

Aberdeen Cycle Forum – Minutes of Meeting

Townhouse – Tuesday 28th February 2012

Present:

DW	Derek Williams	FF	Fiona Fraser	RK	Rhada Kessar
ML	Marcus Linkelman	GV	Gerrard Vlar	GC	Gavin Clark
JT	John Tuckwood	ST	Sheila Tuckwood	LL	Liz Lindsay

Apologies:

DC	Dave Cheseldine	NF	Neil Fraser	CR	Claire Roberts
CG	Carl Gerrard				

1. Minutes and Matters Arising

SECRETARY position is still open – volunteers are sought for this position, in the meantime it is suggested that the taking of minutes for the meeting rotates through the attendees.

A96 cyclepath – shared use from Haudagain to Bucksburn. £50K has been allocated for work from this year's budget but no commitment has yet been made for next year but the underspend on other projects may be available to put in the Tucan crossing east of the Haudagain. The route is mostly shared use path up to the Bucksburn shops then either on to Dyce on the existing path or via the underpass onto Old Inverurie Road.

Triple Kirks Development – original plan has the only cycle parting as being accessibly only from the Denburn dual carriageway, some stands will now be available at the entrance on Belmont St. Letter was sent out and a standard reply received this has been sent back to Maggie Bochel.

New Pull up advertising posters will be funded by ACC.

Nestrans – budget is to be used for cycle demonstration project and core paths. It was suggested that the remaining stretch of the Deeside line to be tarmaced should be included in the core paths – approx. 1.5 miles. However multi-use paths are often not the best option for cycle commuters and that speedy commuters tend to use on road options and to provide a fully divided path requires a minimum width of 3m.

CWSS (Cycling, Walking and Safer Streets) – £100k of this year's budget was allocated to cycle projects – no response has been received yet to the suggested list of possible works put forward by ACF (this was presented in May last year). Following a contact from the Evening Express with a query on cycle parking a response was prompted from council officers – Work is now commencing, the only significant works are contraflows. Spotters have been requested by an earlier e-mail shot to report in on work in progress.

The funding for CWSS is due to continue for a further 3 years.

It was noted that the Traffic Regulations in England have been relaxed to allow cycle exceptions to one-way routes, it is believed that this relaxation also applies to Scotland –**ACTION - GV to investigate** and report back.

Cycle parking at Schools – it was noted that the headmaster of one of the Aberdeen secondary schools had responded to a comment about the lack of cycle parking saying that he felt that it was “not safe” on the local roads.

Cyclist Casualty Data – This data is available in Excel and it may be possible to analyse this further - **ACTION – DW to forward that data to ML** to investigate if there are any clusters and to compare against previous years.

Newsletter – it is proposed to try to get an issue of the newsletter out by the end of April. Articles are sought and suggestions were: Louise’s trip to Bremen, Times Campaign (cities safe for cycling) campaign for ACC to join, DW to provide copy of cycle stands at University, Local elections in May – **ACTION - FF**

2. Council Elections in May

It was suggested that, following on from campaigns in previous local election years and the example provided by the Spokes campaign, ACF should send out their ‘election manifesto’ to the various parties and request that they sign-up to those commitments. It was commented that there should be reference made to the effect that the inspiration for these targets was from other similar campaigns (Spokes, Times Campaign) and that while some of the targets were aspirational they were not particularly measurable.

3. Cycle Parking

More cycle parking has appeared at Aberdeen University, considered to be an example of ‘good practice’ these stands have been provided with shelter from the weather. ACF is regularly asked for examples of good practice for cycle parking and it is suggested that we set up a page on our website with examples of both good practice and poor practice for cycle parking.

4. CWSS

See comments above relating to previous minutes.

Other sources of finance – SURF (Sustainable Urban Fringes) – Budget is available for urban regeneration (on North Sea Route), litter busters and upgrades. Ride along the Don (CTC) is being arranged with SURF, probably a morning ride around 20 miles.

5. Westhill to Aberdeen Cycleway

The long promised Toucan crossing at Kingswells is due for installation shortly (by the end of March). Signage with destinations and mileage are to be added at various points on the route – **ACTION – signage to be reviewed JT, ST, and FF.**

6. Any Other Business and Date of Next Meeting

Current funds available for ACF approx. £700, the cost of the forthcoming AGM was discussed and whether a less expensive venue would be available and it was decided that the AGM should be held in our normal meeting location and precede our monthly meeting in April.

Open lecture on sustainable transportation is to take place on the 15th March at RGU.

Key dates: Following the success of Cyclefest at the Alford Motor Museum last year, it is due to take place again this year at the end of May.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 27th March.