

Aberdeen Cycle Forum
Minutes of Meeting in Committee Room 5 of the Townhouse
29th May 2007

Present

LN, Louise Napier CG Carl Gerrard GC Gavin Clarke KH Kris Howard
DC Dave Cheseldine FF Fiona Fraser DF Dough French

Apologies

DW Derek Williams JW Jackie Wilkins NF Neal Fraser

1 Minutes of last meeting

Newsletter: 200 copies printed by CG, DW has delivered to Central Library and Bike Shops

Elections: Responses received from Lib Dems, Conservatives, SNP (on eve of Polling!) – all summarised on web together with online search of parties sites for cycling, can be viewed at:

<http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/index.php?pf=news.php&nid=38>

King Street Report by ML – has now been forwarded to ACC, CG has also shared with Ben Gilligan at First Bus, who has responded positively

E-consultations: Total of 5 pages of road suggestions, and some still coming in. CG has forwarded current version to LN - LN will “rate” on “doability” and come back with a response – we will put this on the website to show “progress”.

Planning Update (survey on flats with new cycle parking) LN has not had time to progress LN will have student working for her during the summer which will provide resource to execute the survey. CG also apologies for not photographing the new facilities.

Urban Trails – Maggie Bochell has yet to get on her Bike due to the current bad weather – LN is still progressing

3. Treasurers Report

There has been no expenditure since the report with the exception of £35 for the website hosting and domain name fees.

4. Bike Week

Commuter Challenge

CG spoke to Matt Eastwood (ME) from NESTRANS. NESTRANS running a Green Transport Challenge on Wednesday, 21st June. A number of issues were raised including the fact Nestrans website could not automatically store entrants (resulting in very large “cut and paste” activity). ME has worked on these with his web designers and the Nestrans challenge has improved, in summary:

- One day (in middle of bike week) – 21st June
- Entrants can use any form of transport other than the car (i.e. walk, cycle, bus, etc)
- Prizes including free bus passes, and a new £300 bike donated by Edinburgh Bike.
- People make a “pledge” before / after the event
- ACF will have a link “*click here if you are cycling*” and there will be a “sign me up with ACF” option when entering. (we will get emails and postcodes, not names / addresses)
- Nestrans are doing all the PR. And have already had a small piece in the P&J.

Discussed during the meeting and decided we will go with Nestrans and use our existing database to help market it. Outcome will be reviewed and we can always run our own again next year if it is not a success

ACTION: CG to advise ME, update website, draft eNews release and send

Councillors on Bikes

DW had submitted (via email as not present) proposal to write to all councillors asking them to make one journey in bike week, we can provide “support” i.e. bike-buddy, route advice, loan bike (ACC has 6)

GC, DL, LL, DC are all able to help, more will probably be able to (e.g. DW, JW, JR). LN agreed to help distribute letters. Generally seen as a good idea – ideal would be if councillors did it on Wednesday then could also enter challenge.

ACTION ; DW to progress

Filmfest

DL reported – he had secured the rights for both proposed films

- ‘Full Cycle’ – BBC’s Greame Obree Story (30mins Cert U)
- ‘Still We Ride’, (37mins Cert PG)

Both very popular in Edinburgh last year resulting in a full house. Arts centre is booked for 2 hours so time for a discussion at the end of it. DL is approaching Cllr Martin Ford (Cllt for the Shire) to chair this.

Draft poster shown by DL, noted needs Nestrans acknowledgement. But otherwise fine to go.

ACTION: DL to send the leaflet to LN and CG (for PDFing and web site).

ACTION: DL to distribute round to bike shops.

ACTION: CG to put on web and do eNews alert

Highland Games (17th June)

FF, NF, DL, LL and DF. Are available to go on a stall – possibly more but this is enough,

ACTION: LN to arrange logistics etc.

ACTION: CG (will not be present on the day) to last years material and new material including Bike Week “goodies” to LN

Post meeting Note – all bike week publicity now on Web at

www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/bikeweek

5. Elections, new Council, Committees and impact on cycling

Generally agreed situation is confusing... Now three Committees – North, South and Central. And for strategic issues across the City it will still go to Policy & Strategy committee. Cllr Ron Clark has been appointed as the Councillor with special interest in transport. DW was volunteered to get in contact with him.

ACTION: DW to contact Cllr Ron Clarke

6. More traffic islands

DW has formally objected to the latest traffic islands consultation, repeated last objection – also trying to get a meeting with Martin Greig

DL spoke about getting guidance / best practice issued for pedestrian islands for cyclists.

ACTION: DL to investigate further

CG reported cycle lanes have been burned off on the North Deeside Road burned off cycle lanes opposite the Waterwheel Inn,

ACTION: LN to investigate why this has happened as apparently there is no need for it.

7. Local Transport Strategy and Response

This is now on the council's website:

http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/acci/web/files/CommitteeReports/cde_cou_r6f1_070425.pdf

LN explained this is a "consultative draft". Anyone can respond – this will lead to the development of a draft strategy. In addition to a "ACF response" which DW has offered to pull together, it is clearly in the interests of cycling for lots of cyclists to respond. It is possible to respond online through the community planning website, thus...

ACTION: LN to write an intro and provide link

ACTION: CG to do eNews alert encouraging people to reply.

Post meeting note, on website as:

<http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/?pf=ht/032.php>

8. AOB

South College Street

DW and DL attended a workshop on South College Street – 3 options were presented. One of which was a gyratory, two others still involving a roundabout. Preferred option was the middle one which did not involve a link road. Identified areas for improvement for cycling, including an advisory cycle lane up South College Street and a dual use pavement link to the new Riverside Drive off-road cycle route, we need to keep a close watch on this one..

Cycle Parking

CG reported success with B&Q it now has new Sheffield stand parking, for photo see update on website:

<http://www.aberdeencycleforum.org.uk/index.php?pf=news.php&nid=29>

GC reported the Great Western Medical Practice (now Seafield Road) has no stands – KH (registered patient there) has already complained,

ACTION: LN to confirm the planning conditions applied to the building

ACTION: GC to complain in a personal capacity

ACTION: CG to complain on behalf of ACF

Despite an early promise to investigate, further correspondence with Standard Life (Beach blvd retail park) is going unanswered, CG will continue to pursue