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THE PERTH AND KINROSS CYCLE CAMPAIGN

QUARTERLY MEETING

AT 7PM ON Wednesday 16 January 2019

At the Congregational Church Meeting Room, Murray Street, Perth

1. Present:

Katharine Melville(Chair), Mike Simm(Vice-Chair), Fiona Robertson(Minutes Secretary), Margaret Scott(Wednesday Rides), Evelyn Ellis, Lewis Simpson, Chris Moore, Neil Quinney, Richie Neill, Alasdair Dutton, Jane Anderson, David Dawson

2. Apologies:

George Alexander, Roger Humphry, Sarah Walker, Gordon McFarlane, Marianne Scott

3. Minutes of last meeting

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

Matters Arising:

a). **Scottish Cycling Conference:** Mgt Scott reported on this conference where a wide variety of cycling topics had been covered. The new Dundee railway station is catering for cyclists with 120 bike racks. There were a number of other initiatives to encourage cycling in Dundee. The Dundee Cycling forum meets with councillors regularly. A Dutch Cycling Embassy Member gave a talk on cycling provision in the Netherlands. Cycling is being introduced to the immigrant population via targeted sessions. (It was noted by the meeting tonight that several PKC councillors had been on a trip to two cities in the Netherlands – one new with built-in provision and one rather like Perth with a more piecemeal approach). There was also a presentation from Isla bikes (ergonomically designed children's bikes, starting with the balance bike) and from Transport Secretary Michael Matheson.

b). **A9 Dualling:** The Luncarty to Pass of Birnam section is now under construction. K. Melville reported that the submission of the preferred option for the Pass of Birnam to Jubilee Bridge section is now with Transport Scotland awaiting a decision. The next A9 Dualling meeting is on 24th January and she has been invited to attend as a cycling representative.

c). **Perth Active Travel Forum:** It was hoped that this would be a sub-group of ByCycle but its members have opted to have a separate group which will invite membership. Mgt Scott and M. Simm had attended the inaugural meeting. There was some disappointment about this option among ByCycle members as it rather suggested exclusivity instead of inclusivity. N. Quinney, who is in Dundee ATF, said that they were open to all.

d) **Back The Bid:** L. Simpson reported that PKC now very keen to back cycling – perhaps because of the £30 million of Sustrans money available! He has been successful in persuading several fellow councillors to take to their bikes to get to work and continues to challenge others to get more active. A small group of councillors are pushing the Bid forward but more responses are required from the public – particularly those who are unconverted to the need for NMU infrastructure. The meeting noted that it is quite difficult to send in responses by e-mail because there seem to be various names for the same

project! The bid will be submitted in April 2019. Next step is Public Engagement exhibitions at various venues at the end of January, and the launch of a new website.

Post meeting info: the new website www.activeperthproposals.commonplace.is is now up and running. Like the previous Commonplace website it is interactive, so plans for Dunkeld Road, Methven Street, Bridgend and Glasgow road can be viewed and your own commented added.

e) **Perth Safety Infrastructure:** K. Melville and M. Simm met with Project officer Lachlan MacLean and Chief Engineer Brian Cargill to forge closer links with PKC concerning infrastructure.

The advance boxes for cyclists at traffic lights are contracted to be repainted throughout the city.

Post meeting note: this work is now completed

Signage and publicity was also discussed. ByCycle proposed bus advertising as effective and relatively cheap, starting with a campaign to educate motorists on the use of advance stop boxes for cyclists. Lachlan MacLean is collecting suggestions for bike parking (including under cover).

A. Dutton commented that the advance stop boxes on the Crieff Road have not been repainted and cycling into town from the West is consequently hazardous. This would be progressed.

Action K.Melville and

A. Dutton

e) **Paths:**

Sustrans Network Meeting: Sustrans is ceasing to operate Ranger-led path maintenance work parties and maintenance is to be handed back to landowners (council, highways authority or private). Sustrans Volunteer group co-ordinators are now to be involved in public engagement which K. Melville, as the local group co-ordinator, said she was not keen to do. Volunteers can tidy up their local path(s) but at their own risk.

