



CYCLE FORUM

MINUTE

Tuesday, 27th February 2007, Committee Room 5, Town House.

Present:

DL Davd Lindsey, Right to Right Rep, CTC (Chair)
 DC Dave Cheseldine
 GV Gerard Vlaar, CTC, Local Access Forum
 LN Louise Napier, Aberdeen City Council
 AN Andrew Nisbet, Aberdeen City Council
 GC Gavin Clark
 DF Doug French
 ML Marcus Linkeman

Apologies: Sarah Wingrove, Neil Fraser, Fiona Fraser, Carl Gerrard, Jackie Wilkins, Derek Williams, Jeremy Rushton

Item	Action By
<p>1. Welcome & Apologies</p> <p>DL welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were apologies from Sarah Wingrove, Neil Fraser, Fiona Fraser, Carl Gerrard, Jackie Wilkins, Derek Williams, Jeremy Rushton.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes Last Meeting (30/01/07) and Matters Arising</p> <p>There were some amendments to the last minute. LN to forward to CG.</p> <p><i>Aberdeen to Westhill Route</i> LN gave a quick update of the status of the route. A proposal had been submitted to next years NESTRANS budget for £388,000 in order to complete the section between Groats Road and Kingswells.</p> <p><i>Newsletter</i> DC had submitted an article to JW.</p> <p><i>NCR 1</i> LN thanked those who attended the exhibition for their comments. If anyone wished to submit any further comments then they would be welcomed. The material was still available to view on Aberdeen City Council's website under 'cycling'.</p> <p><i>Pinch Points</i> DC had been emailed by Fiona Fraser who had stated that a new pedestrian island without lanes had gone in. LN explained that it was probably designed before the E&I Committee recommendation that pedestrian islands should be trialled with bicycle lanes.</p> <p><i>AWPR</i> Jeremy Rushton had written and submitted the AWPR letter. It was available to view on ACF's website.</p>	LN
<p>3. Winter Maintenance of Shell Path</p> <p>This had been included on the agenda by Carl Gerrard whose colleague at Shell had emailed Maintenance about the Shell path not being gritted during the winter. He had been emailed back and told that the path was not on a priority list, and neither was the Deeside Line. LN explained that there were priority routes around the City that were done first. There might be a way to get the Shell path on a list of priority cycle paths, but at the moment there was no budget for doing that. AN and LN reiterated that with the LTS review they would include a cycling budget specifically for maintenance. AN believed that with the new Key Performance Indicators for all</p>	

<p>Scottish Authorities that Aberdeen City Council would be including the cycle path as part of the Asset Management Plan and this would hopefully lever in extra funding for maintenance. LN also explained that different departments did different routes – the Shell path was maintained by Roads, the Deeside Line by Parks & Countryside. In addition she thought that the Deeside Line would not be gritted, as it would then have an impact on the surrounding vegetation.</p>	
<p>4. ACF Planning for May Council and Parliament Elections</p> <p>Derek Williams (DW) had emailed DL suggesting that ACF lobbied Councillors before the elections. He had put forward two suggestions. The first was to write to the different parties and find out what their support for cycling was. The second was a hustings. It was agreed that the hustings would probably not enlist a great deal of support, and that the first option should be pursued. DW to write to party leaders. DC spoke about an excellent Aberdeenshire Councillor for the Lib Dems at the Regional Transport Strategy meeting (Martin Ford) and that he might be helpful for future issues, even though he is Aberdeenshire Council.</p>	<p>DW</p>
<p>5. Kingswells – Bucksburn Cycle Path</p> <p>DW had emailed DC with this initiative which was being promoted by the Community Council for Kingswells. DW was asking the Cycle Forum to support the scheme. This was agreed. LN explained that this initiative had been spoken about within the Council for the past few years, but that there had never been funding available for such a project. She had now put in a proposal to NESTRANS for them to fund a £30,000 feasibility study in order to explore different routes and recommend a final optimal route, as well as some design work on that route. She also advised that the Community Council representatives were particularly focussed on a specific route, and this may not be the optimum route that the Cycle Forum would necessarily support.</p>	
<p>6. Report from the Local Access Forum</p> <p>GV gave an update on the Local Access Forum for Aberdeen. He explained that it was a statutory body that had been set up under the Land Reform Act and met four times a year. At the last meeting they had looked at the Core Paths Plan which Rachel Sharp, Access Officer, had drawn up before leaving the Council. The Access Forum had agreed this Plan but had also indicated highly desirable improvements, such as linking Bridge of Don to Dyce, and Kingswells to Milltimber.</p> <p>GV also spoke about the Access Forum’s submission on the AWPR. He was particularly concerned about the proposal to merge the Deeside Line with Milltimber Brae into one bridge crossing the WPR and then onto the B979. The Access Forum were proposing that the Deeside Line should have its own bridge which should span both the WPR and the B979 (which would have more traffic as a result of the WPR being built), so that NMU’s were not mixed with traffic. GV spoke about the Scottish Outdoor Access Festival from 28th April to 7th May. The Aberdeen Local Access Forum were arranging a walk in Tullochill Woods on Tuesday, 1st May, to which any Cycle Forum members were welcome.</p>	
<p>7. AOB</p> <p><i>Fill That Hole website</i> GV spoke about a website that cyclists could use to get potholes filled in extremely quickly. www.fillthathole.org.uk</p> <p><i>Bike Week</i> DL spoke about an initiative Edinburgh had used during Bike Week last year. This comprised of a Bike film Festival over two days, where there were two showings of various films at the Picturehouse. He was looking at the possibility of whether Aberdeen could host a similar event, and had been in contact with the Belmont, and the lady who organised the Edinburgh event to see how much the films would cost to put on. Classic films such as the Tour de Frances of ‘96 and ‘03 were shown for example. DL to pursue.</p> <p><i>Aberdeen University Travel</i> DC and ML discussed the University and how there ought to be greater links on the campus and around it. It was thought that this should be put on the agenda for next month. LN in the</p>	<p>DL</p> <p>LN</p>

<p>meantime to speak to Clair Wright and see if she can assist.</p> <p><i>NESTRANS</i></p> <p>LN had submitted four schemes to NESTRANS for funding for next year (07/08). This had included the Aberdeen – Westhill route construction from Groats Road to Kingswells (£388,000), Bucksburn – Kingswells link feasibility study (£30,000), part funding for West Cults Road Bridge (£50,000) and River Dee route construction from Victoria Bridge to Wellington Bridge (£50,000-£150,000). LN will let ACF know if the bids are successful or not.</p> <p><i>Local Transport Strategy</i></p> <p>AN gave an update. The consultative draft of the LTS will be going to Policy & Strategy Committee in April, with a consultation period from June, for at least six weeks.</p>	
<p>8. Next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting is on Tuesday, 27th March in Committee Room 5 in the Town House at 7.30pm.</p>	