

# Aberdeen Cycle Forum

## Minutes of Meeting held at the Townhouse 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009

### Present

GV Gerard Vlaar	RK Rahda Kessar	KH Kris Howard	NF Neil Fraser
LP Liz Pirrie	LL Liz Lindsey	DL Dave Lindsey	DW Derek Williams
FF Fiona Fraser	CG Carl Gerrard	MB Mike Bland	DM Daniel Mifsud
ML Markus Linkleman	LF Lindsey Fettes		

### Apologies

None received

### 1 Minutes and matters arising

**Local Outdoor Access Forum (LOAF)**- current vacancy discussed again, noted that LOAF is a statutory body and as such has more “weight” than ACF in some areas and there are only 4 meetings per year. DW volunteered to take the position and will contact Rachel Sharpe at ACC

**Newsletter** – CG confirmed the electronic version has been distributed. FF reported LN has printed paper copy and it is currently being distributed. Next edition to be a “*bike week special*”

**Cycle Accident Statistics** – press release went out, copy on the ACF website:

<http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/index.php?pf=news.php&nid=82>

Coverage was good with Press and Journal doing an article, DW did interviews both with BBC Radio Scotland, and “*Waves radio*” in Peterhead, DW has arranged another meeting with Lesley Harrold at Grampian police to follow up

**Post Meeting Note – meeting arranged Thursday 28 May at 16.30 if interested contact DW**

### 2 Road Rage / Assaults

DW reported that a cyclist who had been assaulted from the window of a moving van had contacted ACF. Grampian police followed up the incident, and 2 other similar reports, and a number of arrests were made, the case is now before the courts. Whilst we hoped this was an isolated incident CG performed an e-Consultation of ACF mailing list to see if this was a wider problem. Results were circulated at the meeting. Of 429 cyclists contacted 6 reported incidents in the last 12 months, in most cases where the police were contacted action was taken.

### 3 Cycle Count Results

DW shared the results of the count, available on ACF web:

<http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/index.php?pf=news.php&nid=84>

Key points:

- Overall increase of 10% (weather was the same as last April)
- Largest increase – Deeside line, King street , Union street
- Union Street tops 100
- Female cyclists dropped further
- Our first case of “default” by a volunteer counter – one site was done following week

DW agreed to send round results to key officials in councils and Nestrans

#### **4 GET-ABOUT Week**

FF reported that the Company of cyclists display on Belmont street on Sunday was well received by members of the public – ACF shared our stand, and Liz' Gazebo, with Nestrans and we had a large number of contacts. Don Kent of Nestrans has the sign up sheets and will provide us with the cyclists email addresses / postcodes (and no other information!) estimated 200 new names,

Other Get-About activity is continuing in the week, see <http://www.get-about.com>

CG agreed to arrange follow up event with Don to both for a debrief for Get-About and also to see how he can help us with Bike Week.

#### **5 Consultations / Responses**

**A - S. College Street** – CG now has the official consultation document from Faber-Mausel who are handling the consultation for ACC (strictly speaking it's the consultation on the double yellow lines and turn prohibitions). The design has not changed from what we saw with Tom Rogers and the roads engineers.

**B - Aberdeenshire Cycling Strategy** – noted that whilst we encouraged individual members to respond we did not put in our own, and the deadline has now passed. CTC's right to ride rep mark hagger has submitted one to the Shire council.

**C - Inverurie – Aberdeen cycle Route** – FF has been in contact with Aberdeenshire Council, who have started investigating this, noted there was much debate on which side of the A96 to build it.

#### **6 Meeting Allison McInnes MSP**

DW reported he had contacted Alison McInnes, former councilor and chair of Nestrans. who is now Lib-Dem list MSP for North east region (i.e. we are all constituents) and holds the Lib-Dem transport portfolio. Alison is agreeable to meet with ACF.

ACTION : DW to arrange meeting - DL/LP/ML/LL are all possible attendees

#### **7 AOB**

**Bon Accord Bike Ride** - LF introduced herself as a member of the Bon-Accord rotary club of Aberdeen. They are organizing, for the second year, the Bon Acord charity bike ride

[www.bonaccordbikeride.co.uk](http://www.bonaccordbikeride.co.uk)

A choice of 22 and 7 miles routes. in aid of The Aberdeen Foyer, all cyclists welcome, sponsorship optional, entry costs : £5 for individuals, £10 families.

LF was also willing to distribute any ACF leaflets we may have. Discussed and agreed we should list on web and add to the bottom of the next news Email. We don't have a "about us" leaflet other than the one we did for the highland games a couple of years back. This could be resurrected for the event.

**ACTION** CG to list on "Whats on" section of the website, now done see:  
[http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/index.php?pf=what\\_on.php](http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/index.php?pf=what_on.php)

To find the leaflet from 2007 and share for comments so we can distribute at the ride.

### **Marine Lab and Market Street**

MB reported that Market Street was cited as the main barrier to encouraging more people to cycle to the Marine Lab in Torry. ACF has pressed for years for Market St to be improved for cyclists (it is also part of the National Cycle Network and falls a long way short of NCN standards). Agreed that Marine Lab should write to ACC Chief Exec on this issue and ACF would continue its own lobbying for improvements.

### **Dogs and cyclists on the Deeside line**

ACF had received an email from a cyclist about the hazards of dogs on the Deeside line. Agreed that there was not much ACF could do and that the Deeside line as a shared use path is not suitable for "head down" commuting. DW to respond to email.

**Bike Week** – for discussion at separate meeting but brief discussion indicated we could probably run the following:

Commuter Challenge (i.e. the web version) – CG

Film Night – DL has booked the Belmont and The "Flying Scotsman"

Highland Games stall.

Try cycling to highland games

ladies event. Suggested as: "*WOW WOW*" – women on wheels on wednesday

bike-car-bus challenge – Can Nestrans help us with this?

### **Dates for Diary:**

**Next Meeting – Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 19:30hrs in the townhouse**

### **Known Dates**

17-May	Bon Accord Bike Ride – Hazelhead Park
7-Jun	Westhill Bike Ride
13-Jun	Bike Week 2009 (13-21 June)
21-Jun	Highland Games / Eco-city Stall (last Sunday Bike week)
14 Jun	Gt Inverurie Bike Ride
5-Sep	Tenants Forum in Music Hall
16-Sep	European Mobility Week (16-22 sep)
22-Sep	In Town without my car (last day mobility week)
29-Sep	ACF's 6th Birthday
30-Sep	Cycle Count (30Sep/1Oct)

### **Unknown Dates**

October	European Road Safety Day
TBD	Autumn Cycle Count - TBD
TBD	School "Hands Up" Survey week