

Wheelrights

Notes of meeting on 27th February 2012 in the Environment Centre, Swansea

Present: John Cardy (JC), Mike Cherry (MC), Paul Elliott (PE), Allyson Evans (AE), Colin Fielder (CF), Eifion Frances (EF), Gordon Gibson (GG), Nick Guy (NG), Phil Jones (PJ), David Judd (DJ), Mike Lewis (ML), David Naylor (DN), Kerry Rogers (KR), Alice Saville (AS), Geoff Wood (GW), Veronica Wood (VW)

Apologies: Stephanie Cuff (SC), Paul Meara (PM), Rob Proctor (RP), John Sayce (JS)

The meeting was chaired by NG. [] identify relevant items in the 23 Jan meeting notes.

1. Matters arising (from 23 Jan.2012 meeting and not on agenda).

Item 1 (ASLs). DN circulated a document illustrating a graphical format for specifying ASL locations. Members are invited to send him suggested locations to add to it. **[Action All]**

Item 2b (Adult Beginner Classes) NG referred to the indemnity provisions for taking those who have learnt to cycle on short rides on the foreshore. He noted that just east of the car park the path was wide and there were railings on the sea side. He recommended the participants be given a short assessment and then walk this short distance before mounting.

Item 2c (Gower Cycling Festival) DN advised that a further 500 GCF postcards have been ordered. These now include the CCS logo – a necessary addition for them to be stacked in the Civic Centre. CF advised that the flyer was held up for lack of up-front ad. money

2. Swansea Cycling Challenge [3]

CF reported that the applications for grants from *Environment Wales* and *Swansea Change Fund* had been submitted on time and that the outcomes should be known on 7 and 10 March respectively. If both are successful he was reasonably confident that the balance of approx. £k12 could be raised from private sponsors – he had already identified some. The Env. Wales funding was highly likely but the Change Fund less certain. He noted that Cardiff had only about £k7 to raise for their Challenge and Gwynedd none at all! He and NG had had a very positive meeting with CCS and Public Health (well being) rep.s last Friday about funding.

In response to a question NG advised that the £k43 breaks down as follows:

1. Website development
2. Managing it
3. Monitoring and evaluating the data
4. Employing a person for 10 weeks (CTC would employ, WR advise on appointment.)
5. Road shows
6. Publicity

MC wondered if, given the experience of previous challenges, there was scope for a reduction in the cost. We agreed that there was.

3. Evening rides [2a]

DN noted that ride leaders had yet to be allocated and that CTC insurance now requires leaders to be proposed and seconded by a CTC member. He thought that a leader had to be a CTC member. JC questioned the need for this but would check. **[Action: DN, JC]**

4. Manifesto [5]

NG noted that of the Lib-Dem councillors to whom the Manifesto letter had been sent two had responded positively. DN had that day visited Lynda James (Independent candidate for Pennard) and given her the letter. She expressed her support.

PE reported on a recent Labour party meeting about their Manifesto. He was pleased to note that it supported our objectives. The Labour election candidates will be published on 10 April. He suggested their names go on our website. PE to let DN know the names. **[Action: PE, DN]**

NG announced that the Manifesto launch would be at 13.30 on 15 March at the Civic Centre main entrance. He suggested this incorporate a short ride to end in time for a Council meeting that afternoon. PJ suggested the wearing of costumes to represent countries we have links with. NG to make arrangements. **[Action NG]**

5. Rural Development Plan [7a]

DN and PJ had had a meeting with Paul Relf in Planning. This was mainly to establish contact and make him aware of WR's activities. They informed Paul of the proposed Gowerton-Kingsbridge link and learnt that he was working with Ben George of Transportation in the negotiations to complete the N. Gower cycle route. DJ expressed concern about the lack of progress on the latter. NG confirmed that we would press this at the next CAP meeting (Postponed from last Monday to a date as yet unspecified.) PJ emphasised the importance of involving Tourism in Gower developments. [Action: NG, DN]

6. Foreshore [7b]

DN explained that the event had been postponed pending an environmental assessment. PE advised that concern centred on pollutants which may be exposed by the race excavations. It was not known when, if at all, the event would be held.

NG had written to Jack Straw (see notes of last meeting) to request the reservation of one lane of Oystermouth Road for path users. The reply was that they had considered this but planned a diversion on the north side of the road instead. CF, GG, NG, DN, JS & RW had met on 17 Feb. to consider CCS's plan. They agreed that if there was to be a diversion it should not go round the back of the St Helens ground. (See p.1 of WR's latest Newsletter.)

DN had suggested that a better solution would be to put a 20mph limit on the main road for the duration of the closure. There was an exchange of views about this. GG strongly supported the idea. JC proposed that we should go for either a Diversion or a 20mph limit but not both. We agreed to this and to make the latter our aim. We would keep a diversion 'up our sleeve' as a back up. GG felt that the temporary imposition of 20 mph, possibly coupled with the closing off of a lane for cyclists, would be an excellent innovation which would provide useful feedback for future measures to make our streets more pedestrian and cycle friendly.

7. AOB

(a) Sandfields.

NG described a cycle route through the Sandfields. Checking this out after the 17 Feb. meeting (See 6. above.) he and others were invited into the Vetch Field by *VetchVeg*. A diagonal route across this field would both fit in with its present use and be a desire line for cyclists. WR would promote this. DJ noted that work was needed to give the adjoining William St cycle route both continuity and priority across Glamorgan St.

(b) Watersports Centre.

AE asked if WR had been consulted about a new Watersports Centre to be constructed on the sea side of NCR 4 opposite the St Helens Ground. (Reported in the *Evening Post* on 23 Feb.) As Sustrans Ranger for this stretch she was concerned about its effect on path users. We had not been consulted but would raise it at the next CAP meeting. [Action: NG, DN]

(c) Events on 6, 7 and 14 March.

DN and AE would be manning a Sustrans stall in Neath on 7 March, and EF and John Roach one at the DVLA on 14th. As usual these would double as WR and CTC stalls. WR had also been invited to man a stall in the afternoon of 6 March in the Morrison LC. NG was planning to attend but would like some one to join him. Volunteers to contact him. [Action: All]

(d) Liberty Stadium cycle parking.

PE noted that there was inadequate cycle parking at the stadium. NG suggested this could be taken up through SNIITY. He would arrange this. [Action: NG]

8. Date of next meeting

The next general meeting will be at 7.00 pm in the Environment Centre on Mon. 26 March.

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