023
Royal Hotel. Leichhardt**

Meeting opened: 6.12pm

Members present:

Bob Moore, Laura Cunningham, Norm Bradshaw, Heather Manning, Mark Irish, Neil Tonkin, Jamie Honan

Apologies:

Dave Halloran

Minutes of previous Committee Meeting: November 2022

The minutes of the last committee meeting were read.

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate account of proceedings

Treasurer's Report: Laura Cunningham

Laura read the treasurer's report and confirmed the club's finances to be in good health.

Bicycle NSW Bike Counts: This activity seen as good revenue raiser for BL.

Next scheduled Bike Count, Super Tuesday, 7th March, appears to be fully booked, however L.C to enquire as to any available spaces left and amounts paid.

See attached copy.

The President's Report: Bob Moore

Bob Moore gave the President's Report.

Points raised:

Better Street Coalition Campaign. A detailed review of this BNSW initiative was given and endorsed by BL with its *"primarily focused on building a grassroots movement across NSW to promote the need for improved streetscapes for people over vehicles by improving infrastructure for residents to walk, wheel, cycle or scoot throughout their neighborhoods"*

Bob will lead a 'Better Street Coalition Campaign' ride from Leichhardt to promote BL and would welcome other BL members to participate.

Bob would contact Bob Dunn with regards this event with the aim of inclusion in the next BL Newsletter.

Discussion was had on the upcoming elections and the political parties policies on promoting cycling and cycling infrastructure.

BL members were encouraged to appeal to their local candidates with regards their plans for the implementation of cycling starteries, especially in the inner west.

Incidents: JH

Jamie reported to success of the recent Ride Leader training programe.

Mark Irish successfully completed the course and is now a fully qualified BL ride leader.

Mention was made of the need for ride leaders to be especially aware of the affects on riders of both heat and speed.

This matter was raised in light of recent events during a BL ride where riders were encouraged to meet deadlines (train departures) and the weather taking its toll as a result.

Ride leaders, therefore, are reminded of the need to set acheivable goals for the group, whilst at the same time taking into account the current weather situation.

BL ride leaders are also reminded to mention all manner of potential 'hazzards', including extreme heat and other weather situation likely to be encountered, in their pre-ride briefings and to advise riders of options should they choose to leave the ride early.

LC to follow up with any riders possibly affected on this particular BL ride.

Honorary BL membership: BM.

The matter of inducting Neil Tonkin into the BL 'hall of fame' with Honorary Membership for his contribution to cycling in general, and specifically his tireless advocacy work with local Inner West councils in the promotion, and implementation of cycling policies and strategies would be deferred until the next AGM.

It was agreed, however, that in light of Neil's advocacy work, BL would approve the payment of \$300 to Neil in recognition of his efforts.

The motion was proposed by BM and seconded by LC. Motion accepted.

BL Jersey design:

A discussion was had on the proposal of a new design for the BL jersey.

LC advised that in spite of a change in ownership of the previous jersey printers the current design is still maintained on file with the new printers, should we wish to retain this design.

Mention was made of some members of BL already requesting the current design on a Whatsapp group, however due to this group being a small proportion of the total BL membership, it is not seen as a true representation of what the majority of membership would choose, if asked.

The question of 'sponsorship' for BL was raised and BM advised that he would seek out potentially new sponsorship within the local area. A number of possibilities were mentioned, mainly local cycle shops and businesses.

As a result it was decided that BM would contact BL member Michael Gill, who has a background in the media and has expressed an interest in offering his expertise and knowledge, to come up with a new design(s) for the committee's consideration. In addition to the design, both the fabric and sizing would need to be taken into consideration and approval by the committee.

All and any design would need the full approval of the committee before any expenditure is incurred.

Neil Tonkin: Advocacy report

Neil, guest speaker of the evening, gave a detailed account of the work that he, and others have been doing with regards advocating to local councils on behalf of cyclists.

Neil suggests that the outlook for cycling strategies and proposed infrastructure by local councils looks promising due to the participation of a younger demographic within councils, and those attending meetings in relation to these issues.

The question of the Rozelle Parklands was discussed and mention was made of the possibility of a cycling hub to be incorporated into the current structure. How this proposal would look is at the heart of the debate and would require certain expertise and substantial investment.

It was suggested that this issue be included in the next Newsletter.

NB will contact Bob Dunn and liaise with him on this.

Mention was also made of the councils request for the top 20 worst 'lips' in the area. These being trip hazards to cyclists crossing onto, or exiting, cycle paths. 20 is considered a small number in comparison to the actual number in existence, but it's a start.

See Neil's full report attached.

Big ride for little kids.

A charity ride in aid of kids with cancer was proposed by BL member Mike MacDonald in which it was hoped that all the BL rides in March be recognised charity rides and the funds raised to towards the nominated charity.

The proposal was deemed a good initiative and the committee agreed to the proposal in principle with the exception of a proposed mandatory \$30 donation per rider, per ride.

It was agreed that the word 'mandatory' be removed and be replaced with 'voluntary' donation.

There was further discussion on the issue of charity rides in general and a reminder that there is already a club policy that allowed for one charity ride, per ride leader per year, thus preventing each and every ride being deemed a charity ride and incurring any additional cost to members.

BM to contact Mike to discuss the removal of 'mandatory' from the proposal and once ammended, the event be posted on Meetup with details of how to participate and ways to donate.

Details of BL donation to the event was given by LC including the transfer of any funds raised via the BL bank account

It was agreed that a sum of \$1000 be donated on behalf of BL.

Communications: NB

There was discussion on the topic of communication, both within the club in general, and within the committee, with an admission by NB that there seems to be a number of different platforms, including social media, where some members have access to other members and others have no idea these platforms even exist, and that events are advertised as official BL events.

It was agreed that only the events advertised through Meetup would constitute official BL events and are thus covered by the necessary insurances for participants.

Events/rides advertised on other platforms are not therfore to be classified as official BL rides and it be made clear that participation in such events/rides is at the participants own risk.

The matter of the next newsletter was also discussed and it was agreed that such a platform should be used to promote and inform on issues around bike advocacy.

BM proposed the setting up of a Google group chat for committee members. MI agreed to look into setting up this group.

Next committee meeting dates:

May 8th – August 14th – November 13th and the next AGM to be held on December 7th.

AOB

BM informed the committee about being invited to see the Revolve recycling premises and see first hand the positive impact of recycling has on the health and weelbeing of a community, and indeed the planet.

It was proposed also that, as such, it might also be a topic for a future edition of the BL newsletter.

The meeting concluded at 8.14.

