1. Meeting Details 7:00

1.1 Meeting Time and Venue

7:00 pm, Mon 27 Jul, 2026, Mill Park Leisure Centre, 33 Morang Drive, Mill Park.

2. Attendance

2.1 Committee

Glenn Eckardt (Chair), Lee Robinson (Secretary/Minutes), David Stephens (Vice-President), Keerat Singh (Treasurer), Mara Ferraro.

2.2 Visitors

None

2.3 Online

Kevin Balaam, Alison & Alan Kenworthy

2.4 Apologies

Helen Henry, Peter Duncombe, Salman Sharmi.

3. Previous Minutes

3.1 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion: That the minutes of the 29-06-2026 meeting be accepted as a true record of that meeting.
Moved: David Seconded: Keerat Motion: Carried.

4. Items from Previous Minutes 7:05

4.1 (4.1) Beginners Rides Poster

Item temporarily on hold due to Salman's health issue.

4.2 (11.2) Availability of Previous Minutes

Kevin has uploaded the minutes for 2025 to the website, and they are now publicly available. More will be gradually added. Lee will continue to send them to Kevin directly once they are approved and checked for sensitive information.

Having them stored on TeamApp as well was discussed, but rather than trying to keep two copies up-to-date, we might just note on TeamApp where to find them on the website. The website is the obvious place to look for people who are wanting to find out more about us.

4.3 (11.3) Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioner

Keerat has contacted him for more details and to confirm whether this offer involves any ongoing discounts for BUG members. He was unable to get any pricing or ongoing discount information; only that he would offer a $20 discount on the initial consultation. The committee decided not to pursue it any further.

5. Rides 7:30 (actual 7:20)

5.1 Ride Reports

Summary for July 2026

Fast, Medium and Weekday rides are consistently popular. 12 rides offered over 28 days, 5 different types of ride, 99 riders including 18 females participated. Glenn also noted that there was a very strong turnout for our longest ride of the month, 12 riders did the 135km ride in quite cold conditions, so our ride attendance very healthy.

Short Rides - 2 rides avg 12 riders, 2 female.

12/07/2026 Wollert meander to 4 Four Seeds Cafe from Epping Stn, RL Kevin B, 25km, 11 riders, 2 female.

26/07/2026 South Morang to Magnolia on Orchard, RL Alison & Alan, 22km, 12 rider 2 female.

Medium Rides - 1 ride 10 riders, 0 female.

5/07/2026 Epping Stn to Lux Foundary Cafe Brunswick, RL Glenn E, 50km, 10 riders, 0 female.

Long Rides - 1 ride 14 riders, 4 female.

19/07/2026 Epping to Abbotsford Convent, RL David F, 56km, 14 riders, 4 female.

Fast Rides - 4 rides avg 8.5 riders, 2 female.

4/07/2026 South Morang to Hurstbridge via Strathewen, RLGlenn E, 70km, 11 riders, 2 female.

11/07/2026 South Morang to Hurstbridge via Buttermans Track, RL Alwyn, 80km, 8 riders, 2 female.

18/07/2026 South Morang to Strath Ck, RL Ron P, 135km, 12 riders, 2 female.

25/07/2026 South Morang to Eden Park/Humevale Combo, RL Glenn E, 80km, 3 riders, 1 female.

Weekday Rides - 4 rides avg 5 riders, 1 female.

1/07/2026 Mill Park to Mernda grind, RL David F, 26km, 2 riders, 0 female.

8/07/2026 Mill Park to Polaris Village Vorea Cafe, RL Glenn E, 35km, 8 riders, 3 female.

15/07/2026 Artiga Specialty Coffee Thornbury, RL Mark B, 35km, 6 riders, 0 female.

22/07/2026 Four Seeds Cafe Wollert, RL Mark B, 36km, 2 riders, 0 female.

Twilight - Rides end with Daylight Savings.

Gravel rides - None.

Rail Trail Rides - None.

5.2 Incidents

Kevin reported that on his Wollert Meander ride, while crossing Craigieburn Road, a vehicle overtaking another at high speed had the potential to involve anyone on the

refuge crossing in an incident if things had gone wrong. Not too much we can do about it other than being aware of the traffic.

5.3 Proposed Rides

Wendy Botha's more moderate road rides are planned to commence on Sun 9 Aug. Hopefully this will attract more female riders.

Mara said that she proposed to start her beginner family rides in August as well. They will be monthly and alternate between Saturdays and Sundays.

Glenn suggested that we should consider some more Rail Trail rides after winter.

