

# Aberdeen Cycle Forum

## Minutes of meeting

**Townhouse, Broad St, Aberdeen, Tuesday 29 October 2013**

Attending: Jyll Skinner (JS) (Chair) Derek Williams (DW), Gavin Clark (GC), Euan Innes (EI), Mike Nieman (MN), Sheila Tuckwood (ST), John Tuckwood (JT), John Baghurst (JB), Caitlin Cottrill (CC)

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0 Apologies Liz Lindsay

### **1 Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**

Roundabouts – despite several chasing emails there has been no response from ACC officials. DW pointed out that we have now been waiting several months for a meeting and we should escalate by asking Cllr Ross Thomson to set up the meeting. CC offered to provide an analysis of collisions data which may be of help.

Westhill cycle path. No further contact from either Clls Barney Crockett or Ross Thomson. This is disappointing given the effort that we had put into the petition. Further development is on the cards in this corridor and there appears to be a lack of strategic planning, exacerbated by the fact that some of the development is on the City/Shire boundary. After some discussion it was proposed that one way we could escalate this would be to write to the Chief Planning Officer (Scotland).

Ellon Rd. No further news.

Anderson Drive – our response on this had been picked up by the press, with the Evening Express putting their own spin on it.

EP& I Committee. JS & DW are due to meet officials soon to discuss gritting options.

Contact with Police - GC has received a reply and it is hoped that they will attend our November meeting – details to be confirmed, but it is likely to be helpful if we provide them in advance with topics/questions. All to send any topics to GC. If their attendance is confirmed the start of the meeting will be moved to 7pm.

Quality cycle corridors – Action from September minutes is outstanding.

Events - Action from September minutes is outstanding.

CWSS – a list has been submitted and sent to relevant officials. JS is asking for a meeting with them to discuss, and there should still be an option to make further submissions.

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Bridge of Dee – our response to the consultation had been submitted.

Triple Kirks - DW had written to Dandara. No response as yet.

**2. Pavement cycling.** JB had been in touch with City Wardens due to his concerns about cycling on pavements and in particular busy areas such as Union St, Holburn St. The response from the Wardens is that this is a Police responsibility over which they have no powers at present. In discussion it was noted that this is just one of many traffic laws over which there seems to be a general lack of enforcement. Some present were uncomfortable about ACF putting too much focus on illegal cycling in isolation – if anything we should be lobbying for better enforcement of traffic laws such as the speed limit and traffic lights, and the common practice of vehicles ignoring the ASLs (advance stop lines) which have been put in for the safety of cyclists.. If Police attend next month, that would be an opportunity to raise these matters.

**3. City Centre.** There are various plans which are being, or will shortly be consulted on e.g. Broad St, pedestrianisation of Union St, and the ongoing Union Terrace Gardens. JS & DW are to attend a public consultation / exhibition and the feeling was that ACF should press for cycle access to newly pedestrianised areas such as Broad St.

#### **4. Nestrans budget**

ACF hopes to set up a meeting to discuss what projects might be taken forward next year. Given that it may not be a large budget, it might be that we would be better pressing for improvement of current schemes (e.g. Westhill, resurfacing on Auchmill Rd) rather than new ones.

#### **5. Transport minister**

JS is considering all options for how we escalate problem issues where we make no satisfactory progress via Councillors or officials

#### **6. AOBs**

(CC) Caitlin is a lecturer on Transport especially active travel & technology. One project she is working on is how to gather info from cyclists & pedestrians over issues such as cycle parking, street lighting, potholes or other points – good or bad. This could result in e.g. a phone app for reporting and so ultimately help to justify improvements. She described ‘ The Chainlink’ (see [www.thechainlink.org](http://www.thechainlink.org)) a social & cycling project in Chicago which has done a lot of work on factors why people do, or don’t cycle. CC would like to interview some members of ACF and CTC as part of the research.

(JS) Forthcoming meeting with RGU about the idea of a cycle link between their 2 campuses.

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**8. Date of next meeting.**

Proposed as Tuesday 26 November.

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