

Aberdeen Cycle Forum
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday 28th August 2007

Present

DW Derek Williams CG Carl Gerrard LN Louise Napier NF Neil Fraser
DC Dave Cheseldine JR Jeremy Rushton GV Gerard Vlaar

Apologies

ML Markus Linkelman DL Dave Lindsay JW Jackie Wilkins
FF Fiona Fraser

2 Mins and matters arising

None not covered by Agenda

3 Report of meeting with Roads Engineers (28th Aug)

At the invitation of the council CG, DW, KH, DL and II attended a meeting with Tom Rogers, Bruce MacFarlane and Grahame McKenzie. Agenda Items...

a) New Cycle Path from Queen Elizabeth Bridge to RGU Campus

Three options presented : Along River / Across B&Q & Sainsburys car park / Up Garthdee Hill - all with pro's and cons.

Other issues towards Torry (Riverside Drive) there is a need to build out into the river – this has a cost. We ruled out the B&Q option - other two are to be investigated by the council. General strategy is to get it in now and improve later e.g. we would accept one "dismount" if it meant we could be there was a route.

b Market Street

Large discussion over the mandatory cycle lane and red tarmac that stops at junctions. Apparently red turns to the very visible "light grey" we wanted red at junctions however red is now "reserved" for mandatory lanes (although used elsewhere in the city for junctions!) green is reserved for bus lanes and blue for disabled drivers - looks like it could well be Lilac junctions.

c South College St Redesign

After the initial workshop we went to the options were presented to ACC - and preferred roundabout option selected (no consultation!) as ever we end up making the best of a bad job...

d Cycle Parking

ACC is now in possession of 48 new stands. Allocation so far includes Cults (2 op Kelly of Cults one near McKinnons, one near RS Mcoll), Rosemount (Op Sumerfiled) and near Postoffice, Seafield (either end of cobbled sections) also noted there are to be new lockers at Dyce. These are to be expected "soon" when asked to quantify this was approximately 6 weeks.

In summary a disappointing meeting, 2.5 hours of "it can't be done"

ACTION: CG to send a consolidated response summarising the meeting.

4 Pinchpoints

DW has attended the 3 local area committee meetings – with AH (1x) and DL (2x)

DW presented feedback we had had – councillors were surprised by this as were not aware it is an issue to cyclists. A number of councillors were also supportive of ACF's stance on this. Conclusion is decision has been deferred for 6 weeks - Roads officers have been told to examine best practice guidelines in London and Edinburgh

Press & Journal were also in attendance and covered the story, this can be read at:

<http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/index.php?pf=news.php&nid=43>

ACTION plan

- We will be contacted by roads officers to discuss other options
- CG to lead the response in DW's absence during September – **VOLOUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR MEETING WITH ROADS IN NEXT TWO WEEKS**, get in contact on info@ email.
- Continued pressure on councillors - the P&J coverage resulted in a lot of people contacting us - suggested they write to their councillors.

5 Music hall / Tenants Open Form Stand

CG reported we had a 10ft table, LN has a stock of posters and cycle maps, as we have electricity available to we will also have a LCD monitor and revolving slide show. LN,DW,DC,DD and CG are all available to man the stall.

6 Communications Update

Web site has just passed 60,000 hits, full statistics were presented, in summary:

- > Hits are growing - doubling in 6 months
- > 20 site link to us including Scottish parliament, executive and the Scotsman.
 - > E-News alerts are a significant source of driving traffic to the site.
- > The site has been hacked and was defaced for a four hour period before we were able to repair it.
- > CG has paid the hosting £ 29.75 for another year.

ACTION : DL to refund CG

7 Cycling Census

In DL's absence full discussion was deferred to the next meeting. However LN reported ACC has started some survey work (using students) to gain baseline data on : Deeside Way Seaton park, Formantine and Buchan

Way, , also planned are Union St, Kingswells, and King St. Questions have also gone to the “city voice” panel (600 respondents)

There are some encouraging signs:

In last City voice survey 2.8% indicated they cycled (2001 census indicated 1.5%) between 07:30 and 10:00 52 cyclists existed the Deeside line at Duttie park

ACTION : LN to publicise when facts known

8 Potholes

Discussed and whilst it was agreed the situation was far from perfect it was not deteriorating

9 AOB

New 600mm wide signs are going up on the Deeside way with the text “*overtaking? make your presence known*” – includes pictures of walkers, cyclists, pedestrians with children and dog walkers, 600mm wide. This is seen a vast improvement on the original “*cyclists slow down*” proposal.

DC – reported correspondence with ADSA Beach Boulevard's poor cycle stands. **ACTION:** CG to send “Dead correspondence” with Standard Life (who own the site)

CG reported Transition Extreme had indicated a cycle stand was always planned for the site and had not yet been installed also they allowed cyclists to bring bikes within the building (we have seen them parked inside the climbing wall)

Union Square Development bike stands. - DW has had response from Euan Matterson (design consultants) with plans - to be circulated and DC will respond to Euan Matherson

For September Meeting (Tuesday 25th September)

- > Try Cycling Summary, year to date
- > Deferred cycle census