

Aberdeen Cycle Forum

Minutes of meeting and AGM

Townhouse, Broad St, Aberdeen, Tuesday 27 June 2017

Attending:

Pamela Rackow (Chair), Gavin Clark, Micheal de Barra, Bruce Cruickshank, Denise Longdon-Frimpong, Ben Kayatz, Tito Casquahina

0. Welcome & Apologies

Apols from Jyll Skinner & Sheila Tuckwood. JS had asked PR to Chair the meeting in her absence

1. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

JS had intimated that she had helped the Brownies group out with their cycling badge.

Cycle count: JS was still awaiting data from ACC but had had an auto-reply from her normal point of contact - Will Hekelaar – saying that he had left the Council.

MdB gave an update on the survey which had been sent out to the membership. The idea was in part to capture skills or resources which members may have that we aren't making use of but which might be of use. There had been around 200 responses so far which was pretty good. The survey is still open and it was agreed that we could send out a reminder.

2. Updates on consultations & meetings.

Haudagain: JT gave a resume of the meeting he had attended with consultants (AECOM?) who had presented their final plans for the 'Haudagain by-pass'. JT presented a hand-drawn plan showing the general layout. In discussion it was felt that it was very poor for cyclists and would get little use by commuting cyclists. The route is on one side only which means there have to be multiple junction crossings. These would be signal-controlled but most would be in 2 or even 3 parts (i.e. with a central island and a separately controlled crossing either side) so the route would be very slow and tortuous. JT thought that this was the consultant's final design so we weren't being asked to suggest changes at this stage. The plans for the triangular island which will be created between the roads is unclear but one option - apparently - was a site for a supermarket. It was agreed that this seemed to be yet another wasted opportunity with poor quality cycling infrastructure being proposed which would do nothing to make cycling more attractive.

Kingsford: BC gave an update. A revised traffic assessment had been submitted by the applicant in support of their planning application. It provided more detail, which BC thought simply made it more damning in terms of what was proposed. The planning application is unlikely to be determined before the autumn.

Consultation on parking: this Scottish Government consultation dealt with the issue of pavement parking and related issues (double parking, obstruction of

dropped kerbs, mis-use of disabled parking spaces etc). It was still open for comment but would close on Friday. Some of the issues in terms of impacts on cyclists in particular were discussed briefly and it was agreed that GC would submit a response on behalf of ACF.

3. AoBs

- i) DL-F gave a resume of her project which is looking at the history of bike theft in Aberdeen. The survey is still open and it was agreed that we should promote it to the membership.
- ii) There was a general discussion about how we engage with the Council. Now that it seems to have settled down politically following the May elections the general feeling was that we should be pressing for an early meeting with the Leader of the Council to discuss some of the issues raised above, and to review the role of the 'Cycle Champion'.
- iii) TC raised the issue of (legal) parking in bike lanes and whether we can do anything about it. Some of the issues in resolving these problems were aired again but are one of the things we struggle to make progress on.

4. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 25 July.