

Aberdeen Cycle Fourm - Minutes of Meeting Held in The Townhouse 26th November 2008

1. Present:

II Ian Inglis	MI Marjorie Inglis	LP Liz Pirrie	GM Gail McMilla
RK Rahda Kessar	GV Gerard Vlaar	CG Carl Gerrard	DL Dave Lindsey
LL Liz Lindsey	DW Derek Williams	LN Louise Napier	
ML Marcus Linkeman			

Apologies

FF Fiona Fraser NF Neil Fraser

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

a - BikeFIT - DW reported that no further news was received from BikeFIT , it is known they did not succeed in funding bid. Apparently it still running and we await further news. BeCycle at the University appears to be doing well.

b - Women on Wheels (getting women cycling / cycle count) - we had little feedback to the email sent out after the cycle count. Proposed that LN,LP,GM discuss if anything can be done and report back.

c - Cycle lanes - DW has spoken to ACC's Wallace Beattie. Our policy remains that new cycle lanes going in through traffic islands should be 1.75m wide. The meeting discussed the merits of Bedford Road, Springfield Road and Westburn Road lanes. And the design of the "ideal" lane through the island.

Action: DW to contact Wallace and ask for other lanes to be widened / CG to provide the ideal diagram / photos.

d - NESTRANS, meeting with Don Kent has not yet taken place, discussed at the meeting and agreed better to wait until the new year.

e - College Environmental Day - The stand was manned by LL DW and DL lots of cycle maps distributed.

3. Links with Councillors / Other politicians

Discussion - Whilst we have built up relations (both good and troubled!) with council officers we have had limited links with the members of the current council administration. e.g. ACF used to regularly meet Cllr Ian Yuill under the old administration. DW proposed he is happy to set up meetings and it was discussed how best to do this. "Targets" would be thinking of meeting with Chairs of area Committees, chair of planning, Cllrs Stewart and Dean - over next 6 months . Meanwhile ML also proposed a briefing note for individuals who could be encouraged to contact their own ward councillors, possibly by attending surgeries.

ACTION : ML to draft briefing note and DW to report back next meeting

4. Roads Matters

South College Street - Meeting with ACC Roads Engineers, a number of members attended a meeting with Tom Rogers (TR), Graeme McKenzie (GM) and Bruce MacFarlane (BM). It summarised:

The current design is far from cycle friendly - our concerns from the original stakeholder workshop in 2007 seem to have been largely ignored. Also we would not have had any further contact with Roads engineers had DW not had a chance phone call with TR.

- TR is designing within a number of constraints particularly "maximise traffic flow" - these are set at a council policy level (and are not aligned with the Local Transport Strategy or Scottish Government Policies) e.g. the removal of pavement and no road space for cycling facilities to allow more lanes for traffic.
- Salvaging what we can get from the South College St - further meeting is planned with TR, GM et al to go over detailed design **ACTION: CG to Confirm and arrange in December. IL, LP, DL, RK and ML are all possible - if numbers too high priority to go to those who were at original meeting**
- How did we not know? - **ACTION : DW to write to Joanna Murray over how the "consultation" process worked. Action: CG to find out from TR about the "North section" of Berryden**
- **LN's trainees are putting together a paper identifying bigger planning projects. LN to share paper with ACF.**

During the meeting TR also commended that *the reporter* (i.e. the Scottish Government "inspector" not a journalist) had been very damning of the on-road cycle provision on the 3rd Don crossing. DW now has a copy of the reporter's report in relation to this. **ACTION : DW to circulate to those present**

5. Spokes £20million for cycling in Scotland Campaign

This had been circulated to the main ACF list ahead of the meeting, see: <http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/index.php?pf=news.php&nid=70>

CG and GV have written and had a response from Nicol Stephen MSP (who replies to emails with letters!). Agreed we should be supporting SPOKES - all encouraged to write -

6. Year End Review

DW presented summary of current live activities - see appendix 1

LN provided update on NCN Route 1 which was proving extremely difficult for finding a way through the City Centre due to the current works, and via Maryculter Bridge as the AWPR would effect both the alignment, and works that took place, for the route.

7. Young Citizens Panel in Aberdeen/ Transport

CG reported the Young Citizens Panel (along similar lines of other City Panels) had recently produced a "manifesto" including a cycling section. They highlighted issues of transport particularly price of public transport, and lack of ability of cycling within the city.

