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THE PERTH AND KINROSS CYCLE CAMPAIGN

**QUARTERLY MEETING
AT 7PM ON WEDNESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2018**

At the Congregational Church, meeting room, Murray Street, Perth

1. Present:

Katharine Melville (Chair), Jane Anderson (Minutes Secretary), David Fletcher, Mark McDonald, Sam Bird, Kenneth Gillen, Richie Neill, Sarah Walker, Charles Evans, Susan Morrison, Margaret Scott, George Alexander (Treasurer), Mark Sinclair, Chris Moore, Gordon McFarlane, David Lyle, Marianne Scott

2. Apologies

Mike Simm, Seph Beer, Fiona Robertson, Evelyn Ellis, Cllr Angus Forbes, Cllr Lewis Simpson.

3. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the April Meeting were approved as correct. Proposer – M Scott Seconder – R Neill

Matters Arising and Current Issues:

a) Cross Tay Link

The specification of the path was discussed: There is a 1.5m grass verge between the cycle path and the road. One cycle path for commuter cyclists with lights both ways. It was noted that paths in other areas are similar and some have additional screening between the cycle path and road.

b) Infrastructure

A round table meeting with decision makers including councillors had been proposed but has not happened.

A ride with councillors took place on routes around Perth including both Tay bridges and Glasgow Road. The ride highlighted that Perth does not have cycling infrastructure and that people do not feel safe when cycling. Many issues including narrow cycle lanes.

Sam Bird documented short term solutions to improve commuting in the short term Options: advance lights, make more use of pavement space, protected cycle space where multi-lanes.

Susan mentioned here extensive efforts to get the message across about improving safety and infrastructure.

A consultative committee was suggested with Chic Haggart, Environmental Services, Perth and Kinross Council.

Katharine is now in touch with Lachlan McLean, Project officer in the Traffic and Network Department (and a cyclist). Katharine, Mike Simm and Sarah Walker are to meet him.

c) Cycling Scotland

Marianne Scott shared the Essential Skills booklet which is also available as an app. It was planned that she would tell us more about Essential Cycling Skills outlets, but unfortunately she had a train to catch. **Deferred for future discussion.**

- d) ByCycle membership cards have been emailed to members. These facilitate 10% discounts on bikes and accessories at Richards Cycle Shop and free Fix your bike sessions at the Bike Station, Perth.
- e) A9 dualling
A Stanley Development Trust member described progress on the proposed cycle path from Stanley to Luncarty. Feasibility studies have been completed. One farmer who has given up land to the A9 dualling is still proving unwilling to give up more land for a cycle path. It was recommended that he consult Coupar Angus Cycling Hub on their experiences.
- f) Sustrans
The surface of NCN7 near Drumochter is broken up. Transport Scotland are pressing Bear Scotland to fix it.
NCN77 Perth to Almondbank – Sustrans will improve the path near Almondbank (currently narrow, muddy) and the surface lifted by roots by the North Inch golf course.
Signage from NCN77 to NCN75. The link between the routes was not part of Sustrans network. Sustrans members will be putting up temporary signs.
- g) New projects in Perth and Community Links Plus funding. – Route from the railway station to Tay Street may be via segregated lanes in King Street and Kinnoull Street. Unfortunately the Steering Committee meeting to discuss the business case had been postponed, so Katharine was unable to share news of developments.

From Mike Morgan, Regeneration Projects officer: Perth & Kinross Council is currently taking part in a design competition – Sustrans flagship Community Links Plus Programme. We were successful with our first round bid and got shortlisted to the final 10 applications. We are now developing our business case for Stage 2, which will be submitted in April 2019. If successful and shortlisted to the final five, the Council will secure funding to help deliver more accessible streets, which will serve our communities and businesses better. The event is taking place on the 7th November and will be based on Dunkeld Road (venue to be confirmed). The format of the event is outlined below:

10 – 11.30am Place Standard Workshop
11.30 – 14.00 Charrette workshop
14.00 – 20.00 Public drop in

4. Treasurer's report

Bank balance £3177.43

The Ride to Perth 2018 made a surplus of £407.52

5. Bycycle Rides

a) Monthly Rides

14 joined the recent ride to the Pillars of Hercules. A near miss with a bus and a group of cyclists was discussed.

b) Wednesday Rides

Margaret reported that there were 17 rides. More than 60 people participated. The majority completed 8 to 10 rides.

c) Special Ride

2018 Drumochter Drop – this went well except for the rain.

6. Mark Sinclair of The Bike Station

Mark described his experience with the Dundee Cycling Forum which has been successful in putting pressure on decision makers. Feedback from Dr Bike events suggests that rather than using the term “cyclists” say “people who travel by bicycle”. In influencing decisions it helps to have an understanding of council spending, make suggestions for positive things that people want to be associated with and which motivate the council to do a good job.

7. Perth Infrastructure priorities

Around the table:

- Smeaton's Bridge
- Bridge End
- Dundee Road to Willowgate
- Tay Street
- Scone park and ride to Scone
- Outskirts of Perth

The top priority was Tay Street. There was strong feeling that parking should be removed and [an improved] cycle lane reinstated.

Infrastructure sub group meeting

To meet on 13 November 2018, 6pm at The Bike Station. Gordon, Sam, Mark, Susan, Kenny and Sarah or Margaret.

8. Any other competent business

- a) Cycling Scotland – Conference 5th and 6th November. ByCycle could attend as a group. Margaret Scott, and Mark McDonald will represent the group.
- b) For information:
 - Sustrans networking event 22 Nov 2018. Sustrans group coordinators and ride leaders have been invited.
 - Perth and Kinross Council display of Community Links Plus proposals 20 October 2018, King Edward Street, Perth.

9. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 16 January 2019