



CYCLE FORUM

MINUTE

Tuesday, 29th June 2004, Committee Room 5, Town House.

Present:

Jeremy Rushton, Friends of the Earth (Chair)
 Dave Lindsey, CTC, Right to Ride Officer
 Clare Greathead, Marine Lab
 Jackie Wilkins, CTC
 Derek Williams, CTC
 Gavin Clark
 Saville Gunn, Aberdeen Wheelers
 Maureen Young, CTC
 Kris Howard, CTC
 Sarah Wingrove, Shell
 Councillor Martin Greig (MG)
 Gregor McAbery, Environmental Forum
 Louise Napier, Aberdeen City Council

Apologies:

Warren Murphy, Aberdeen City Council
 Sonia Element, BP
 Dave Tullett, Marine Lab

Item	Action By
<p>1. Welcome</p> <p>JR welcomed everybody to the meeting. Members introduced themselves. Apologies from Sonia Element, Warren Murphy and Dave Tullett.</p>	
<p>2. Minute of Last Meeting (25/05/04) and Matters Arising</p> <p><i>Green City Fun Day</i></p> <p>DW thought the event had been very successful. SG was thanked for helping to man the stall. DW showed a poster on which people had been encouraged to write comments about cycling. They concentrated on how bad traffic was, the lack of cycle parking and the need for more cycle lanes. MG thought that the comments should be compiled for any future documentation that is prepared. JW commented on the number of lapsed cyclists who wanted to get fit. She thought that the health angle was very powerful and the Forum should be promoting cycling that way as well. Confidence issues and cycle security were also raised.</p> <p><i>Meeting with Councillor Ian Yuill</i></p> <p>DW described the meeting with Cllr Yuill, Convenor of Environment & Infrastructure and Hugh Murdoch, Head of Roads Management on Monday, 24th May. At the meeting the Forum had stressed that cycling was a mainstream, and not peripheral mode of transport. They had also discussed driver awareness/ road safety and it was thought a meeting should be set up between the Forum and the Police at a later date. The Forum had also been asked to look into Cycle Training provided by other Local Authorities. MG wondered if there might be Scottish Executive funding for this sort of initiative. DL to enquire with Cycling Scotland. DW added that they had also discussed improvements to existing infrastructure and HM had been open to suggestions. HM also offered to include a cyclist in Safety Audits on particular routes. DW felt that there was a need to build up a database of where current infrastructure falls short of the mark. Forum to give any examples to JR to include in the new list for the expenditure of NESTRANS money. The existing NESTRANS list will also be emailed round the Forum for comments/ additions and then be reviewed for submission to E&I. Another meeting would be held between the Forum and Cllr Yuill before the end of the year.</p>	<p>DL</p> <p>All LN</p>

