



## **2021 AGM minutes**

**25<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

The 2021 AGM was held in the Studio at the Eastgate Arts Centre, Peebles. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Chris Gilfillan, Chairman, welcomed the attendees. These were, Keith Jardine, David Winton, Kathy Gilcrest, Scott Wardlaw, John Miroslaw, Garth Pearson, Alan Gray, Andrew Isherwood, Ruth Isherwood, Mike Wilcox, Kevin Chalmers, Paul Jardine, Ewan Gowrie, Stuart Laidlaw, Andrew Cox, Roddy McLeod, Gregor Watt, Amy Ferry.

Apologies were received from: Rik Turton, Gary Robson, Tom Arnott, Ted Radford, Rhoda McPherson, Stuart Gillies, Charlie Brindley, Sheila Spence.

### **Agreement of the minutes of the 2020 AGM**

An amendment to the minutes for the 2020 AGM was proposed by David Winton to complete a sentence regarding the constitution being sufficiently flexible to allow the AGM and other club business to continue during events such as the current pandemic. With that amendment, the minutes were agreed as true and accurate. Proposed by Alan Gray, seconded Kevin Chalmers.

### **Chair's Remarks 2021 Chris Gilfillan**

Thanks everyone for coming to this year's PCC AGM. It's great to see you all in person this year instead of via a screen/microphone.

It's been another strange year in the world, and it looks as if it's not going to get back to normal for some time to come. With this year's backdrop of uncertainty, it was great to see that the PCC managed to function as normally as it could. It was encouraging to see a few extra activities being added to the club favourites including a second chain-gang, summer evening MTB rides and a recently added Tuesday night gravel ride. It would be great to see even more. Whatever ideas members have, make them happen and make our club even better.

After a year of very much reduced fees for some and no fees for many it is great to see just how healthy our current membership is. John will be going through the numbers shortly, so I won't steal his thunder! Hopefully the new members that have been encouraged to join continue to like what they have experienced so far.

The committee finally returned to face-to-face meetings after many (long) months of Zoom calls. We have met roughly every 6 weeks in a bid to keep to our mission of developing the club and moving it forward. We have had many interesting discussions and have worked on the three main aims that were given to us by the membership. These were to

1. Increase female membership – numbers are up!!
2. Improve club communications – we are working to rationalise this and have a more open FB page and the website as our main links with the members.
3. Retain current members – numbers have not only been retained but have increased.

The committee is always keen to hear from members, so if you have any ideas/suggestions please let us know or better still, volunteer to join as we should have a few spaces. We have a committee who work well together which makes my job really straightforward.

The committee has also recently worked hard to bring all our policies and procedures in line with the requirements of Scottish Cycling. We are planning on put these on the website for members to view.

I would like to congratulate all the members who have achieved their goals however big or small they may be. It's always great to hear about all of things PCC members are up to and please continue to publicise them. I would also like to thank all the members who volunteer their time to organise club activities and remember if you have an idea just go with it and the club will support you anyway it can.

I want quickly to mention one thing that is very close to my own PCC experience – Kids Club. It's been running for over 15 years and over this time has introduced and encouraged hundreds of young riders. Scott is going to give an update very soon, but I just wanted to ask that if anyone here or anyone you know would be interested in leading or helping on a Saturday? If so, could they please let me know. Take it from me that leading on a Saturday morning is a very rewarding experience.

It was noted that the minimum qualification needed for a parent helper at kid's club is a PVG and an up-to date child protection course. A leader needs both of these plus an MTB leading/coaching qualification and an up-to date first aid qualification.

The planned date for the BASE students helping at Kids Club is March 2022 (hopefully). The High School MTB club is still running but we do not know how many participants it has.

An MTB level 3 coach/leader is needed.

There are several women's cycling groups in the borders which PCC could partner with. A group of women members are meeting to decide how to encourage more women members to get out on their bikes. A point of contact/mentor for potential female members is needed.

It was suggested that a more focused way of working could be of benefit. We need to have a medium-term plan, what do we want the club to look like?

The members are organising their own activities and it would be great if we could publicise them to the members. Facebook looks like the most popular medium for that.

The strength of an organisation depends on each member doing their bit. The 'story' of the members, and riders' successes is what people buy into. Do we have any budding social media/journalists that we could offer an internship to?

DBMinS is running a Mental Health Program which we could support in 2022.

