CYCLISTS TOURING CLUB, FRIENDS OF THE EARTH & ABERDEEN CITY

MINUTE

Tuesday, 4th November, 2003, Carlton Bar, Castlegate

Present:

Dave Lindsey, CTC, Right to Ride Officer (Chair)
Derek Williams, CTC
Jeremy Rushton, Friends of the Earth
Chris Yuill, RGU
Gerard Vlaar, CTC
Louise Napier, Aberdeen City Council
Dave Tulett, CTC
Jackie Wilkins, CTC
Helen Adamson, Shell
Simon Pearce, BP
Gregor McAbery, Aberdeen Environmental Forum

Apologies:

Sonia Element, BP Saville Gunn, Aberdeen Wheelers Warren Murphy, Aberdeen City Council

Item	Action By
1. Welcome DL welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Saville Gunn, Sonia Element and Warren Murphy.	
2. Minutes of last meeting (30/10/03) The minutes of the last meeting were agreed. Actions that were followed up were by LN – contacting the University to ask about a representative for student cyclists. DW has found one student who is willing to join. DW also found out more about the Highland Cycle Campaign.	
3. Cycle map working group update LN spoke of the map evening and its success. It was decided that another meeting would be necessary to develop the map. LN had also spoken to the Council's technical department who are responsible for producing maps for City Development and they did not believe they could produce the type of base map wanted. They are therefore going to ask another company outwith the Council how much they would charge. LN to get back to the Forum on this. DT also suggested digitally capturing different routes. Several other maps of other areas were looked at. The Forum has to decide how best to 'present' the map – how many colours, size, types of routes, charging for the map, recreational and commuter routes, details, etc. The production of a map could also show gaps in routes or problem spots which could then be taken to Roads Officers in the Council. It was thought that the details of the map could be decided at the next map meeting which will be Thursday, 20 th November in the Town House and that the map could possibly be launched in Bike Week, June 2004. LN also informed the group that consultation for the Western Peripheral Route would be taking place and all comments would have to be back by early Spring. Unfortunately maps for the Route are not allowed to be removed from the Council. It was agreed by the Forum that it would be necessary to arrange a meeting within the Town House looking at the maps. This meeting will take place on Tuesday, 25 th November, 7.30 pm.	LN

4. Information from other cycling campaigns

DW had contacted the Highland Cycle Campaign. They were a lobbying group which had been running for ten years. They are a membership campaign – and get contributions from members in order to generate their own income (like Spokes). They mainly concentrate on campaigning on planning issues. Alongside the Campaign there is a Council initiated Cycle Forum. They have input into the cycling strategy and include groups such as rail, bus companies and the airport. JR is waiting for information from Spokes as to how their forum is run.

5. Air quality improvement measures update

DL spoke about the Air Quality meeting he attended which discussed various issues such as education and travel awareness, public transport and infrastructure. GM suggested that cyclists could campaign for a congestion charging policy/ road pricing. It is buses that cause the most air pollution however - and the Forum should not be seen to be encouraging bus users onto bikes, we have to target car users. LN to find out about the pedestrianisation of Union Street and what measures are to be provided for cyclists.

LN

LN

6. Establishing the Forum

Membership and Profile

The Forum decided at the last meeting that it would like to encourage as many new members as possible. LN to contact the Edinburgh Bike Co-operative to ask if they would like to join. DL felt that a large pool of cyclists that could be tapped into that could contribute to working groups or write letters to the press, etc. HA thought that the BUG's at both Shell and BP could be emailed and informed of meeting times, etc. JW added that if there were any projects they were specifically interested in they could just turn up for those meetings. It was decided that it would be best to keep the Forum informal at the moment and then formalise it later with a constitution, etc – preferably in time for Bike Week, June 2003.

Chairmanship

It was decided by the group that it would be a good idea to continue with rotating Chairs until the Forum was fully established and a formal, high profile Chair could be asked for June.

Frequency of meetings and format

It was felt that the Forum would have to meet up on a frequent basis (monthly?) until it was formally established.

Priority issues and possible working groups

Priority issues were felt to be the production of a cycle map, the WPR and consultation of plans. An informal meeting will be arranged with Roads and three or four representatives from the Forum.

WM

A Land Use Forum has also been set up and it was thought by the group that the Cycle Forum would be able to contribute to the Land Use Forum. LN to find out and report back to the next Forum meeting. In the meantime LN to attend any meetings until a formal Cycle Forum representative is appointed.

LN

7. Next meeting

There will two further meetings. The main Forum meeting will be Tuesday, 25th November and will look primarily at the Western Peripheral Route and its impact on cycle routes around Aberdeen. There will also be another map meeting on Thursday, 20th November in the Town House, 7.00 p.m.