5.4 Infrastructure Updates

Kevin reported that the new path at the rear of Epping Station is very good. The older section in Darebin Creek Parklands now has lighting, he was pleased to see.

Kevin is waiting on a response from Hume Council regarding what they intend to do about connecting to the new bridge across the Merri Creek. Currently, it is only a muddy track on the Hume side.

Kevin also reported that a new footbridge being constructed across the Merri Creek further upstream in the Kalkalo - Donnybrook area is progressing well.

6. Treasurer's Report 7:45

6.1 Current Financial Report

Balance at 29-06-2026:		**$3,336.45**
Plus:		
Membership fees (direct dep & Stripe)	$335.60	
Less:		
	$0.00	
Balance at 26-07-2026:		**$3,672.05**

6.2 Liabilities

Current Liability	**$0.00**

6.3 Petty Cash

Opening balance			**$258.45**
Expenses		$0.00	
Income	Cash Memberships (T Henning $15, A Mancini $10)		$25.00
Current Petty Cash balance			**$283.45**

6.4 Grants

A volunteer group grant of $1,000 for groups to help them communicate with their volunteer members has been applied for through the office of Andrew Giles MP. The results of the application will be available in September.

6.5 Membership Fees

It was decided to wait until we have more details about the proposed combined BUG and BN membership before we set the 2027–2028 fees.

6.6 Sponsorship

No major sponsors have renewed or joined us in the new financial year.

7. Membership Report 8:00 (actual 7:40)

7.1 New Members

Raymond Lelkes from Mill Park. He has previously ridden with us and has paid his membership through Strip from the website. Membership accepted. We have requested that he fill in a membership form because he is not on TeamApp.

Anthony Mancini from Epping. Made a membership payment on a recent Fast Ride. He is on TeamApp. Membership accepted.

7.2 Team App Members

We have 181 people registered on Team App as of 25/07/2026 (an increase of 3).

7.3 Membership Status

Members: We have a total of 65 members, of whom 45 have already renewed their membership for the 2026/27 financial year or have recently joined.

We have another 15 members who have not renewed their membership in the last 12 months and are due to be removed. The list of people was discussed, and there were some people identified who still ride with us; they will be contacted before we remove them.

Gender breakdown: 15 female, 50 male. 28% of our membership is female.

Membership Types: 36 memberships at full rate and 29 at concession rate. 55% of our members pay the full rate. There are currently no family memberships.

7.4 Membership Renewal

27 people have renewed their memberships.

7.5 Membership Process

Use Team App for all membership enrolments and fee payments to streamline the process and have our information stored in one place.

Keerat is investigating the possibility of incorporating the acceptance of the ambulance agreement and our policies into the TeamApp process. He will not be able to proceed with this until next month due to his other commitments.

David also pointed out that, with another large cycling group he is a member, they want to know if they are a member of other groups, such as BN, that provides insurance cover.

8. Website / Social Media 8:10

8.1 Website

Previous Minutes: Kevin has started making the previous minutes available on our website. The minutes page looks impressive. They now sit under “Key Documents” with policies and guidelines.

There was some discussion about the value of keeping the website and its associated costs if we are moving more toward TeamApp to engage with people, but the general consensus was that at this stage it was felt that the website still played an important role in allowing anyone to learn more about us. It also provides an obvious place for our sponsors to get some exposure.

8.2 Team App

Helen asked the committee whether, if we were required to delete the information we record on our members once their membership is no longer current, this should also apply to TeamApp members’ information.

An interesting question: our formal/financial membership is with an incorporated association, which is governed by rules and comes with responsibilities as an association. TeamApp can be accessed by anyone, and most do not become financial members of WBUG. There is nothing on TeamApp to indicate whether they are financial members; they are all just interested people. There could be an argument for removing the TeamApp information of people once their information is removed from our membership register. This is something we need to consider as we start to shift more of our information collection to TeamApp.

Helen reported that she has now deleted everyone in the “no user account” list from Team App, except Andrew Patterson, as he is still riding with us. She tried contacting Teri Yianni via text and email but received no response, so he was also deleted.

Alison offered to discuss this with Teri to see if he required help setting up his account or whether he would be happy as a “Plus 1” on Alice’s account. The committee also decided to ask Andrew to see if he would prefer to set up his own account now that he is getting older.

Documents Stored on Team App

ACTION: Lee to review the existing documents to standardise them for fonts and colour, where appropriate. On hold; may need to review/reconsider our fonts.