LP has been involved with trying to start cycle training at Airyhall schools / Hazelhead Academy. Problems clearly exist with differences across all primary schools as well as change from primary to secondary school.

8. ACF Awards

Discussed and decided we will do this for 2008 - as it generates some good publicity at little cost and does allow the recognition of those who have contributed to cycling in Aberdeen - General workings of the scheme will be:

- 1 - Only one category, this could be scheme, person, workplace, etc etc.
- 2 - Email to main ACF list asking for nominations
- 3 - We pick a short list and then set up a web vote.
- 4 - Winner gets a certificate and we get a press release out of it...
- 5 - Voting this year, presentation early in January.

ACTION: DW to write the necessary text / CG to do web / other.

9. AOB

a - LOAF (Local Outdoor Access Forum, a statutory a body with 16 members) After three years service GV has stood down as local cycling rep.

All thanked GV for his contribution to the Access Forum over the past 3 years. There is still a need for cyclists on the LOAF the rep needs to come from a representative body i.e. ACF CTC etc.

ACTION : DW to liaise with Sheila Rusbridge (CTC) and Rachel Sharp (ACC) for a new representative.

Anderson Drive and Bride of Don Cycle route - LN's trainees have now come up with a number of options for this and want to speak to some cyclists to test them out. MI,DW,DL and GV are all available. **ACTION : LN to organise.**

Website - CG reported in the last week there have been a number of "cyber attacks" on the website, mainly trying to use the various sign up forms (e.g. for the mailing list) to send SPAM mail. These have not been successful however they have caused issues to the server. The website remains up and running however the email list sign up form is currently disabled, CG hopes to reinstate a more secure version within a week.

10 Newsletter

Discussed and agreed we need a new one soon - suggestions for articles include:

- Women and cycling
- Update on Roads schemes
- Try cycling re-launch
- CAPS for Scotland (Cycle Action Plans)
- South college Street
- Our New Cycle Trainers
- Westhill Route Update
- Kingswells Bucksburn Link (KBL)

11 Date of Next meeting

**Tuesday, 20th January 2008 19:30hrs, Committee Room 5 at the townhouse
ONE WEEK EARLIER THAN NORMAL**

Appendix 1

ACTION	LEAD	TO DATE	STATUS
Cycle parking at retail/commercial	<i>Carl</i>	Various successes	Ongoing
CWSS cycle projects	<i>Derek</i>	In process	Monitoring
NCR 1	<i>Derek</i>	One meeting	Sustrans to contact ACF
Wood Group	<i>Derek</i>	Letter to Cassie/M Bochel +chase up	2 months on, still awaiting reply
Cycle parking 2 (Union Sq and rail station)	<i>Dave C</i>	Contact with Hammerson	Ongoing
Sth College st road scheme	<i>Derek</i>	Meeting with Design Team	Second meeting planned
Riverside Drive	<i>Derek</i>	Linked to above but will require separate consideration	See what emerges at second meeting above
Berryden	<i>Carl/Derek/Dave C</i>	Stakeholders meeting	Carl to check on progress
Westhill – Queens Rd route	<i>Derek/Fiona</i>	Phase 1 Audit – sent to Nestrans/Council	Awaiting Phase 2
Newsletter	<i>Fiona</i>	Last newsletter June	Next newsletter early 2009
Try Cycling	<i>Dave and Liz L</i>	Working on new format for Try Cycling	Aim to launch in Spring 2009
Aberdeen Cycle Trainers	<i>Derek/Dave Walton</i>	Meeting with NETPG	Input (still to be agreed) to proposed sustainable transport week in March/April
Cycle Count	<i>Derek</i>	2 done	Next one May 2009
Police cycle patrols	<i>Gavin</i>	Research eggs from other areas	To decide who to ‘lobby’
Kingswells – Bucksburn route	<i>Carl/Fiona</i>	Meeting attended and response submitted	Awaiting proposals
Anderson Drive/Don Bridge route options	<i>Louise</i>	Colleagues working on appraisal	For discussion with ACF
Bike Week planning incl Film Night	<i>Dave/Liz</i>	Aiming for Bike Week 2009	To start early 2009
Women and Cycling	<i>Liz/Gail/Louise</i>	Early discussions	Early discussions