



CYCLE FORUM

MINUTE

Thursday, 26th October 2004, Committee Room 5, Town House.

Present:

Derek Williams, CTC (Chair)
 Dave Lindsey, CTC, Right to Ride Officer
 Jackie Wilkins, CTC
 Sarah Wingrove, Shell
 Ian Inglis
 Marjorie Inglis
 Louise Napier, Aberdeen City Council
 Helen Keron, BP
 Sonia Element, BP
 Gavin Clark
 Maureen Young, CTC
 Carl Gerrard
 Cllr Martin Greig
 Dave Tullett

Apologies:

Jeremy Rushton, Friends of the Earth
 Warren Murphy, Aberdeen City Council
 Saville Gunn, Aberdeen Wheelers
 Kris Howard, CTC
 Gregor McAbery, Environmental Forum

Item	Action By
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>DW welcomed everybody to the meeting, especially CG. Apologies from WM, SG, JR, KH and GM.</p>	
<p>2. Minute of Last Meeting (30/09/04) and Matters Arising</p> <p><i>Third Don Crossing</i></p> <p>LN to set up a meeting with Tom Rogers, the Principal Engineer in charge of the proposals, and the Third Don Crossing working group to go over the ACF submission.</p> <p><i>Western Peripheral Route</i></p> <p>LN had heard nothing back from TG and would chase this up. JW thought that the Forum should be lobbying Nicol Stephen as well as the other MSP's, MP's and Councillors for the area. MG also agreed that lobbying consistently was the best way to achieve anything. LN discussed that AAGA had sent a letter to Nicol Stephen and were encouraging their individual members to do the same. DT to write a letter to NS on behalf of Forum. This letter could then be forwarded to all Forum members so that they would have the opportunity of writing to their own individual MPs/ MSPs to lobby on this issue. LN to find names, etc. to send to. DL to write a similar letter on behalf of the CTC.</p> <p><i>Green Route to Hazelhead</i></p> <p>MG stated that there had been progress from Anderson Drive to Hazelhead but that links were needed into town from Cromwell Road and Union Grove. He thought that there needed to be some sort of traffic management. MI asked whether using the back lanes had been looked at as well. MG said that anything could be considered but he also wanted links onto the new Holburn</p>	<p>LN</p> <p>LN</p> <p>DT</p> <p>LN DL</p>

<p>Bridge and this would require a route through Gray Street. DW asked if LN could brief the Forum at the next meeting on any projects that were going ahead in ACC.</p> <p><i>Cycle Training</i> DW thought that there were two issues that needed to be addressed: training for children and training for adults. He believed that training for children was patchy but for adults it was non-existent. He commented that the CTC had recently released data showing that a great number of adults took up cycling if they were given training. He would pursue this with Ewen Kay, the Principal Road Safety Engineer. DL had spoken to Cycling Scotland to find out how often they came up to Aberdeen and how much they cost and had a sheet showing this. DL was interested in pursuing this. DW thought that SG might be interested as well as he had already done cycle training with Aberdeen Wheelers.</p> <p><i>Finance</i> DL to chase up money from Friends of the Earth.</p> <p><i>Invitation to NESTRANS Travel Co-ordinator</i> LN to invite Colin Morsley to the next meeting.</p>	<p>LN</p> <p>DW</p> <p>DL</p> <p>LN</p>
<p>3. Possible New Project – Cycle links to Torry</p> <p>DW described the EcoChallenge project that had taken place in Dyce and Torry. A number of people had raised the issue that cycling needed to be improved into town from Torry. DW felt that this project could be taken up in a similar way to the green route to Hazelhead from town. MG thought that the Neighbourhood Planning Officer, David Fryer, should be involved as well as Council Roads Officials. LN to identify and report back. SE and DT were happy to get involved in this project as they knew the area quite well. JW to go back through the comments for the cycle map to see if there had been any suggestions and DW to find out whether any people who had commented from the EcoChallenge project would be willing to get involved.</p>	<p>LN SE/ DT JW, DW</p>
<p>4. Union Street Project</p> <p>DW explained that there had been a sense of frustration amongst a number of groups that had sent in responses to the Union Street Consultation. It was felt that the Officials had ignored the comments and that there were very few changes to the road building plans and the idea of four-lane gyratories, etc. were simply unsafe for pedestrians and cyclists. The specific Forum concerns were that the proposals were inherently unfriendly to cyclists and the end result will be an increase in traffic levels in the City that will ultimately lead to less cycling. The pedestrianisation, instead of being a positive scheme that could be of great benefit would result in a worse environment for pedestrians and cyclists. The Forum at the last minute teamed up with other organisations (CTC Grampian, Friends of the Earth and Transform Scotland) and had written a briefing to Councillors before the full Council discussion. This paper consisted of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Explaining that the project will not deliver any overall safety improvements ii. Pedestrianisation should be at the heart of a traffic reductions strategy iii. Pedestrianisation cannot be delivered until 2011 iv. The scheme would do little to improve air quality in the city centre v. Public transport should not be edged out of the city centre vi. The proposals will ultimately result in higher levels of congestion. <p>MG confirmed that many of these issues had already been brought up in discussions but it would be decided at full Council tomorrow.</p>	
<p>5. Cycle Parking</p> <p>JW described how SW and herself had met up with Graeme McKenzie from the Council's Roads department and gone round 20 sites in the city centre to look at potential cycle parking in these areas. Of the 20 sites GM had thought that two were marginal and two had to be thrown out. This meant that 16 sites were acceptable. These would be reported to Committee for</p>	

<p>consideration.</p> <p>JW thought that after cycle parking in the city centre had been looked at, the local centres, such as in Rosemount and Cults should also be looked at. This could involve the wider membership – and people who knew their area could get back with comments.</p>	
<p>6. Cycle Map Audit</p> <p>LN asked for this to be deferred until the next meeting as she had not progressed this issue since the last meeting. It was suggested that a working group be set up to look at this. JW, DW, MY, MI and CG interested but anyone else who is keen to participate to contact JW. JW to set up a meeting. SW to email the Shell BUG for any comments.</p>	<p>JW SW</p>
<p>7. Any Other Business</p> <p>HK to write a letter to the Evening Express commenting on the negative angle of press reports on cycling.</p>	<p>HK</p>
<p>8. Next meeting</p> <p>Tuesday, 30th November at 7.30pm in the Town House, Committee Room 5. Colin Morsley the NESTRANS Travel Awareness Co-ordinator will also be invited from 7.30pm – 8.15pm to discuss cycling as well.</p>	