

Highland Cycle Campaign

Minutes of

Committee Meeting 5:45pm 17th September 2015

The meeting was held in Velocity Cafe and Bicycle Workshop.

1 Present

The following were present:

Richard Newmark (RM)	Nigel Campbell (NC - Highland Skate Parks)
Ron Stewart (RS)	Ged Church (GC-Conv)
Brian MacKenzie (BM-Sec)	Graham Tuley (GT)
Moira Broadhead (MB)	Doug Morrison (DM-Mins Sec)
Duncan Tullis (DT-Treas for Treasurer's Report only)	

2 Last Minutes and Matters Arising

- a The minutes of the previous meeting (May 2015) were accepted as a true record of the meeting.
- b There was some discussion about the circulation of minutes and it was **agreed** that henceforth draft minutes of meetings would be circulated by email amongst those attending. Assuming general agreement as to their accuracy, they would be posted on the website in a draft status and be formally approved at the next meeting. The minutes would be circulated internally by **DM** and the website subsequently updated by **BM**.
- c ATAG (Active Travel Advisory Group): An audit on A9 Tore to Raigmore by Bear had been planned. GC had been asked to contact Neil MacRae of Hitrans regarding audit of NMUs as part of this. It was **agreed** instead that **RS** would follow up at the next ATAG meeting if no further arrangements were suggested within the next month. **RS** will also enquire about the Non Motorised Users' audit at any future meeting.
- d A9 / A96 groups: no action had been taken on this.
- e West Link: the objection (**GT**) to alterations to the Great Glen Way and other NMU paths had been rejected.
- f 20s Plenty: **BM** had not yet had an opportunity to meet with Peter Elbourne.
- g National Travel Conference: **BM** had attended.
- h CTC Affiliation: No further investigation had been carried out, though BM had met Susan Forup from CTC.

3 Treasurer's Report

- a Some attempts at fraud by outside interests had been noted by the Bank and circumvented. HCC had been warned in advance and no funds had been lost.
- b The current balance is fractionally below £6070. The Committee would like to consider ideas worth supporting financially.
- c Cyclenation: It was **agreed** that this year's subscription be paid but that a letter ascertaining the level of support Scotland could expect should be sent with the indication that unless things changed, this might be the Campaign's last year of membership.

4 Highland Skate Parks

- a Nigel Campbell of HSP addressed the meeting and described the new skate board park. It has been a great success: it is free for users and floodlit with large numbers using the park. HSP now want to develop a bike park along similar lines. NC showed the committee a photograph of a similar park in the US. It is expected the bike park will cost somewhere in the region of £450000. It was **agreed** that **GC** would write a letter of support for the project.

5 Huntly Street / Ness Bridge

- a **BM** had been raising awareness amongst drivers about not parking on the dual-use pavement.
 - b The Scottish Parliament has put proposals anent parking on pavements and related matters in a public consultation.
<http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/FootwayDoubleParkingBill/>
 - c The purpose of the No Left Turn sign was to reduce the “usefulness” of Huntly Street as a “rat run”. It need have no impact on cyclists.
 - d **BM** had attended an informal Safety Audit with Hugh Logan.
 - e The No Entry sign has no mention of exemption for cyclists. This is apparently a quirk of Scottish law.
 - f It was **decided** to keep a watching brief on the situation and ask for a meeting if there were still any concerns.
- 6 Cycle Advocacy & Beaully Firth Route
- a City Partnership have produced a Cycle Advocacy document, to be launched in November, which will call for the establishment of 4 cycle loops out of town and a fifth within town. There was discussion around the extending of the Beaully Firth Route and whether the Cycle Advocacy document could be implemented in line with the Active Communities project.
- 7 A9 / A96
- b Mary & Dick Langridge had been attending NMU fora.
 - c MB suggested the need for a cycle path from the Cromarty Bridge as far as the Foulis turnoff where a Sustrans route can be accessed. **MB undertook** to lobby local politicians regarding the need for this link
 - d **BM** commented that the A96 planners seemed less flexible in the approach to cyclists than their counterparts on the A9.
- 8 Chicanes and Bollards
- a It was **agreed** that whilst chicanes and bollards have their place, the implementation of standards for positioning and manoeuvrability were important. This was raised in connection with possible changes in Douglas Row / Riverside Street. It was **agreed** that HCC should ask that Cycle design guidelines best practice should be adhered to in any such infra structure.
- 9 Newsletter
- A call was made for articles and the following were **agreed**.
- a Cromarty Bridge Path / Bike Park (MB)
 - b Velocity (DT)
 - c Huntly St. (BM) – Later changed to Walk, Cycle, Vote
 - d Cycling on Pavement / Living Streets (GT)
 - e Update on Ness Bank (RN)
 - f Cycle Advocacy (GC)
 - g Beaully / Inverness (GC)
 - h Invitation to man stand at Cycle Events (Anne Thomas)

10 Next Meeting

The next meeting is planned 18:30 in the Spectrum Centre on a date in late November yet to be specified. It is expected that Presumed Liability will be a topic.

[Note – The next meeting will actually be at Velocity Cafe on 25th November at 6.30.]

The meeting closed at 7:50.