

**Aberdeen Cycle Forum**  
**Minutes of Meeting – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2009**

**Present**

NF Neil Fraser	FF Fiona Fraser	LP Liz Pirie	GM Gail McMillan
CG Carl Gerrard	LN Louise Napier	Dave Lindsey	DC Dave Cheseldine
ML Markus Linkelman	RK Rahda Kessar		

**Apologies**

DW - Derek Williams

**1 Minutes and matters arising**

**1b –Ladies on Wheels.** LN reported 2 meeting have now taken place and 2 additional members (out with the “core” meeting attendees had been recruited. A number of ideas are in development, LN to report further as necessary.

**1c – Bedford Road** (e-Consultation ) wider lanes, only one response at time of meeting, very positive of both of Bedford road and the ones on North Deeside road.

**1d – ML** has visited **Lewis McDonald MSP**, questioned on a number of topics including; support for Spokes £20M green travel agenda of Scottish Labour (bicycle does not get mentioned in manifesto!), would he allow his own kids to cycle to school? For a first meeting seen as going OK. Discussed and agreed ML to draft small set of notes for Web – CG to “edit” and publish. **ACTION : ML**

**1f – LOAF** (Local outdoor access forum), no update as DW not present, deferred to next meeting, **ACTION DW**

**2 South College Street**

CG and II have had a meeting with Tom Rogers (TR) and Bruce McFarlane (BM) in summary the design is moving in the right direction, key points:

- Significant engineering study has gone into extending the width of the bridge approach including removing the “sets” and building “out” on the existing approach. this would create the “missing width” and allow the dual use to continue over the bridge. This is still subject to a structural / safety assessment but Tom R is proceeding on the basis this will happen.
- Pavement on the railway side of South College street (downhill) will remain dual use, this is seen as a temporary measure until such time as the substation is moved (if ever...) at which time a new lane would go in on the wider road.
- An on-road cycle lane will remain on the “uphill” side
- There will be no lanes through Palmeston place bridge – if they went in they would be blocked by stationary traffic. Tom R is investigating, with Transport Scotland, the legality of putting down cycle symbols on the road to highlight awareness at quieter times.

Discussed and seen as although far from perfect we have met the “*salvage what we can*” criteria, key learning from the process:

- The roads engineers design within the parameters set by policy and strategy, a two pronged strategy of influencing both parties is our best tactic.
- We need to be proactive and ask for news, it’s unlikely to reach us any other way!

Agenda item at next meeting on our engagement strategy.

- Roads engineers seem to relate to engineers who are also cyclists.

To smooth damaged relations, during the meeting CG has also presented ACC's roads engineers with a copy of the book [Crap Cycle Lanes](#) (note Aberdeen does not feature in the book)

### **3 Standards for cycle provision**

LN is still pursuing this – during the South College Street meeting TR had evidently been looking at a number of standards; Transport Scotland, Cycling by Design, Cycle Infrastructure Design, Sustrans. Noted that after extensive investigation by TR Cycling Infrastructure Design (CID) does not have legal status in Scotland (even though the English authors claim it does...) It can however be used as a code of practice, in a similar way to the Sustrans documents.

LN wants to move on from this to use these as design standards within the city – discussion followed as to what is needed. Should we accept one standard document or use the “best” bits of other documents. LN is proposing not to start this before the end of March.

### **4 Nestrans Travel awareness**

LN reported Nestrans cycling awareness week is on for the 19-26<sup>th</sup> April. "Get cycling" (formally known as *company of cyclists*) have been booked and confirmed.

On Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April Belmont street will be closed for Get Cycling's demonstrations etc. LN is handling the logistics of road closures etc. There is an option for ACF to have a stand – although we would need our own table. Discussed and agreed we should go for it.

LP has a Gazebo we can put the table under, CG has a decorating table, the pull-ups and other literature are available. DC, LP, FF, GM, DL, LN, volunteered to man the stall. CG is not available (but the table is).

**ACTION:** - DW to chase with Don Kent

### **5 Cycle Trainer Updates**

Skills for city cycling course planned for “Nestrans week” in April - Nestrans have agreed to pay for this, date set for Thursday 30th April.

### **6 Kingswells Cycleway / Kingswells-Bucksburn-Link (KBL)**

FF reported a submission has been made to ACC - based on outcome of the FF/DW audit – LN reported as work had already started on Ph2 this will be looked at as separate to the Phase 2 works, we are awaiting a response from ACC to this.

K-B-L report has gone to Neighborhood Services North and been approved on 17<sup>th</sup> Feb Option II (the “over the top” option) will now be pursued – path surface will be fine granite. Public response was for lighting but no funding to pay for it. In

summary good to see the link going in, and it could be upgraded later depending on use, but is as far from our ideal design.

### **7 Cycle Accident Statistics**

In DW's absence the accident statistics extracted from ACC were shared with those present

A number of questions followed that could not be covered due to DW's absence, but in summary the data was seen as *shocking*. We need to do something but need to manage the publicity carefully given the potential negative messages. Agreed to discuss further at next meeting when DW is present.

### **8 Newsletter**

FF Circulated a draft based on input so far, further advice was solicited and articles promised (YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE!)

**ACTION : FF** to continue with objective of producing a "final draft" for next meeting

### **9 AOB/ Dates for Diary /**

**Dates for cycle count** – For continuity agreed to use the same week as last year, these are:

Wed 22 / Thu 23 April  
Wed 30 Sep / Thu 1<sup>st</sup> October

NHS Health Awareness days are on 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> March – ARI is on 17 and 19<sup>th</sup>. DC, GM and NF are all available to help with a stall. LN agreed to arrange delivery of the pull ups and other material, perhaps even a planning trainee to assist etc.

As this is an additional publicity opportunity, DC to get a photo and CG to do a small piece for the web. **ACTION DC/CG**

### **Bike Security**

We have been contacted by Grampian Police crime prevention officer seeking our help in a joint security message (80 bikes stolen to mid Feb. in Aberdeen City). Agreed we should support any publicity, probably through the web. **ACTION CG to contact the officer and see what comes of it**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 19:30hrs in the Townhouse**