

Wheelrights

Notes of meeting on 20 January 2009 in Yacht Club, Swansea Marina

Present: Don Ashman (DA), Rhian Evans (RE), Mike Lewis (ML), David Naylor (DN), Rob Wachowski (RW), Geoff Wood (GW), Veronica Wood (VW).
(Apologies: Claudine Conway (CC), Helen Davies (HD) Colin Fielder (CF), Eifion Francis (EF), Nick Guy (NG), David Judd (DJ), John Roach (JR))

The meeting was chaired by RE.

1. **Matters arising** from 1 September 08 meeting and not on agenda.

None

2. **Adult Beginners Classes**

We agreed to do much the same as last year but, on an *ad hoc* basis, divide the class into absolute beginners and those who could already ride. The latter would be taken on short traffic free rides. We noted that this needed to be made clear in the advertising.

3. **Explorer rides**

We agreed to introduce some Saturday morning rides. DC floated the idea of Sunday rides based on a Sunday lunch pub stop, but since the CTC Sunday rides essentially do this we decided not to pursue this idea.

DN had prepared a 'long list' of potential Explorer rides. He would circulate this to relevant people with a request for additions and/or amendments, and also an indication of which rides (if any) the recipient would be prepared to lead. This would be followed by a (Railway Inn?) meeting to firm up a programme. Due to publicity lead times this should be done soon, ie in about two weeks. [**Action: DN & All** (ie those to be circulated).]

4. **2009 Programme**

DN tabled an outline draft programme. All were agreed that we should plan ahead for the whole year as this would facilitate publicity.

DN would circulate the draft programme, together with the Explorer rides long list, with a request for advice on changes needed. In particular NG is asked to contact John Grimshaw and Jane Davidson to find suitable dates (in April or May for JG and September for JD). DN to check with the Environment Centre on the availability of dates. [**Action: NG, DN & All**]

5. **Commuter Challenge**

We agreed that we should go for this and try and arrange it in the Spring (April/May). Options considered were:

- Oystermouth to Castle Squares: simultaneous start of cycle, bus and car commuter;
- Gowerton to Castle Square: ditto plus rail commuter; or
- a reporter doing a commute by the different modes on different days.

We felt that it would be best to first approach the *Evening Post* – suggested contact: their cycle friendly reporter Peter Slee¹ – to find out how they might cover this, and that Claudine, as our Publicity Officer, would be the best person to do this. [**Action: CC**]

Wheelrights had some years ago held a similar challenge and VW agreed to dig out the records and pass the info. to CC. [**Action: VW**]

6. **Newsletter**

DN lacked material for the next issue (No. 7) which is due out in March; deadline for copy: end February. Suggestions included the following:

- Chairman's thoughts; [**Action: NG**]
- *A new president's inaugural address*; [**Action: DJ**]
- Cycle map article. DN to draft in collaboration with RW. [**Action: DN**]

¹ I think he is their deputy editor.

- A summary of CCS's cycling questionnaire; [**Action: RW**]
- A Connect 2 update.
- An article from Claudine; [**Action: CC**]
- A ride article similar to the USA Coast to Coast article in Issue 6. Vee had the means of contacting a Liz Dudley-Jones whose trans-Cuba ride last year featured in the 12 Dec. 08² *Evening Post*. She (Vee) agreed to enquire about a possible article. [**Action: VW**]
- A campaign update.
- A photo competition whereby the membership would be invited to submit photos, the most appropriate of which would be published in the Newsletter.
- Correspondence. DN expressed concern at the lack of feedback from the membership and would be pleased to receive letters for a correspondence column.

7. Swansea Cycle Map

RW advised that *CycleCity Maps* had been contacted with a view to their producing a cycle map. This would include a detailed survey which in due course will allow web base cycle route planning. The cost will be about £25k. It has just been confirmed that WAG will fund 80%. The remaining £5k match funding will come from CCS, SA1, local educational establishments and possibly the NHS. The map will be issued free of charge. *CycleCity Maps* have been given the go-ahead to proceed with the project.

At 1:19,000 scale street names will be included with colour coding of cycle routes. The map will cover from Pontardulais in the NW corner, Pontardawe in the NE to Pwlldu Bay in the SW. There is space in Swansea Bay and/or in the empty region at the north end of the map for the Legend and other information.

As the WAG money has to be spent by 31 March there is some urgency. A draft from *CycleCity Maps* is expected in February. There will then be a short consultation period.

It has been agreed that local cyclists shall have a say on which roads should be colour coded as suitable through cycle routes. DN and RW had some years ago done this for the *Swansea Bay Alternative Travel Map* and this information has been passed to *CycleCity Maps*. All members who have views on this should let either DN or RW know either in the form of a marked up plan or by description. (If the former please surface mail to DN who will scan and e-mail it to RW.) [**Action: All WR members**]

8. Fabian Way Corridor

DN advised that on 4 Dec he had represented *Wheelrights* at a Workshop to consider transport requirements for this corridor. He noted that there were plans to extend the original NCN 4 cycle path which comes to a dead end west of the Tower Hotel to link with Jersey Marine/Coed Darcy (details yet to be worked out). He had proposed a new cycle route entirely south of Fabian Way from Swansea Docks to link up with the existing NCN 4 where it emerges from the underpass near the Briton Ferry bridges. He understands that this has been accepted. He expects to attend a second Workshop on 26 February.

9. AOB

None

10. Next meeting

7.00 for 7.15 pm, Monday, 16 March in the Yacht Club.

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

² Note: not 15 Dec. as previously noted. There was a Connect2 article on 15 Dec..