



# WHITTLESEA BICYCLE USERS GROUP INC.

No. A0055678W

## Annual General Meeting Minutes

30-11-2016

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### 1. Meeting Time and Venue

7:30 pm in the Fountain View Room, Whittlesea Council Offices.

### 2. Attendance

#### 1. Attendance

1.1 Members: Peter Duncombe (President - Chairman), Glenn Eckardt (Vice President), Lee Robinson (Secretary - Minutes), Ron Harvey (Committee Member), Robert Sutton (Committee Member), Rahat Arain (Committee Member), Alison Kenworthy (Committee Member), Alan Kenworthy (Committee Member), Mark Bullock (Committee Member), Graeme Williams (Committee Member), Kevin Balaam, Nathan Duncombe, David Stephens, Peter Patterson, Paul Formosa, Alice & Terri Yanni, Ching Wong, Colin Williams, Malcolm Johnson, Fazeel Arain, Anash Arain, Paul Formosa, Lou Torelli.

1.2 Visitors: Susan Sams, Chris Williams, Debbie Sutton, Glenniss Duncombe.

1.3 Guests: Louie D'Amore (Whittlesea Council Guest Speaker), Cr Ricky Kirkham (Mayor), Cr Mary Lalios, Cr Alahna Desiato, Shannon Johnson (Bicycle Centre South Morang – Sponsor).

#### 2. Apologies

Cr Emilia Sterjova, Cr John Butler, Rex Griffin (Retired councillor), Ashley Sutton (Committee Member), Anna Ielo (for RACV Plenty Valley – Sponsor).

#### 3. Welcome by the Chairman

Peter Duncombe welcomed the members present, invited guests and visitors and thanked them for their attendance. He noted that the Mayor, Cr Rick Kirkham was hoping to be able to attend later as he has another appointment.

Peter also acknowledged the traditional custodians of the area.

#### 4. Determination of Voting Members

As there were more than five (5) members entitled to vote and personally present, a quorum was available to conduct the business of a General Meeting.

#### 5. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion That the minutes of the Whittlesea Bicycle Users Group Inc. Annual General Meeting held on the 30-11-2015 be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Moved Graeme Williams

Seconded Peter Pattison.

As there were no objections the motion was declared carried.

#### 6. Business arising

None.



## 7. Committee Reports

### Presidents Report

Peter opened his report by expressing his gratitude for the work done by his fellow Committee of Management (committee) members. Peter identified each committee member and described the strengths and contributions they provide to the committee. Peter especially thanked Glenn as Vice President for his advocacy work since the inception of the Bicycle User Group (BUG) as he was aware that Glenn was taking a well-earned break from his committee role.

Peter acknowledged the support provided by the committee's partners in allowing the time for their committee involvement. He commented that it was nice to see some of the non-riding partners able attend our weekend rides that involved staying overnight, in fact this has now evolved into a non-riding group referred to as the "Bugettes."

Peter expressed his thanks to the City of Whittlesea for the support they gave Whittlesea BUG in terms of a good working relationship in helping to encourage bicycle riding in Whittlesea, taking on board our suggestions and ideas for improved infrastructure as well as providing a venue for our meetings.

Peter followed this with an overview of what the BUG does and its newly defined values thanks to some good work done by Rahat that will also see us defining our Vision and Mission Statements.

### Advocacy Report

Glenn Eckardt opened his report by saying that he was proud of the way the BUG had developed and what it had achieved over the last six years.

He said that this year had been exciting with the release of the City of Whittlesea Bicycle Plan 2015-2019 and the Northern Regional Trails Strategy which had the potential vastly improve cycling in Whittlesea and beyond. He again recommended that there should be an Annual Implementation Plan to check the progress of and evaluate proposed works when completed to help ensure we get the best outcomes from these plans

Glenn closed his report by acknowledging to the great working relationship he and other BUG members had with Michael Lamers, Louie D'Amore and their team at the City of Whittlesea.

### Issues in the City of Whittlesea

- M80 Ring Road Darebin Creek Underpass Flooding - Peter showed a series of photographs and rainfall and creek level data that had been collected by Graham Williams to show the scale of the problem at this point.
- Swing Gates - Peter also showed photographs of examples of swing gates on bicycle/shared paths. While he acknowledged that they were there as a deterrent to motor bikes and they were only a minor annoyance to normal cyclists, they made it very awkward, if not impossible, for tricycles, cargo bikes and bikes with kiddie cycle attachments and trailers.



## 8. Guest Speakers

At this point Peter invited Louie D'Amore, Team Leader City of Whittlesea Strategic Transport, to give an update on cycling related information:

### Bicycle Plan

Louie discussed the recently released Bicycle Plan saying it had four key directions:

- Making cycling safer.
- To encourage and promote cycling – one of the actions from this is Councils support of the Travel Smart Map with the BUG.
- Build and maintain networks.
- Monitoring cycling.

### Projects

Louie then discussed 2016/17 projects which had a funding of \$2.66 million and possible projects for 1017/18. *At this point Kevin Balaam (member of both Whittlesea and Hume BUGs) stated that the path between the Tambor Galada (Hume Freeway) path at the "Rusty Bridge" over the Merri Creek to Hume Council area was a project that was needed now. This approximately 300m of path formed an important East West connection but was badly in need of upgrading as it is rough and dangerous in wet conditions. Cr Lallo requested Louie to follow up on this.*

### Cyclists Participation

Louie told the meeting that they major measures of cycling participation in Whittlesea where taken from:

- The Annual Household Survey and
- Super Tuesday (commuting) and Super Sunday (recreational riding) bicycle counts. He added that the council was looking into the feasibility of using permanent and mobile bicycle counters to help collect cycling data.

