



Minutes of the ByCycle AGM

Held in person 16th April 2025

At Perth Congregational Church Meeting Room

Present: Kirsty Ellis, Tom Collier, Lewis Simpson, James Herd, Gordon McFarlane, Sarah Walker, Alasdair Dutton, Shelagh Fulton, Barbara Smith, Margaret Scott, Richie Neill, Mike Simm, Katharine Melville, Gina O'Neill, Damian O'Neill, Christine Fraser

Apologies: Ian Fraser, Brad Murphy, Sara Davies, Susannah Rae, Bill Melville

1. Welcome and Apologies Kirsty Ellis opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and covered apologies.

2. Office Bearers

The following office bearers were confirmed. Chair: Kirsty Ellis, Vice Chair: Mike Simm, Treasurer: Richie Neill, Campaigns: Lewis Simpson, Alasdair Dutton.

Due to no volunteers for marketing and social media, this position was agreed to be put in abeyance until further notice. Ride Leader had no volunteers and discussed that would hope Ian Fraser would continue when ready to. In meantime ride leaders have volunteered for Sunday rides up to October and many of Wednesday rides are covered. In absence of rides lead at committee level, individual ride leaders will need to take ownership and not rely on prompts.

The role of secretary is being vacated by Tom Collier, and discussion took place that without volunteers for key position, it would be difficult to continue ByCycle. Suggestion made by Mike Simm to ask membership again and hold EGM in one month to see if volunteers come forward. Tom Collier explained role and was decided to split Secretary into two positions. General Secretary and Minutes Secretary. Richie Neill volunteered for General Secretary and Gina O'Neill for minutes secretary. Kirsty Ellis thanked Tom Collier for contribution as secretary for past year.

3. Rides

As part of discussion on Rides Lead, Kirsty Ellis shared statistics on rides this past year from Spind data. Average attendees 8 people, 15 mile rides most well attended, 7th August was the best attended ride with 17 people. Minimum attendees was 4. There were 2 cancelled rides. We

have 82 members on Spond, 43 who haven't attended rides. For those who have been on rides, the average is attending 3 each and credit to Jimmy who has attended the maximum of 26 rides.

Discussion held about distance of rides as some members feel going above 15 miles is challenging for everyone and also point raised about ride etiquette at junctions and waiting for people. Consensus was that for most part the etiquette is good and that with different ride leaders we should see a variety of rides and distances to appeal for all members.

4. Membership Fee

Question raised whether ByCycle should reintroduce membership fee. Mike Simm proposed No, Seconded by Katharine Melville. Passed as no fee.

5. Chairs Report

Kirsty Ellis shared her report for the year. She attended meetings with BAM to discuss Destiny Bridge but received no invite for opening despite attempts made. Attended Sustrans Walking, Wheeling and Cycling Index launch and organised the anniversary Big Ride. Also consultation events attended on her behalf at Bertha Park and Birnam Path.

6. Secretaries Report

Tom Collier shared that 4 quarterly meetings held. Including one in Couper Angus and one in Auchterarder, plus virtual options via Teams. These options were well used, but there was some feedback about sound quality.

ByCycle now have 203 members, which is an increase of 11 year on year.

Monthly committee meetings were held, totalling 9 to discuss committee business and progress projects. These have been held online and have worked well.

Dedicated Secretary and Chair emails have been set up, as have Instagram and X (Twitter) but have not been used as of yet.

7. Treasurers Report

Richie shared that the bank balance is £4574 which is a profit of around £300. This has been made through donations and from the Big Ride. We will see extra charges of £4.25 per month for bank account as the bank now charge for community accounts. The next big outlay is the domain name fee which will be due soon. Explained balance has been around this amount since June 2021 as Big Ride covers all costs. Also thanked committee members for not claiming expenses. Given the balance, there is opportunity to pay for first aid training. Email Secretary if interested. Also a request for ride leaders to notify Richie of name and email address so can be added to insurance policy.

8. Campaigns

Lewis Simpson gave update on projects:

Active Travel summary from PKC for ByCycle AGM Riverside Stadium

Working with PKCT, who received a grant from Paths For All, PKC has installed a new stretch of shared use path which links the paths from Perth Grammar, Riverside Stadium, and the track to the National Cycle Network. As well as linking two paths together, this is a popular walking route for dog walkers and for Perth Grammar school children accessing the playing fields. In addition,

Jeanfield Swifts are trying to encourage more Active Travel on match and practice days to reduce parking problems which are spilling into the local community.

Cycle Parking

PKC has installed a mixture of cycle parking and secure bicycle storage at a number of sites in Perth, using a grant from Cycling Scotland.

This includes the following:

1. Bicycle shelters at Riverside Stadium, Riverside Church, South Inch and Black Watch Gardens (St Ninians Cathedral). One bicycle shelter still to be installed at Perth Theatre.
2. Secure bicycle storage for PKC housing at Stronsay Place, Victoria Street and St Johnstouns buildings. Secure bicycle storage for private flats at South Inch and for Asylum Seekers' pool bikes at Pomarium Street. One bread bin style secure bike storage still to be installed for private flats at North Inch.
3. Sheffield stands at Princes Street and either end of Dunkeld Road shops.
4. A secure bicycle compound for the Community School of Auchterarder.
5. We are still working with contractors on bookable, secure parking for Broxden and Walnut Grove bus stops.

Cross Tay Link Road Mitigation Measures

Mitigation measures have been put in at villages on the A93, A94 and B953 where traffic will increase as a result of the opening of the Cross Tay Link Road. Ramps to slow traffic down have been installed in Woodside, Burrelton, Guildtown, Balbeggie, Meigle and Abernyte. PKC is still working on Upper Carse Green Route, where a 40mph speed limit will be introduced.

20mph rollout

PKC is continuing to roll out 20mph zones in villages, starting with Crieff and Comrie. PKC is also working on a communications plan to ensure that people are aware of these changes.

Pavement Parking Ban

The pavement parking ban has been implemented and enforcement continues.

Tay Street Feasibility Study

PKC was funded to carry out a feasibility study, considering out to improve it for active travel. This has now been received and PKC is considering the findings.

Lewis also shared that he is leading ride on Sunday 27th and will be a Pitcairngreen, Bankfoot, CTRLR loop. Full details will be on Spond.

Mike Simm asked question about Bike Shelter at Bus station, Lewis confirmed this is not PKC owned.

Park and Choose at Luncarty has been seen to be full, as only has 9 spaces. Not sure if being used for active travel or general parking, picnics or camping.

9. AOCB

9.1 Laura Preston had raised question about PKC not allowing cyclists into recycling centres. Those present felt this was because of a pedestrian accident. Lewis Simpson agreed to take forward to PKC.

9.2 Tribute paid to the passing of two ByCycle members recently. Roger Humphry and David Merrie. Both popular members and advocates for ByCycle and other groups and initiatives and will be sadly missed. All agreed appropriate to arrange condolences to be sent. Kirtsy Ellis will arrange on behalf of ByCycle.

9.3 Question raised about Big Ride 2025, on agenda for next committee meeting. Ian Fraser has secured a good quote for removal van and still 3 routes being assessed. Route test rides to happen soon, let Kirtsy know if you wish to join.

9.4 Gina O'Neill asked if anybody knew of any support for a recently blind person to continue riding. Richie is involved with Able 2 Adventure and will pass on details, and Kirsty will ask Rosie Baxendale for other options.

10. Date of Next Meeting Will be Thursday 17th July and will be held via MS Teams only.

11. Close Kirsty closed the meeting, thanking everybody.