Mgt Scott noted that we can advertise ByCycle rides on the Sustrans website now.

Dunkeld House to Jubilee Bridge National Cycle Route 77: The upgrading has been delayed slightly but will be undertaken by PKC Countryside Trust and funded by Sustrans.

Stanley to Luncarty: K. Melville reported that this is now at last beginning to progress.

Some funding will come from the sale of houses by a local developer and the local quarry owner and principal farmer have removed their previous objections.

Drumochter NCN7: Transport Scotland are leaning on Bear group to improve the path in this area. No further information.

NCN77: Work on improvements from the North Inch (including the bad section of protruding roots) to Huntingtower will begin in financial year 2019-20.

Connecting signage between NCN77 and NCN775 to Kinross. Attempts by K. Melville and E. Ellis to get signage has failed. Permanent signage is awaiting further route improvements from PKC via Tay Street to the railway station.

Brian Cargill would not allow temporary signage in Perth City area.

4. Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the Treasurer K. Melville said that the bank balance stood at £2986.16 .

5. Bicycle Rides:

a. Monthly: 3rd Sunday rides continue to attract up to 18 participants. The December ride was cancelled because of weather conditions. The February ride will be part of the Coupar Angus Hub Snowdrop Festival event. D. Dawson talked about proposals in Coupar Angus for rides to be fortnightly rather than monthly and could start from a variety of venues rather than Perth or, occasionally, Dunkeld. There was some discussion but no conclusion

was reached. M. Simm felt that ByCycle has a first responsibility to Perth people without bike transport.

b. Wednesday Rides: M. Scott said the programme is well under way regarding leaders and routes. She is to contact people who have done the Cycle Leader course with Coupar Angus Hub to encourage them to lead a ride.

c. Special Ride: This will take place on Sunday 18 August 2019 and will be from Callander to Perth. M. Simm said that he and Sara would continue to organise this ride but, after 11 years of Special Rides, would be grateful for more help in setting it up. HPC Belles & Buns has a ride on the same day and K. Melville had asked if they could change the date to avoid clashing and this will be considered by the HPC board as they have two B&B events this year.

[Post meeting note: Highland Perthshire Cycling has now changed their event to 1st September.](#)

d. Other Rides: J. Anderson said that she had signed up for the Belles on Bikes (Tayside) monthly rides. They advertise on Facebook, as do many others. K. Melville said that it would be helpful if there was a website showing ALL the rides available. N. Quinney mentioned the Dundee Cyclathon (run by Rotary Club) was on 15 September and Mgt Scott gave notice of the Coupar Angus Sportif on 21 September.

6. A.O.C.B.

a) Website: M. Simm reported that the site appeared to be working well and there was general agreement that it was easy to access. He said that any contributions – articles, photos, etc. – would be gratefully accepted. The statistics show that the most popular page is the About page, followed by the rides page. There are a lot of spam e-mails which it is hoped can be blocked.

b) Publicity: Mgt Scott asked for help to print and deliver details of the Wednesday ride programme as she will be very busy around the time these should go out. K. Melville would help with this.

c) Membership: M. Simm said there are now 80 members, most of whom have paid. The membership form on the website is working. Cash subscriptions are the easiest way to pay from a handling perspective but cheques continue to be a problem. To this end the use of Paypal or similar is being investigated.

d) Cycling UK: ByCycle's affiliate membership of the organisation has lapsed due to some confusion as to whether we agreed to continue with it or not. J. Anderson, who is an individual member, spoke in favour of keeping our membership because of the overall scope of Cycling UK as the larger campaign organisation. There are advantages to individual members if they belong to an affiliated organisation. On this basis it was unanimously decided to rejoin.

e) Coupar Angus Hub: A mini-festival with activities and a jumble sale will be held on Saturday 23 February 2019 starting at 11am.

8. Date of Next Meeting: The date of the next quarterly meeting, **and the AGM**, is Wednesday 17 April 2019 at 7pm at the Congregational Church Meeting Room in Murray Street. K. Melville is to investigate the possibility of using the refurbished Bike Station premises for future meetings and whether there will be any cost involved.

The meeting closed at 20.38h and K. Melville thanked all those who attended.

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