

# **Aberdeen Cycle Forum**

## **Minutes of AGM & meeting**

**Townhouse, Broad St, Aberdeen, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Attending:

Jyll Skinner (Chair), Gavin Clark, Mike Nieman, Henri de Ruiter, Colin Wright, Bruce Cruickshank

### **0. Welcome & Apologies**

Apologies: Liz Lindsey

### **1. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

Consultations: Dee Bridge & Broad St had been done. Prime 4 response still to do before 04 July. BC commented that the planning consent being sought for Prime 4 has changed and now includes leisure and recreation.

HdR gave a view on the new cycle infrastructure on Tillydrone Avenue. It has not been done according to what ACF understood from previous meetings from officials. It does not represent best practice and is not in accordance with Transport Scotland's design manual 'Cycling by Design'. The number of sharp turns, stops and junction design are all far from ideal and will not encourage use by commuting cyclists. It is a wasted opportunity. HdR and MdB are to pay a visit and write a critique of it.

Comments on the draft Active Travel Plan were to have been brought forward at the July meeting but if there isn't one, this can go back to August.

PoP sub-group debrief – still outstanding.

HdR gave a resume of the meeting that he and TC had had with Ross Grant and officials. It would be useful if we could have a follow up meeting or perhaps 3 or 4 of these per year. In discussion it was noted that we needed to rationalise how we met with ACC as the 'safety' meetings of late had been ineffective with irregular attendance (by ACC & Police) and lack of purpose / cohesion.

### **2. Cycle Counters data**

Counters have now been installed at 13 locations across the city. We should get data from these regularly although frequency is yet to be confirmed. Initial data showed high numbers at some locations, such as Wellington Road, although a longer term data set would be needed to be sure these were accurate.

### **3. Sustrans Visit**

Sustrans are to be visiting on 7 July – HdR to meet them, possibly with MdB. Discussion over where to take them to view examples of good / bad infrastructure. Tillydrone Avenue and Riverside Drive were possible examples.

#### **4. Nestrans**

We have an invite to speak to their meeting on 30 September. Likely to be up to 20 minutes for a presentation followed by 10 minutes of Q&A. Ideas? Noted that Cycling Development Officer Kathryn Mackay is moving on from her post but it is hoped that a replacement will be recruited. We wish Kathryn well in her next role (thought to be with Abellio).

#### **5. Cycle Map**

The map is due to be reprinted soon and we had been asked for amendments to suggest. In discussion, the Parkway, Tillydrone Avenue and Riverside Drive were all noted as places where new infrastructure had gone in which won't be reflected on the current version of the map. In further discussion there were views put forward about the usefulness (lack thereof) of advisory cycle lanes where cars are allowed to park. Should we propose that all such lanes be taken off the map?

#### **6. Any other business**

- i) (Bruce Cruickshank) wondered if ACF had ever raised the topic of advisory cycle lanes and parking with ACC and/or the Police? In response it was noted that this is something which comes up regularly but there seems to be little will to do anything about it. His understanding is that it is up to a local authority to pass an Order to prohibit such parking and clearly this had never been done. HdR commented that this was one of the topics raised by TC at their recent meeting with Cllr Ross Grant.
- ii) (BC) to note the proposals for a new football stadium, 7 training pitches etc on a site at Westhill. This seemed likely to have a major impact on the Westhill cycle route, if it went ahead as proposed.
- iii) (GC) had seen in the Deeside Thistle bulletin that a city centre Criterium race was apparently to be held sometime in August. [Note: subsequent checking revealed that the item had been headed "From the Archives – 25 years ago" Oh dear .....]

#### **7. Date of next meeting**

There will be no July meeting therefore the next regular meeting will be Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August.