

Wheelrights General Meeting

Notes of meeting on 10th June 2025

In the Environment Centre, Pier Street, Swansea SA1 1RY (and on Zoom).

Present: In the hall: Dawn Aplin (DA), Phil Brophy (PB), David & Ruth Calloway (DC & RC), Ian Davies (ID), Nick Guy (NG), John Hand (JH), David Judd (DJ), Brenda Lillicrap (BL), Alice Mander (AM), Joe Muldoon (JM), John Sayce (JS), Patrick Tribe (PT), Chris Walsh (CW).

Zoom: John Britton (JB), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), Kevin Sibley (KS).

Sophie Gordon, Cycling UK's Campaigns Manager gave a presentation entitled:

Kids want to cycle – let's prove it.

The meeting was chaired by John Sayce who, having welcomed all, introduced the speaker.

The Presentation

Sophie's talk was illustrated with a slide presentation. It was about organising *Kidical Mass* rides. She first addressed the key questions: *Why? Who? When? and Where?*

Why. To show that there is a demand for safe routes.

Who. This was about who would organise these rides. She suggested a small group which included the parents of school kids who would participate. She noted that KM rides are global; they take place in countries around the world.

When. As frequently as monthly. They should be timed not to clash with other events; Saturdays may be a problem; Sunday afternoons can avoid clashes.

Where. On roads on which safe provision for cyclists is needed. 2½ miles is a suitable distance. The roads should be central with good visibility.

She then went on to make the following points.

70-100 was a typical number of participants. Some 10 or more volunteer marshals would be needed. They should be assigned specific roles such as being stationed at junctions and cross roads. They need to be clearly identifiable.

Publicity would typically involve: schools notifying pupils; fliers; press releases (2 weeks in advance); posters; and word of mouth.

Registration is not practical so the numbers would be a mystery! The ride would start with a briefing; small bikes should be at the front.

The Council and police need to be informed a week or more before the event.

The talk was followed by questions and answers, then a tea/coffee break followed by a general discussion, the essence of which is as follows.

Post Presentation Discussion

Key points:

A Kidical Mass ride would be held in September organised by NG, JS, PT & CW; JS to coordinate. **[Action: JS]**

NG reported that the SUP to Gowerton Station (Route GP1 on NW Swansea map) was expected to be completed by the end of June. NG would organise a joint Wheelrights/BikeAbility(Wales) ride to the official opening. **[Action: NG].**

NG was organising a Wheelrights stall at the 14 June Pier Street party from 10.00 to 13.00. Volunteers would man it in one hour stints. There would be a workshop at 11.00 arranged by JB, NG and JM. Post meeting: The workshop, the focus of which was on new routes, went ahead as planned. It was well attended: 13. It achieved its objective with some helpful contributions.

Notes prepared by
David Naylor