<p>3. Bike Week Follow-up & Cycle Map Distribution</p> <p>MG was thanked for launching the Cycle map.</p> <p>The Group then discussed the Chief Executive’s Challenge and the number of people who had participated. JW had an email from Cllr Dean saying that she had done the Challenge – but that the buses made her very nervous. It was thought as a follow-up that George Mair at First Bus could be contacted to speak about buses being more cycle-friendly/ aware towards cyclists. It was also thought that JW could then email/ write to Cllr Dean, with a copy to Cllr Yuill.</p> <p>DW also informed the Group that Cycling Scotland had supported events in Edinburgh and Glasgow, and that they might perhaps consider Aberdeen next year.</p> <p>LN to speak to Alan Fulton regarding distribution of the map into Libraries, etc. so that they can go through internal mail.</p> <p>DL to take Cycle Maps to bike shops. MY to take maps to Alpine Bikes.</p> <p>DW to take maps to the ‘Healthy House’ in Northfield.</p> <p>MG suggested that all Councillors receive a copy of the map with a covering letter telling the Councillors the Forum’s remit and how they might be able to help with cycling issues in their ward. DW to draft. It was thought that this letter could also go to George Mair and other prominent people, MPs and MSPs.</p> <p>It was also thought that maps should go to railway and bus stations, students Unions and sports centres.</p> <p>DL to send copies to Spokes in Edinburgh. DW to send copies to the Highland Cycle Campaign.</p>	<p>JW JW</p> <p>LN</p> <p>DL, MY DW</p> <p>LN/ DW</p> <p>LN</p> <p>DL, DW</p>
<p>4. Website</p> <p>JR explained that he had bought two years worth of domain name. What the website would consist of was then discussed. Documents that should be available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes and Agendas - Photographs - Recent news - Aims of the Forum - Text off the bike map - Consultation responses - Any individual’s comments on cycling issues 	<p>JR</p>
<p>5. Current Consultations</p> <p>DW informed the group that ACF was now a Statutory Consultee.</p> <p><i>Union Street project</i></p> <p>This will require a response by the end of July. DW is happy to take the lead on this if other members of the Forum wish to feedback to him on various schemes. MY and DL to form working group with DW to take this forward. DW to also speak to Joanna Beveridge in Roads in getting access to Union Street displays.</p> <p><i>20mph zones around schools</i></p> <p>Gavin Clark agreed to respond on behalf of ACF. It was thought that the findings of the Citizen’s Panel could be used to back up the argument for more cycling to schools. Letter attached to minute.</p> <p><i>Wellington Road</i></p> <p>LN to pass details on to SW and John Braisby for them to consult.</p>	<p>DW DW</p> <p>GC</p> <p>LN/ SW/ JB</p>
<p>6. Cycle Parking</p> <p>Item deferred.</p>	
<p>7. Other Projects</p>	

<p><i>Road safety/ driver awareness</i> <i>Cycle training</i> <i>Best practice</i></p> <p>It was felt these had been covered in previous items.</p>	
<p>8. AOB</p> <p><i>Western Peripheral Route</i> GM had meet with the WPR Managing Agent and Cllr Sandy Wallace (Aberdeenshire, Lower Deeside). There was still no indication that there would be access across the bridges for pedestrians and cyclists. DT to send WPR letter to Donald Murdoch, Director of City Development as he was also on the WPR Steering Group.</p> <p><i>Union Square / Guild Street Developments</i> MG had copies of the initial report that went to Committee. LN to email round an electronic copy. Members of the Forum are encouraged to come into the Council and see the proposals, as there are issues with handing out detailed copies of the plans. Case officer is Harold Campbell.</p>	<p>DT</p> <p>LN</p>
<p>9. Next meeting</p> <p>The next Cycle Forum meeting will be on Tuesday 27th July, 7.30p.m. in Committee Room 5 in the Town House.</p>	



Ms L. Spence
Aberdeen City Council
Environment & Infrastructure Services
St Nicholas House

Broad Street
ABERDEEN
AB10 1EZ

Friday, 9th June 2004

Your ref: HM/EK/LS/TM/1/59

Dear Sirs,

**20 MPH AROUND SCHOOLS, PROPOSED PART-TIME MANDATORY ZONES
RESPONSE TO STATUTORY CONSULTATION**

Thank you for your letter of 18 June seeking the views of Aberdeen Cycle Forum on the above. The Forum discussed the matter at its meeting on 29 June. We would now respond as follows:

1. We support the introduction of 20-mph zones around schools and welcome the general benefits that this is likely to have in reducing vehicle speeds and increasing road safety for all road users and especially school children.
2. Due to the limited extent of the zones however, it is not clear that these restrictions alone will be adequate to encourage significantly higher numbers of children to cycle to school.
3. We note that in the second Citizen's Panel Questionnaire, cycling accounted for only 1% of travel to and from schools. Car use accounted for almost 20%, indicating that there remains much scope to encourage healthier and sustainable travel for school children. We also note that a very high proportion (93%) of respondents favoured 20mph zones around schools. High proportions also supported the idea of cycle lanes to schools (60%) and car free zones around schools (61%) suggesting that many more journeys to school would be made by bike if suitable measures were put in place. We believe this demonstrates that the current proposal to introduce 20 mph zones will receive strong public support, but also that the Council should continue to make additional infrastructure improvements to encourage cycling whenever possible.
4. We do not wish to make comments on the detail of the 28 individual zones.

Yours faithfully,

On behalf of Aberdeen Cycle Forum.