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THE PERTH AND KINROSS CYCLE CAMPAIGN

QUARTERLY MEETING

AT 7PM ON WEDNESDAY 17 JANUARY 2018

Congregational Church Meeting Room, Murray Street

(at Mill Street Bus Station), PERTH PH1 5PJ

1. Present:

Katharine Melville(Chair), Mike Simm(Vice-Chair), Fiona Robertson(Minutes Secretary), George Alexander (Treasurer), Margaret Scott(Wednesday Rides), Sarah Walker, Evelyn Ellis, Richie Neill, David Lyle, Scott Peddie, Lewis Simpson, Jane Anderson, Chris Moore, Marianne Scott(Tactran)

2. Apologies

Ken Ward, Graeme Brown (Tactran), John Palfreyman, David Dawson

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the October 2017 Quarterly Meeting were accepted as correct.

Matters Arising:

a). **Stanley to Luncarty Path:** K. Melville had e-mailed the Chair of the campaigning group on progress but had no response. S. Walker reported that there was a hiatus until landowner permissions were finalised.

Postscript from Fiona Lough:

One interesting meeting with a landowner which is significant progress, one other change in ownership which may present improved opportunities. Good prospects of developer funding from the new houses being developed in the village by Muir Homes, Masterplan and related agreements being worked on. Good support from PKC greenspace. But still we feel frustrated by the pace of progress.

b). **Sustrans NCN paths – Dunkeld and North Inch:** Both projects are still live. K. Melville had e-mailed Neil Malone for a progress report. J. Anderson had audited the Inveralmond to Almondbank path and the resulting photos were included in the e-mail. P. Freeman had also reported that the Dalwhinnie to Dalnacardoch section of the A9 path is in poor condition. The need to deal with this was also included in the e-mail. A recce ride was organised for 1 May 2018 as improvements are necessary before the 2018 Special Ride in August.

c). **Website:** M. Simm said that he now is competent at putting articles and photos on the site. He reported a good number of 'hits' on Facebook and the website and will compare these with the next quarter.

d). **Insurance Update:** There was a good deal of discussion on this. J. Anderson felt, as a result of her investigations, that we do not need two insurances but will list the pros and cons for the next meeting. We have joined Cycling UK as an affiliated group which will cover rides and events – noting all members and non-members on rides. M. Simm felt that insurance is designed principally for ride/event leaders. Marianne Scott is to pass on information about Skygo (another option) and suggested contacting Ralph Jessup, the Cycling UK representative.

e). **Tay Street Signage:** J. Anderson had checked that the signage was in place. As a commuter L. Simpson reported that there was no signage after turning left at the old bridge. The old cycle lane is now used for parking and the pavement area is cluttered with bins and many parking meters – PKC is forming a small group to consider and promote shared use. Also the signs, at a height of 2.5m, are too high to see easily. He had consulted with the police who agreed that there should be signs on the ground. He was informed that there would be a number of police on bikes circulating in Perth but that it was the weather at present prevented them operating!

f). **Representation:** K. Melville had attended the Cycling Scotland conference in Glasgow. There is optimism that, if the infrastructure is put in place, then cycling will flourish. The government is providing £80million each year for the next 5 years to facilitate this. PKC had sent a representative Serge Melone who outlined Perth's future plans for a hub with radiating paths. K. Melville also attended the "Raising The Standards" conference at Stirling. She met the new Sustrans

Community Links officer for our area, Sarah Feldman, with whom she hopes for a meeting. She did a ride on All Ability bikes which was very enlightening. She also felt that Perth has more potential as a starting point for improvements than Dunblane/Stirling.

4. Treasurer's Report

G. Alexander said that Bank Balance stood at £2552.63. Final expenses for the Special Ride stood at £1353 (including a capital expenditure for signage). Cost of setting up the new website was £150, affiliation to Cycling UK was £75 and insurance cover through PKC was £146.27.

5. Bycycle Rides

a. Monthly: M. Simm reported that the December ride was cancelled because of the weather and that there had been a slow motion accident on the October ride resulting in a foot injury. Rides in 2018 will resume on 21 January.

b. Wednesday Rides. M. Scott said that the list of rides and leaders for 2018 was nearly complete and that the rides would run from 25th April until 29th August.

c. Special Ride. The special ride will be called Drumochter Drop 3. M. Simm is getting quotes for transport of riders and bikes and hopes that he may be able to get the bigger lorry from Abbey which works much better for bike transportation. The amount charged will depend on the quotes given. There is a café at Dalwhinnie for sustenance at the start.

6. A.O.C.B.

a) **Cycling Scotland:** M. Scott spoke of Breeze rides for women only which are being trialled by Cycling Scotland. There is a ride leader in the Coupar Angus area but more leaders will be required and training will be available. Marianne Scott said she would circulate information on this. Marianne also mentioned that adult skills programmes have been successfully run in Dundee and will be rolled out to Perth if there is found to be a need/desire to have them. She will provide further information when the programme is finalised.

b) **Challenge Rides:** Marianne Scott reported that there are many challenge rides, particularly in the month of May. M. Scott said Coupar Angus Cycling Festival is to run from 16th to 24th June this year. Links to all these are to be put on the website for those interested in entering.

c) **Perth Cycle Network Consultation:** This meeting which was held to look for ideas and get feedback from interested parties on the suggested Perth Hub. K. Melville had attended and had suggested an inner ring path as well as the routes radiating from the Hub. An outcome will be available in 2019.

d) **Cross Link Road:** M. Scott asked if the new road in Perth is to have cycle paths alongside. K. Melville replied that this is the case. Information is available on www.perthtransportfutures.co.uk. L. Simpson sounded a note of caution by saying that he did not see where the money to build paths was to come from and to remember the Sustrans Tay Bridge which was never built!

e) **Cycle Parking:** J. Anderson asked whether there is sufficient cycle parking to support the anticipated cycle 'boom' and Marianne Scott said that an audit had been carried out on cycle parking and charging points for electric bikes and these had been marked on the latest Perth cycle map.

f) **A9 Dualling:** K. Melville reported that she had put suggestions for possible cycle routes to the recent consultations on the dualling process. She asked that individuals submit their ideas too. She also mentioned that the Royal School of Dunkeld now has a cycle track to encourage pupils to use their bikes .

10. Date of Next Meeting: The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 18th April 2018 at 7pm which will be the AGM followed by the quarterly meeting. All present office bearers are willing to continue but it would be useful to have a Campaign Coordinator if anyone is interested.

The meeting closed at 20.30h and K. Melville thanked all those who attended.