An addition to the membership joining script could be a question of why do they want to join, what do they want from the club and what can they give?

### **Secretary's report 2021 John Miroslaw**

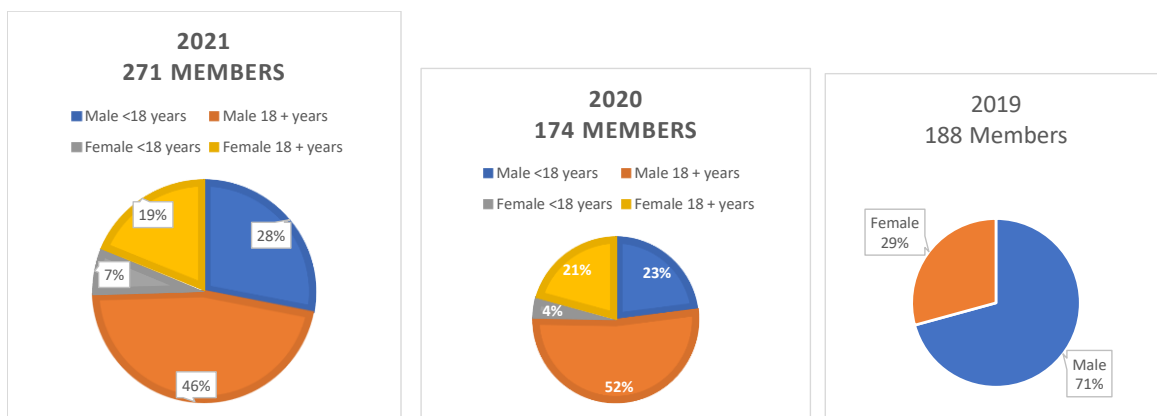
I want to give my thanks all the committee for all the work they have done during an unusual year and report that Maggie King has decided to stand down.

We have continued with our usual affiliations to  
Cycle Time Trials  
Cycling UK  
Scottish Cycling/British Cycling  
Clubsport Tweeddale

We have tried to rationalise our communication methods by making the Googlegroup exclusively for members only and by opening the currently 'Members Only' Facebook page to anyone who applies – subject to approval by the administrators.

The pandemic has affected our activities this year with the Tour of Tweeddale not being run. Weekly Zwift sessions have been running during the winter and have been well attended. We are supporting the upkeep of the multi-use path and that could extend to the new planned path to Eddleston.

The club has nominated our member, Cathy Gilchrist, as President of Scottish Cycling. A new membership system was introduced at the start of 2020 which is easy to use and has given us easy management of our membership details. An overview of the membership figures for 2021 and the preceding years was given as below. There is a significant growth overall.



2018 members	225
2017 members	272
2016 members	320
2015 members	360

Scottish Cycling are setting up a membership system that we could use if we wanted to.

It was suggested that the club was a bit 'siloes' and activities such as a monthly club night might encourage more integration. We need to encourage members to publicise what is going on, what have they done, what are they planning to do. How are other clubs doing this?

## Treasurer's Report – 2021 Garth Pearson

The accounts have been audited by Anne Candlish and the picture below shows a summary.

Balance November 2020       £15,012

Balance October 2021       £13,260 (effect of absorbing members subs)

- Financial balance remains relatively healthy but the club had an operating deficit of £1743 in 2021 worsening from £1381 in 2020.

### Income

- Membership income of £886 generated from new members
- Kit income £268, Donations £590, (£500)
- Pandemic - all revenue generating events cancelled.

### Expenditure

- 2021 £2177 significantly lower than 2019 and 2020 consequence of the cancellation of all activity. Training £1290
- Donations £250 to TVMRT

### Summary / Look to 2022

- Balance healthy on the face of things but.....£4k per annum overheads.
- Membership Subs increase: Individual £25, Family £50, Junior £10
- Continue to support kids club with no charge

The financial balance remains relatively healthy with Bank of Scotland Peebles but the club had an operating deficit of £1743 in 2021 worsening from £1381 in 2020. In part due to no revenue generating activity and the club absorbing members subs in 2020.

The mandate for operating on the account continues to be held by myself, Chris and John, a new Paypal account opened associated with the new membership system has been working well.

