



**Minutes of Open Meeting
Pearson Engineering 18th January 2026 19:00**

Present:	A Riddington, A Neesham, A Witherspoon, A Sheen, A Coleby, B Bullas, C Nelson, C Fahey, C Franklin, D Millard, D Woodward, D Lawrence, D Colclough, E Toland, F Soulsby, G Bagnall, H Snee, I Jamieson, I Macneish, J Cooper, J Short, J Taylor, J Dixon-Dawson, K French, K Lawrence, L Smith, L Bridge, M Grainger, M Redpath, N Patterson, P Bradbeer, P Curran, P Frost, P Barron, P Kippax, R Pattinson, R Henderson, S Storey, S Liddle, S Simms, S Wiseman, S Winn, S Hardwick, S Laws, T Mears, T Garrity, W Oxley
Apologies for Absence:	C Mann, C Hillen, A Jackson, R Mackenzie, SJ Boulton

No	Item	Action required
1.	M Redpath chaired the meeting, welcomed new members and they introduced themselves: Alan Riddington Michael Grainger Becky Gray Nic Andre	
2	Previous minutes The previous minutes were accepted and proposed by Paul Curran and 2nd by Alan Riddington	
3	Committee updates Sean Storey Only point to highlight is if Shift Controllers are struggling to achieve our timelines for Urgent jobs, please have a conversation with the caller and classify it as a Standard job Jason Cooper Reminded everyone to report vehicle faults using NBB Fault Reporting system so all the Fleet Team receive notification of any issue raised as opposed to just messaging or calling an individual Jason would like to thank Paul, Gary, Rob & Ian for the support work they do	

Be wary of using bus lanes in the North Tyneside area as we do not have authorisation to use them, only Newcastle City Council area

Question – how long will the building work at Sniperley Fire Station last?

Answer – unsure as this is not captured in the brief given

Question – Can we use Blucher cleaning facilities for the Hexham Car & bike?

Answer – yes but be aware of freezing temperatures

Clive Franklin – Rota Update

Thanked everyone for covering shifts and last minute cover

Please can you make me aware of your availability if possible

We would only consider split shifts on Day shifts as an absolute last resort

Recruiting for a Rota Assistant

Ian Jamieson

Current Membership

Members 238

Controller 45

Driver 123

Rider 112

Fundraiser 31

Changes to the Induction process – unless a new Rider/Driver has their Advanced qualification, they will be asked to go and achieve this prior to joining NBB. This supports both the Charity in as much as our figures are a true reflection of productive volunteers and when the individual qualifies, the information imparted at Induction is still current as opposed to up to 18 months old

Working closely with Training to smooth the onboarding process

Coffee Mornings will start again in May once the weather has significantly improved

Paul Curran

Members currently awaiting Advanced Qualifications:-

Drivers – 14

Riders – 13

E- Vouchers issued

11 Driver & 2 Rider

Still have 1 rider & 1 driver voucher in hand to issue

Several of the above Driver vouchers issued on back of Chair's email, no further requests to date.

Current balance (inc vouchers being held back for some members not quite ready) is £609 (3 IAM vouchers worth)

I'll await any further requests from current members but likely only partial funding will be available depending on number of vouchers requested. This will deplete the fund to zero (bar those being held as above) so the treasurer can settle that funding account.

Shadow shifts completed

2 completed in total (Bike & Car)
3 rider shadows planned for January (1 already to be re-scheduled due to weather)
No car shadows ready yet

Shift Controller training

The 8 who attended last workshop in early November are now underway with training. 2 now signed off with others nearing sign off. Possible 7 more to come so looking at another workshop realistically in February to allow current batch to complete

Other business

Appreciate that rider annual assessments may be a problem this time of year. If I send out annual reminders, then just let me know if you are delaying until better weather so I don't annoy you with further reminders

Riders cannot use NBB bikes for their annual assessments as it could be considered training by our insurers

Lee Smith

Need to give a big thank you to Doreen & Kirsty for all the work they do.

All accounts are in order and up to date. All transactions are reconciled through Xero accounting software.

HSBC Current Account = £17,450.20

HSBC Savings Account = £50,528.56

Lloyds Savings Account = £89,790.44

Total in accounts = £157,769.20

Equals balance for top ups = £424.07

Equals allocated funds (on cards) = £476.42

Equals total = £900.49

Total Funds = £158,669.69

Monthly running costs are £11,460 this is calculated by vehicle running costs for FY 24/25

We have reserves to cover 13.8 months of running costs

We continue a positive trend of increasing fundraising revenue. No other points to highlight

Kirsty Lawrence

New merchandise is here, key rings and pin badges

Major event coming is Marks & Spencer have given us a 6 month run to attend their store at Arnison Retail Park

Santa Run thank you go to Peter Kippax, Louise Bridge, Dan Millard for the photography and Jason for realising all of the requested vehicles

Going to be launching "Shift Stories", volunteers who Drive, Ride or Shift Control for our social media output

Great North Run update, 2026 we will have 25 places available as this is a much more cost benefit number for our charity; in previous years we have had 35 places but we struggle to fill the last 10 places

Mike Thompson

New public website has been built and is ready for testing

7 volunteers from different roles have agreed to do this and Mike will be setting up the working group

Once happy with it, it will take over the northumbriabloodbikes.org.uk website address and a new address will be created for internal use

Mick Redpath update

Vacancies

Charity Secretary – A Committee/Trustee role that we really need to fill.

Rota Assistant – Clive needs help with managing the rota and the relays

Talks Co-Ordinator – Kirsty is having to manage this along with her Publicity and Fundraising role

I am conscious without the above roles being covered we are in danger of overloading the committee members

NABB

Social at Donington Park on Saturday 23rd May

Other

There is a possibility of visor wiper trial for riders in there is enough interest (currently being trialed by Northumbria Police)

Job Statistics for 2025

Total Jobs recorded 13,800 - 3rd highest annual total ever and the highest since the covid pandemic

Busiest Month – December 1,237 jobs - 7th busiest month ever and the highest since the covid pandemic

Rank	Year	Jobs	Rank	Month	Jobs
1	2018	14,221	1	Aug-18	1,297
2	2019	14,168	2	Apr-18	1,281
3	2025	13,890	3	Jan-19	1,278
4	2020	13,308	4	May-20	1,278
5	2021	13,165	5	Apr-19	1,269
6	2024	13,135	6	Sep-18	1,252
7	2022	12,686	7	Dec-25	1,237
8	2023	12,387	8	May-18	1,235
9	2017	12,161	9	Aug-19	1,231
10	2016	9,222	10	Jun-18	1,228

4	Recognition Awards Presented Bronze Awards Alan Riddington Peter Barron Silver Award Steve Hardwick	
5	Floor Questions Ali Neesham – when completing the Ops Support Shift on a bike, the large bag of Samples must be removed off the bike at every GP surgery pick up and then resecured to the bike. Is there anyway this can be looked at? Please liaise with the Shift Controller and if it is possible and another vehicle is available, we can utilise that vehicle With the 2 recent fatalities in Wales, can we get some feedback from the Coroner? Although these cases are referred to the Coroner immediately, it could be months or even years before any feedback is available as the Coroner will not release their findings until all the investigations are complete Can I get one of the new Hi-Viz drivers' jackets? These are available on request	
6	Date for next Open Meeting TBC	
7	Meeting closed at 20-35	

Chair / Vice Chair Print Name:

Date:.....