8.3 Facebook and Instagram

The effort that Glenn is putting into creating ride reports for our Facebook page was warmly acknowledged by the committee. Glenn remarked that the videos of the rides were very popular.

Kevin suggested that it would be good for him to have access to the Instagram account to be able to share the workload with Helen.
ACTION: Kevin to contact Helen to gain access to the Instagram account.

9. Correspondence 8:15

9.1 Email Correspondence:

26/06/2026

- David requested a copy of our insurance to check what is covered. He has reviewed it and decided the wording was broad enough to cover our needs.

27/06/2026

- Mara to CoM - Ride Leader training courses for our information.

5/07/2026

- Kevin Balaam to CoM suggesting we might want to reconsider our font choice for our documents. This topic is currently being discussed.

7/07/2026

- Megan Smithwick, CoW Community Development Officer - New bike maintenance station in Whittlesea - potential ride. Glenn agreed that this could be a good opportunity for the BUG to get some exposure and said he was waiting for further information.

14/07/2026

- Discussions with Sadaf Saaed (CoW Transport Dept) regarding involving WBUG member Thomas Wade in an article in the local Scoop magazine about active transport in the City of Whittlesea.

24/07/2026

- Rotary Club of Maryborough - Early bird pricing for “Wheels and Wattle” rides ending 31 Jul

9.2 Snail Mail Correspondance

24/07/2026

- NAB letter requesting us to update our tax residency information. Lee and Glenn are attending to it.

10. Other Meetings 8:30 (actual 8:37)

10.1 Social Event

Sat 25 Jul 2026 - Dinner and TdF race viewing at the Little Italy Restaurant in Kinglake West. Eight BUG members enjoyed good company and good food while watching the race unfold on their big screen before heading home to see the conclusion of the race from the comfort of our own homes.

Mara added that she found it very enjoyable and is keen to follow up with similar events as the TdF Women’s race is coming up. She will look up the details to see if it would be possible to hold another viewing night at the Little Italy restaurant or even host something similar at her place. The start time of the coverage is the main issue.

11. Other Business 8:35

11.1 Sponsorship Proposal

Keerat and Glenn have been working on a sponsorship proposal framework, and Keerat has drafted a Community Sponsorship Proposal for the Hurstbridge Patisserie and Cafe. This is a three-tiered structure that should fit any business we are likely to partner with and provides a consistent framework so that everyone is treated equally in terms of how they choose to partner with us.

ACTION: Glenn to distribute the proposal to the CoM and members are requested to provide comments and feedback by Fri 31st July.

11.2 City of Whittlesea's Seniors Festival 2026

Glenn has submitted an Expression of Interest to run a community ride for the festival on Sunday, 4 October, which fits in nicely with Biketober. We will probably combine it with our BBQ at the Mill Park Leisure Centre. We will be going through the Positive Ageing Group in the City of Whittlesea. Probably have to hold two rides, a normal BUG ride and a Senior's one if the proposal is accepted.

11.3 Whittlesea Youth Council

Glenn is giving a presentation to the Youth Council on an initiative called "Ride Whittlesea Youth Initiative" to hopefully inspire more teenagers to ride bikes in the City of Whittlesea. The Youth Council and Whittlesea Council will be driving it but we will support them if it comes to fruition. Glenn's presentation will be on Monday, 3 Aug, at 6:00 pm. Committee members are welcome to attend.

11.4 Basic Bike Maintenance Courses

Mara reported that she has had some enquiries about more workshops becoming available. The committee decided that we would probably look at only running two sessions, as the attendance for the extra ones tends to drop off. We would need to look at funding because Whittlesea Council apparently has not built them into their budget as we hoped they would.

11.5 New Jerseys

There have been some inquiries from our new members wanting to purchase our jerseys. As none of the old sponsors on our current jerseys have renewed their sponsorship, it could be an opportune time to refresh our design, including the font used for "Whittlesea BUG" which has had some concerns raised about its legibility and usefulness in documents, etc. Keerat's sponsorship framework defines the level of sponsorship required for a logo on the jersey.

Mara has offered to have initial discussions with Carl of Nemisis, our clothing merchandise supplier, who has been very supportive of us in the past.

12. Future WBUG Meetings 9:20

12.1 Committee Meetings

31 Aug 2026 at 7:00 p.m., Mill Park Leisure Centre Meeting Room.

12.2 General Meetings

TBA.

12.3 Social Meetings

TBA

12.4 Ride Leader Meetings

TBA.

13. Meeting Closed

9:20 p.m.