### Income

This financial year our income was entirely limited to membership income of £886 generated by new members, a significant drop on the 2020 figure of £2678 due entirely to the decision to support existing members with subs during the pandemic. Clearly the impact of the Pandemic is significant with all revenue generating club events such as ToT and the Road Race being cancelled. The club received donations totalling £590.

### Expenditure

Total expenditure in 2021 was significantly lower at £2177 than in 2020 at £3807 again as a direct consequence of the cancellation of all activity. First aid training for leaders accounted for £1290 allowing leaders to continue working with kids club etc. Beyond that expenses are entirely associated with the running of the club in terms of affiliations, sundry expenses, insurances etc.

Additionally, the committee agreed to donate £250 to Tweed Valley Mountain Rescue.

### 2022 outlook

The club has no sponsorship and relies entirely on our member's fees and race / event income from ToT etc. as the main sources of income. Clearly 2021 has seen significant curtailment of expenses and reduced income with the club covering membership for all existing members.

While the bank balance on the face of it remains relatively healthy it does cost the club circa £4k pa to keep the lights on.

The approach to member fees in 2021 was absolutely the correct thing to do given the year we have had. Membership was free in 2021 for those existing members and 50% for new or lapsed members.

The benefit of having a healthy balance was proved by being able to weather the financial losses due to the pandemic.

We have had donations to the club this year and suggestions were made as to how this could be made easier, such as having a 'button' on the website.

The problems of sponsors logos on club clothing were explained regarding when the sponsorship deal ends.

### **Time Trial Report 2021 Kevin Chalmers**

It was great to be able to put on a TT calendar this year. Delays in the lifting of the lock-down categories by Scottish Cycling via BC and the UK and Scottish governments meant that the TT year didn't start as early as we had all hoped. Once restrictions were finally lifted John and I had to attend a COVID-Safe return to TT's organised by SC and CTT. Following this I then had to write COVID protocols to comply with SC Regs. Even after this we had an anxious wait as Police Scotland require 28 days notice to comply with The Cycle Racing on Highways Regulations Act 1960. After lengthy discussion they were signed off but we still needed to check with SC so that we were covered by insurance. After a short wait we got the go-ahead a couple of days before the first event of the season the home run. After waiting so long it was frustrating to have to call the first event off on May 7<sup>th</sup> due to snow!

May 14 did see the season start and I'm delighted to report that despite missing the first 5 weeks of the season when numbers are always highest we had an average field of 12 riders this year which is up on 2019's average attendance of 9.3 when events were run under CTT.

Charlie Brindley kindly donated a Quaich to the club. With the blessing of the Lane family, the Quaich was engraved as the Carl Lane memorial Quaich. Those of you who new Carl know how much he contributed to PCC and not only did he compete and marshal in TT's, he also provided catering for many a frozen rider in the colder TT months. The trophy is a fitting tribute to honour one of PCC's most cherished members.

Winners were as follows:

<b>No.</b>	<b>Trophy Description</b>		<b>Recipient</b>
1	Shield: Senior Time Trial Champion	Club Champion Male	Andrew Cox
2	Rose Bowl: Peebles Cycling Club Ladies TT DS Motors Cup	Club Champion Female	Rhoda McPherson
3	Cup: Peebles Cycling Club Tour of Peebleshire Cup	Tour of Peebleshire	Barry McColl
4	Quaich: Peebles CC 1 <sup>st</sup> TT Handicap	BAR	Andrew Isherwood
5	Large Cup: PCC Vet Trophy	Club champ Vet	Roy Richardson
6	Quaich: Scottish Tourist Board	Points Trophy	Roddy McLeod
7	Small Cup: PCC Youth TT Champion Sheila Spence Travel Cup	Youth Champion	Rory Laidlaw
8	Carl Lane Memorial Trophy		Kevin Chalmers
9	Hill Climb Mens		Barry McColl
10	Hill Climb Ladies		Judyta Kajstura

Finally I would like to finish by thanking John Miroslaw, Stuart Gillies, Bill Hunter, Alan Gray and Calum Forsyth.

Many of the PCC and ex-PCC riders' achievements at National and International level for the 2021 season were detailed.

## **Kids Club Report 2021 Scott Wardlaw**

Weekly rides commenced in March this year after the Covid restrictions eased. We have had 16 sessions so far with 52 individual riders attending, averaging around 20 riders per session. The year has also marked a significant transition from our established more experienced riders moving on to be replaced by a new cohort of younger riders. I would like to extend my thanks to both Chris Gilfillan and Iain Grant for taking the time to induct these youngsters into the club over the summer months this year. We now have a solid group of younger riders that are now making their way through the individual groups as their ability and confidence begins to grow.

