



ABERDEEN CYCLE FORUM

Minutes of Meeting

19:30 hours Tuesday, 28th October 2008

Committee Room 5 at the Town House

1 – Welcome, Apologies and Attendance

Apologies

Carl Gerrard, Louise Napier, Ian Inglis, Marjorie Inglis, Marcus Linkerman.

Present

Derek Williams (Chair)-DW, Dave Cheseldine-DC, Fiona Fraser-FF, Neil Fraser-NF, Ian Wilkie-IW.

2 – Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

Try Cycling – Meeting of working group (CTC and Forum) was held. The format of Try Cycling is to be changed slightly, the starting location will rotate between the three main parks in the the city – Duthie Park, Seaton Park and Hazelhead. There will be 2 leaders on each ride and the emphasis will change towards families (accompanied children will be more explicitly welcome).

Becycle – project is proposed to run alongside Becycle to have 'loan' bikes at various points in the city, it is envisaged that they would have combination locks and a phone number where you can phone-in for the combination and borrow the bike.

Bikefit – it appears that some of the funding for Bikefit, from the Scottish government, may not have been successful. There has been little news recently. ***ACTION DW to continue to keep the forum informed of any developments.***

Rail Station Parking – As previously noted, there is currently no cycle parking convenient for the station, nearest is in College St car park. One of our members was recently asked to remove his bike from railings adjacent to the station by a member of Scotrail staff, when attempting to collect tickets.

3 – October Cycle Count (1-2 Oct)

Results of the cycle count can be found on the website so are not detailed here. The number of cyclists seemed to be fairly constant between April and October, it was suggested that we may only do the count on an annual basis from now on. We were able to cover some additional sites for this count and may rationalise the positions chosen for the next count. The low number of female cyclists was once again highlighted at this count. ***ACTION GM to liaise with CTC to explore possibilities for encouraging female cyclists.***

4 – Cyclists, Safety and Accidents

The Evening Express (EE) ran the headline “103 cyclist injured...” on the 9th October. The forum had been contacted earlier to comment on accident statistics the paper had requested from the police, it should be noted that these statistics cover a period of almost 2 years and the entire Grampian region. Despite the attention grabbing headline the article was well balanced with DW/forum comments. The EE followed with a small article on the Cycle Count on the 13th October highlighting the cost benefits of cycling. Extrapolation of the statistics from the EE article and comparison against the ACC figures highlighted a concern that the accident rates may be relatively high for 2008.

5 - Consultations

ACF has received notification of cycle lanes to be installed at various pinch points in the city, believed to be 1.75m wide. ***ACTION DW to discuss width proportions with Wallace Beattie to emphasise the concept that the road width should appear to be diminishing encouraging traffic to slow down.***

Update on various projects including the CWSS budget and cycle parking update was passed to the forum for perusal (copy is attached).

6 - AOB and Date of Next meeting (proposed Tue 25th November)

DC and NF met with Kerry Mitchell at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary to discuss cycle facilities and initiatives for the staff at the Foresterhill site. New stands to accommodate 60 cycles are going in at various locations on the site. The Trust is considering a 'Bike -to-Work' scheme and would like to offer training, maps etc. More facilities at the Woodend site are also envisaged. ***ACTION DC to contact Louise to supply maps and brochures.***

NESTRANS – Don Kent has replaced Matt at Nestrans. ***ACTION DW to set-up a meeting with him when he has settled into his post.***

The stall at Aberdeen College Environmental Sustainability Day on Wednesday 12th November will go ahead. ***ACTION DW to attend.***

Next Meeting – Tuesday 25th November, 19:30, Town House.

Meeting ends.