

Wheelrights

Notes of meeting on 29 Jan. 2007 in Yacht Club, Swansea Marina

Present: Don Ashman (DA), David Croxall (DC), Rhian Evans (RE), Nick Guy (NG), Neil Leleu (NL), Mike Lewis (ML), David Naylor (DN), Lynda Shuker (LS), Rob Wachowski (RW), Geof. Wood (GW), Veronica Wood (VW).

Apologies: Ben Ball, David Judd, Eifion & Jill Frances, Laura Lockwood, Des Radford.

The meeting was chaired by NG. These notes report some actions taken since the meeting.

This was the first meeting of *Wheelrights* since the meeting on 15 Nov. 2004 when the three (Bob Burn, David J. and Veronica W.) who had run the group since its formation ten years previously, resigned. Since then it has been in "Limbo" and the purpose of the present meeting was to revive it. The following reports the discussions under the agenda items.

Aims

DN had prepared a draft of his perception of Wheelrights aims and the discussion built on this. Three categories were identified:

1. To encourage and assist new and potential cyclists to take up cycling.
2. To support the various organizations and clubs which promote cycling and cater for cyclists in the area. This includes support for the Swansea and Neath Port Talbot Councils in their provisions for cyclists.
3. To provide information about cycling related activities in the area.

To implement the first of these aims we plan to continue our provision of cycle training for beginner adults but extend this to include children, and follow this up by organizing short traffic free rides which will enable graduates of the training to develop the confidence to cycle on-road.

DN has modified the aims section in his draft for a Wheelrights website in the light of the above and this accompanies these notes. Send any comments to DN. [**Action:** all]

Programme

Public meeting: Talk by David Judd. (Subject to be agreed with him). He is free to give this on Monday 26 March (Time 7.30pm) and the Environment Centre has been booked. A charge to cover costs will be levied.

Cycle training: 9.30 – 11.30am, Sat. 28 April in Co. Hall E. car park (ie usual venue). RW advised that Bike Week insurance can cover events such as this from April up to and including Bike Week (16-24 June). RE and VW both agreed to be the phone contacts for those interested. (VW would however be away until c. 20 April.) It was agreed that the charge should be raised from £3 to £5 but that this would include participation in any follow up rides (next item).

Cycle training graduates ride: 9.30am, Sat. 12 May: A short ride from Co. Hall along the foreshore to Blackpill. This may continue on to the café at West Cross or alternatively go a short way up the Clyne Valley – to be decided on the day. (Contact: RE/VW as above.)

Bike Week (16-24 June): Our contribution to be decided.

Summer social ride: 7.00pm Mon. 9 July. A North Gower ride starting at Dunvant car park. In the past the *Wheelrights* summer ride has followed the Marsh Road), visited a hostelry and returned over Welsh Moor. We should do this again.

Publicity

Website. It was agreed that we should have a website. DN, having already drafted a *Wheelrights* website, offered to be a web master (until somebody better qualified to do this turns up). This offer was accepted. DN was given the go ahead to register a Domain Name and since the meeting has (thanks to advice from RW) had the name "wheelrights.org.uk" registered. (Outlay so far: £6.09 for two years.) The next stage is to agree the content, find a *Server* and how to up-load the material. The request above for feedback on the *Aims* section of this website draft is therefore extended to all of it so that it can be set up without delay. [Action: All]

Media: Possibilities include *Swansea Sound* and *The Evening Post*. We have the choice of placing *Adverts* or getting a *Press release*. We would have full control over the former but it would cost money; the latter would be free but we would have limited control. NG would look into Press releases with these outlets. [Action: NG] A specific idea was to have a regular – initially monthly – *Wheelrights* slot in the *Evening Post*. DC has a contact and agreed to make enquiries [Action: DC]

Flyer; We will need to prepare a flyer for in particular David Judd's talk. [Not clear who will do this: NG?]

Membership and Finance

DN agreed to hold the contact details of the existing *Wheelrights* membership on his computer. He has since been in touch with David J. who will contact Jan Burn to get these. A database would need to be set up with the addresses (e-mail and surface) and phone numbers of the existing members. As this will be linked to the collection of membership fees just who does what remains to be decided. It was suggested that GW, having agreed to be Treasurer (see below) might also be Membership Secretary, but this was after he had left!

DN, aware of the work involved in surface mailing, suggested that an annual sub, be waived for members on e-mail but retained for those who were not. This idea was not supported and it was proposed that the annual fee should be raised from £3 to £5 with £3 being retained as a concession for the 'unwaged' (and students?) [Post meeting note: I suggest a decision on membership fees be deferred to our next meeting when we should have a better idea of existing funds and our expected expenditure. I have not therefore included these figures in the draft website. DN]

Structure

Pending an agm to be held in the Autumn NG would be *Chairman*, DN *Secretary* and GW & RW would share the role of *Treasurer*. *Membership Secretary* to be decided. (See above.) The question of who comprise the Committee will be left open for the time being; ie anybody interested should attend our 'working' meetings of which this is the first.

Next meeting

Here (Yacht Club) at 7.30pm on Mon. 26 February.

Notes prepared by David Naylor
1 Feb. 2007