The most significant challenge this year has been in attracting new leaders. We are struggling on a weekly basis to have enough qualified leaders to run the 4 groups, relying heavily on 6-8 individuals who regularly step up to fulfil the role. Without more leaders we will unfortunately be unable to run a regular session and it is my fear that this may lead to a drop in attendance from riders. I would welcome ideas on how we can encourage more parents or individuals to assist and perhaps become a qualified Leader should they wish to. Without an increase in the Leader pool, it will become increasingly difficult to provide a regular ride for the children on a Saturday.

Going forward, we have been approached by Dirt School, proposing to have some of their final year BASE students assist with some of our rides from March 2023 for a period of 10 weeks. As part of their qualification, the students are required to have 10 weeks of volunteering, providing cycle coaching and leading assistance. This will of course help with the challenges outlined previously and will also provide a great resource for the children to benefit from. All indications are that this will ultimately become a regular annual commitment, which is welcome.

As mentioned earlier some of our more advanced and older riders are now at a point where their riding is perhaps out with the remit of a Level 2 Leader. Our aspiration is to retain involvement of these riders, perhaps in a different capacity. We are looking into the viability of allowing them to undertake BC's new Level 1 introduction to Leading qualification. With this, they will have a recognised qualification and a pathway towards becoming formal Leaders, able to assist the club going forward. We have 3-4 young riders approaching 16 years of age who have expressed a real interest in taking this forward. Any assistance or guidance that the club could provide would be greatly appreciated.

In closing, our focus for the coming year is to try and establish a larger pool of parent helpers and leaders to assist with our rides, embed the involvement of Dirt School and lastly engage with our more established riders to help them achieve their Level 1 BC MTB Leadership award.

Thanks as always to everyone who has volunteered to lead our rides this year. In particular I would like to thank Chris and Iain for their tireless work in the background, and to Amy Ferry for all of her work keeping us in line with Covid protocols and child safeguarding.

All parents/guardians are asked if they can help out, unfortunately some of them cannot keep up with their young children.

To help with the shortage of leaders, perhaps it is possible to liaise with KICC and Cranked to share resources perhaps have a joint day with them.

### **Proposal of events to be organised for 2022.**

The road race is scheduled for the end of April, Covid permitting. A concern was raised due to the introduction of 20mph limits through the border towns and villages: - frequently riders will be exceeding 20mph.

We want to be able to hold the Tour of Tweeddale or similar event in 2022 and are looking for an organiser and helpers.

We will endeavour to run time trials as in 2021, subject to Covid regulations.

### **Consider any other competent AGM business.**

No proposals for change to the constitution were made.

It was suggested that attendance at the AGM might be increased if the meeting was a little less formal.

A Roll of Honour for all members who have made a significant contribution to the club and/or achieved success at national and international events is being created.

It was suggested that we should make social events in 2022 a priority, pandemic restrictions allowing.

### **Re-election of Committee and Office Bearers**

The committee for 2022 was elected.

Office bearers: -

Chairman: - Chris Gilfillan	Proposed by Ewan Gowrie, seconded by Alan Gray
Secretary: - John Miroslaw	Proposed by David Winton, seconded by Keith Jardine
Treasurer: - Garth Pearson	Proposed by Mike Wilcox, seconded by Kevin Chalmers
Welfare Officer: - Amy Ferry	Proposed by Kevin Chalmers, seconded by Paul Jardine

Other Committee Members appointed: -

Kevin Chalmers

Alan Gray

Andrew Isherwood

Keith Jardine

Stuart Laidlaw expressed an interest to take on the role of Head Coach. The committee will investigate what needs to be done for that to happen.

Chris Gilfillan reported that he will be standing down as Chairman at the end of 2022.

It was noted that the committee can co-opt members to join the committee as needed. It was noted that we should try to have a gender balance on the committee. A women's coordinator and youth rep. would help to engage with members.

### **Nominations for Honorary Life Members.**

There were no nominations for Honorary Life Membership.

Alan Gray was presented with his Honorary Life Membership for his work and effort supporting the club.

The meeting ended at 9:45 pm.