

## ***Wheelrights***

### **Notes of meeting on 23 April 2007 in Yacht Club, Swansea Marina**

Present: Don Ashman (DA), Rhian Evans (RE), Eifion Francis (EF), Ryland Jones (RJ), Neil Leleu (NL), David Naylor (DN), Geoff Wood (GW), Veronica Wood (VW).

Apologies: David Croxall (DC), Nick Guy (NG), Laura Lockwood (LL), Lynda Shuker (LS)

The meeting was chaired by VW.

**Matters arising** from the 26 Feb. meeting and not covered in agenda items.

Membership and Finance. GW advised that there were 19 paid-up *Wheelrights* members (more added during meeting) and that there was approx. £200 in the *Wheelrights* Account. This is now with the Co-op (chosen on ethical grounds). It was agreed that cheques could be signed by 1 of 2 signatories, who would be GW and DN. The alternative of 2 out of 3 was considered unnecessarily inconvenient. GW would renew *Wheelrights* membership of the *Cycle Campaign Network* (CCN); cost: £15(?). [Action: GW]

Evening Post letter. A letter from Nick Guy had been published on 23 March. It made the point that Swansea was not too hilly for cycling and drew attention to the existence of *Wheelrights* (albeit misspelt!).

### **Current Programme**

28 April Cycle training DN to check availability of David J. and will also check with Rob W. The class starts at 9.30 but a few are needed at 9.00 to prepare the bikes. Most of those present indicated they would be able to come and help. [Action: DN]

12 May ride. It was agreed that this will start at 9.30 at Blackpill (not County Hall) and the ride would be to Dunvant and back. We checked that the Bike Week Insurance covers this event. It was noted that safety advice should be given at the start and that we will need a back marker.

Sustrans 30<sup>th</sup> birthday ride: On 1 July the riders will (hopefully) be following the NCN 4 high route from Pontypridd via Neath to Swansea and will be camping by the Dunvant Rugby club where there will be a celebratory event that evening. All are welcome to join the ride; Sustrans Rangers and hopefully *Wheelrights* members are invited to the evening event. RJ to advise DN of any restrictions. [Action: RJ]

9 July ride. Confirmed: 15-20 mile N. Gower anti-clockwise circuit from Dunvant car park starting at 7.00pm and re-fuelling at (probably) the N. Gower hotel.

### **Cycle exhibition in Swansea Museum (8 June – 8 July)**

DN advised that following a visit to the National Cycle Museum in Llandrinddod Wells on 17 April with David J. and two from the museum we have been offered the loan of around 15 bikes from their collection for our exhibition. These will be collected by Museum staff. In addition there are 33 wall panels available for exhibits of which a number are allocated to *Wheelrights*. So far DN has earmarked a number of pages from the 1913/14 volumes of the monthly *Cycling* and passed these to the Museum for copying and enlarging for wall panel display. In addition photographs or other material is needed for the wall panels. DN proposed the website home page and EF photos of 'dodgy cycle infrastructure' which he would take. Also we would provide pictures of our cycle training. We should take some on 28 April. All with suitable photos or other material should e-mail these to DN at [d.j.naylor@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:d.j.naylor@swansea.ac.uk) (perhaps together with suggested captions) who will pass some or all on to the Museum for printing and enlarging. (It is understood that they are set up to do this.) [Action: EF, DN and others]

## **Bike Week (16-24 June)**

We agreed to hold another cycle training session on either 16 or 23 June, which, depends on the availability of David J. and Rob W. This to be registered on the National Bike Week website. In due course DN (with RW) would prepare a table of Bike Week events to go on our website and hopefully also in the *Evening Post* (via Nick Guy's contact?) This would include known events whether registered or not. [**Action:** DN and NG]

## **Cycle Forum/Campaigning**

Cycle Forum. In the absence of DC, our Cycle Forum rep., RJ & DN outlined what was covered in the recent forum on 18 April. The footpath on the north side of Loughor Bridge is to be designated dual-purpose together with signing and some street furniture modification. A problem involving the property developer David Maclean is delaying the go-ahead for work on the 1km length of new NCN 4 to run east from Loughor Br. just north of the A484 from where it will rejoin the existing route by the Culfor Rd A484 underpass. If this problem can be resolved in the near future construction work should start in September; if not it should still be possible to go ahead with 80% of it (with a diversion round the stretch owned by Maclean). Swansea Council (CCS) are being prodded to implement a number of other outstanding works on NCN 4 between Loughor and Swansea Bay, but it was noted that they had recently 'straightened the kink' adjacent to County Hall.

Campaigning. VW underlined the need for us to let the CCS know that we mean business (not her words). We identified three areas with which we should be involved: the City Centre (we had agreed on this previously); SA1 and the new Swansea Bay Strategy. It was decided that DN would write to Rena Owen about the City Centre and to an appropriate person in Halcrows, the SA1 Consultants, about SA1 with a copy to Jayne Cornelius (who has recently transferred from SWWITCH to a senior position in the CCS). RJ would let DN know who to write to in Halcrows. The gist of these letters would be to request that *Wheelrights* be informed of what provision has been/is being made for cyclists in these new developments and to be given a say in what is done. [**Action:** DN & RJ]

## **Website ([www.wheelrights.org.uk](http://www.wheelrights.org.uk))**

DN outlined recent changes to the site, principally the addition of a 'Links' page and renaming the 'News' page 'Various' to allow greater flexibility in its content. Evidence was produced that it is starting to serve it's purpose. DN will be pleased to receive suggestions/guidance for it's future development.

## **AOB**

Connect2. RJ described the Connect2 project in which six applications, one of which is from Sustrans, are being made for a £50m lottery award. The Sustrans bid will involve some 70 or 80 schemes across the UK of which 8 will be in Wales and of these it is hoped the proposed alternative to the Clydach pipe bridge and the new North Gower path through Penclawdd will be included. Short listing of the 8 from 14 Welsh projects is underway. See also the 'Various' page on our website. The key message is that all should vote for Sustrans when it comes to the Nation wide TV telephone poll in the autumn.

Cycles on trains. DN had on 10 April written on behalf of *Wheelrights* to his MP, Martin Caton, recommending measures to improve cycle provision on trains. He awaits a reply

## **Next meeting**

7.30pm on Mon. 25 June in the Yacht Club.

Notes prepared by David Naylor (*Wheelrights*' Secretary)