### Cycling Accidents

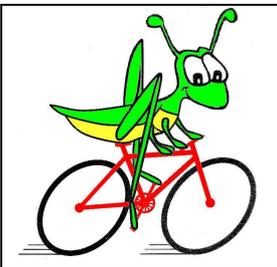
There were 101 reported collisions involving bicycle in the period 2011 to 2015, of which three were fatal.

After Louie answered a few general questions he was thanked by a round of applause from the meeting

### Cr Ricky Kirkham, Mayor

At this point Peter announced the arrival of the Mayor and invited him to address the meeting.

The Mayor responded by acknowledging the important role that the BUG played in promoting cycling in Whittlesea and that the council viewed it as a valuable partner in this area. He said a good example of this was the development and production of the Travel Smart map which was soon to be



released and that he guaranteed funding for the next four years in relation to updating the on/off road paths mapping.

Peter thanked the Mayor presented him with a Whittlesea BUG casual shirt as a token of appreciation while the meeting provided a round of applause.

## 9. Committee Reports (Continued)

### Membership Report

Ron reported we currently have 50 financial members and 77 individual people who attend rides.

### Rides Report

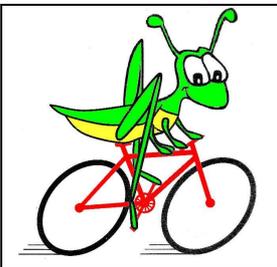
Ron described the types of rides available as:

- Sunday Long Rides – these typically covered 50km to 80km with a coffee stop as an important element. These rides regrouped as often as required to cater for all riding abilities.
- Sunday Casual (Short) Rides – these typically covered 20km to 30km with a coffee stop and were done at a leisurely pace
- Saturday Road Rides – These were conducted by Mark typically on roads and at faster pace. These rides were aimed at the riders who wanted to push themselves a bit more or who were intending to do longer distance events such as Around the Bay in a Day.
- Tuesday evening Twilight Rides during Daylight Savings covering around 15 to 20kms.
- Thursday U3A Rides – these rides were organised by the University of the Third Age who are happy to accept Whittlesea BUG members in their group.
- Weekend Rides – Generally organised once or twice a year to ride our Rail Trails. Due to the travel normally required, overnight accommodation is normally organised.

### Marketing Report

Peter gave a brief overview of some of the ways the BUG was promoting itself and riding:

- Travel Smart Map – an initiative of the BUG who have worked with council to produce maps to show cycling and transport routes in the City of Whittlesea. Due to the large area involved this requires two maps.
- Share the Road Signs – These signs are being updated with the assistance of Council to meet the newer Vic Roads standards. Suitable locations are being considered once the signs are ready to be installed.
- Newsletter – Mark is currently producing a regular newsletter containing BUG news and cycling related articles which is being distributed electronically via our mailing list.



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- Bike Workshops – Mark, who is an accredited Aus Cycle Trainer, with the assistance of other BUG members is providing bicycle riding and related workshops to help give people the skills and confidence to get on their bikes.
- Banners – Being designed and purchased to help identify and promote the BUG at events and promotions.
- Merchandise – A second round of BUG riding jerseys and drink bottles are about to be released as well as a new casual polo top and cap which were available for display at the meeting.

#### **Web Page / IT Report**

Robert Sutton described how having a website and a Facebook page provided an extremely cost effective way of allowing up-to-date information to be available to anyone who is interested in the BUG. Robert also said that the BUG was now using online documents and email reminders to collect information and statistics on rides and to keep track of BUG assets which is proving to be very effective.

#### **Treasurers Report**

- **Financial Statement**  
Audited and tabled. Copies available at the meeting and are attached to these minutes.
- **Membership Fees for 2017/18**  
Membership to be \$15 single, \$20 family, \$10 concession.

#### **10. Committee Elections**

All current positions were declared vacant. Nominations were requested for the following committee positions.

##### **President**

Peter Duncombe. Nominated Glenn, seconded Alison. Accepted.

##### **Vice President**

Alison Kenworthy. Nominated Rahat, seconded David Stephens. Accepted.

##### **Treasurer**

Lee Robinson. Nominated Ron, seconded Mark. Accepted.

##### **Secretary**

Lee Robinson. Nominated Ron, seconded Alison. Accepted.

##### **Ordinary Members**

Rahat Arain. Nominated Peter, seconded Ron. Accepted.

Alan Kenworthy. Nominated Lee, seconded Rahat. Accepted.

Mark Bullock. Nominated Ron, seconded Mark. Accepted.

Ashley Sutton. Nominated Robert, seconded Graeme. Accepted



Robert Sutton. Nominated Lee, Seconded Mark. Accepted.

Anash Arain. Nominated Rahat, seconded Lee. Accepted.

Nomination forms for Graeme Williams and Ron Harvey have been received prior to the meeting.

Peter Duncombe thanked all the new and previous committee members and said that fresh ideas and a wide range of views are required if the BUG is to truly represent the people riding, or thinking of riding, in Whittlesea.

### **11. Acknowledgement of Sponsors and Partners**

Peter thanked our major sponsors:

- RACV Plenty Valley.
- Bicycle Centre South Morang. Shannon Johnson from Bicycle Centre said he was pleased to be associated with the BUG and he appreciated the support of its members.

Peter took the chance to acknowledge once again our ongoing partnership with the City of Whittlesea and also with The Logo Lady at Wallan for their support with our new merchandise.

### **12. Meeting closed**

Peter Duncombe thanked everyone who had made the time to attend the meeting and help support cycling in Whittlesea and closed the meeting at 9:50pm.