

Aberdeen Cycle Forum

Minutes from meeting on 24th November 2020

Attendees: Gavin Clark (chair), Liz Lindsey, Rachel Martin, Nico Silvani, Nathan Gore

AECOM attended the meeting to seek our views in relation to their work on the Ellon to Garrthdee corridor.

A lot has happened since our last meeting. The beach cycle lane removal decision was taken just days after our last meeting. Gavin and Rachel have spent a lot of time writing letters and meeting with people to see what can be done but unfortunately a council decision can't be revisited within 6 months of the decision being made.

Nathan got a quote for public liability insurance - £250/year. We're considering this so we can run events. Clare - our treasurer - thinks Cycling UK does insurance for affiliates so we're going to investigate that.

Fiona hasn't heard back from Countesswells. Liz says the primary school is in Aberdeen and not at the countesswells site. Probably a temporary measure until the new school is built out at Countesswells.

Don't be an idler:

- Launch the campaign first week in Jan when schools go back
- Close early March
- Provide aspect ratio
- Nico to create a graphic

Connecting city centre to beach - Regent's Quay. Gavin was planning to email the Harbour Board - will still do it.

Spaces for People

- Wrote a joint letter Cycling Scotland North East Grampian and Grampian Cycle Partnership. Lots of letters to councillors and MSPs. Motion put forward by SNP councillors who wanted to remove all of SNP infrastructure. As far as we know Beach Boulevard is staying in place as well as the bit along to Footdee.
- Liz notes that removing the path sends a terrible message that cyclists don't matter.
- Gavin and Rachel spoke to Cllr Sandra Macdonald who said it looks extremely unlikely that any other measures will be put in. Hazlehead route will never proceed and nor will North Deeside Road.
- Beach was only useful cycling infrastructure they had installed because Union Street and George Street changes were not very helpful for cyclists.
- Traffic on Union Street is backed up behind buses.

Campaigns

- Don't be an Idler
- Social media advertising

Consultations

- Transport Scotland road safety framework - Cycling UK are encouraging as many cyclists as possible to respond. About designing roads and infrastructure that's idiot-proof. Ambitious goal for zero road deaths by 2030.

Any other business

- Go Bike - information about where to rent bikes, cycling for women,
- <https://www.mindmeister.com/1128381749/cycling-in-glasgow?fullscreen=1#>
- Would be useful to have something like this for Aberdeen. Nico to work on creating something similar.

Nathan Gore

- Colleague acquired lease of Cults station building on Deeside Way and turn it into cycling workshop/café but city council wants him to have 14 parking spaces if reduced capacity in café + 3 electric car charging places.