

Wheelrights

Notes of meeting on 12th June 2013 in the Environment Centre, Swansea

Present: Sarah Bennett (SB), Owen Caughlin (OC), Allyson Evans (AyE), Alun Evans (AuE), Colin Fielder (CF), Gordon Gibson (GG), Georgina Harper (GH), David Judd (DJ), Mike Lewis (ML), David Naylor (DN), Hamish Osborn (HO), Kerry Rogers (KR), Rob Wachowski (RW)

Apologies: John Cardy (JC), Claudine Conway (CC), Nick Guy (NG), Paul Meara (PM)

The meeting was chaired by CF.

1. A presentation by Georgina Harper, Sustrans Cymru Deputy Director, on *Getting commuters cycling*

In this presentation Georgina described what Sustrans are doing and achieving in and around Cardiff. She started off by talking about *Personal Travel Plans* (PTP). She explained how it works, how it can be applied to school children and commuters; how it involves talking to households, cycle training, bike maintenance and a tool kit providing necessary information. She then described techniques to achieve *behaviour change*; she highlighted the need for standards for workplaces: ie bike parking, lockers, bike purchase incentives, etc. (See www.sustrans.org.uk/cycletowork.) Finally she talked about *Active Travel Champions* and how Sustrans could support them.

A discussion followed. In this DJ queried if this work was restricted to Cardiff. She replied by describing measures to involve other parts of Wales. HO and KR noted that they were working with Jane Cornelius of SWWITCH and wondered if there was repetition. She advised that Sustrans were also liaising with Jane. That SWWITCH had an important role was emphasised. GG asked if Sustrans were working with health and noted that there was funding in this area, eg in Swansea Uni. He also emphasised the need to promote cycling amongst school children and students. CF advised that NPT's director of public health is a cyclist and suggested that Sustrans make contact with health bodies at the top level in Wales.

Concluding the discussion CF asked: 'Where do we go from here?' In response HO indicated that his organisation (Natural Resources Wales) would, in collaboration with Jane Cornelius, revise their travel plan. Clearly we need to draw on the work Sustrans are doing. As several WR members are Sustrans rangers or supporters we are in a position to do this.

2. Matters arising from 24 April meeting.

Item 1. (Matters arising from 11 March meeting.)

Bikes on Trains. DN reported that Alan Kreppell had been in touch with a Simon Vasey of DfT who advised 8 spaces on the new 9 carriage IET trains and 4 on the 5 carriage trains would be available for bikes or other luggage (at the discretion of the TOC). Alan had requested that these spaces be *dedicated* bike spaces with additional flexi-space. DN had contacted Dave Holladay of the CTC asking if the CTC could 'pull levers'. Replies from him and other key CTC people indicate that they support Alan's request, but they have not offered to take further action.

Item 2. (Seminar)

DN had attended this Seminar (on 1 May) which was attended by approx 40 CCS officers. It was given by Phil Jones, a co-author of *Manual for Streets*. Phil made it clear that this needed to be central in the planning and design of infrastructure. Following a suggestion from GG it was decided that we should write to Phil Roberts in Planning to follow this up. **[Action DN]**

3. Bike Week

Mass rides on Sat. 15 June.

DN confirmed that Byron Davies AM would take part in the Blackpill ride and say a few words on arrival in Castle Square. Chris Peregrine of the Evening Post has been contacted and a note in Friday's edition is expected; also a reporter (Chris himself?) in Castle Square. (Post meeting: a note has appeared on p.45 of Thursday's (13 June) edition.)

DN suggested wordings for A4 placards to put on peoples backs for passing motorists to read: "I 2 PAY V.E.D. TAX"; "U 2 COULD CYCLE"; "ONE LESS CAR"; "CYCLING SAVES £££"; "CYCLING IS HEALTHY" "GET ON YER BIKE". RW agreed to print a selection and bring them to the Adult Beginners Class on that morning. (NB We will need safety pins.) **[Action RW]**

Other Bike Week events

These are on the Events page of WR's website. We highlighted the mid-summer evening ride on 21 June and BHF rides on 23rd.

4. Gower Cycling Festival

Flyers and posters were on the table for those present to pick up. We noted that flyers should be given to cyclists finishing the BHF rides on 23 June. CF, DN volunteered to do this – two more are needed. DN will organise a rota: probably a pair in two 2 hour stints. **[Action DN]**

DN sought volunteers to steward and back marker/marshal the 25 rides. He tabled a sheet showing the blanks to be filled. It was agreed that he would email this to the membership with the request that they indicate which slots they could fill. **[Action DN]**

5. Swansea Cycle Challenge (SCC)

NG had been approached by Sam of *Challenge for Change* with a proposal to hold an SCC again this September. NG had suggested that we could support 6 *Try-a-Bike* sessions over 3 weeks. We discussed this and the feeling was that we could not support so many. CF would be away, DN wanted to keep September free for other activities (following the major commitment of the GCF); KR could manage just one day as he would have to take it off work. We decided to hold a meeting in July to decide how to proceed. (Post meeting: confirmed for Tue., 16 July in Env. C.; neither 17th nor 18th were available.)

6. AOB

DJ expressed concern about the lack of support for the C-2-C (Clydach to the Coast) ride on 9 June. It had not been well publicised. A way forward would be to request the Cwm Tawe cycling club to make us aware of their events so that DN can put them on the website.

DJ advised that the Penclawdd *Festival of the Tides* would be on 6 July this year.

7. Date of next meeting

7.00pm Tuesday, 16th July in the Environment Centre.

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