

Minutes of the Pedals monthly meeting held on Monday 19 August 2013 at The Vat and Fiddle, 12-14 Queensbridge Road, Nottingham NG2 1NB

1. Welcome, and apologies for absence

Present:

Hugh McClintock (in the chair), Peter Briggs, Julian Bentley, Terry Scott, Tony Duckworth, John Bannister and Dave Miller

Apologies for absence from

Mara Ozolins, Andrew Martin, Arthur Williams, David Easley, Jon Avis, Roland and Hilary Backhouse, Roy Wilson, Susan Young.

2. Minutes of the previous Pedals Meeting (15 July 2013) and including checking for accuracy, and matters arising / update

The July minutes were agreed as an accurate record.

Need for more cycle stands outside the Vat and Fiddle:

Hugh said he would chase Keith Morgan about this.

NET phase 2

Hugh mentioned a phone call he had from Nadya Ahmed of the Nottingham Post about a story she was writing on cyclists and the new NET routes, which was likely to appear soon, he understood. She had also talked to someone from Freewheel who was complaining about disruption to his normal cycle routes in The Meadows area, etc. because of tram works.

Use of 'cyclist dismount' signs at tram worksites.

No indication yet of any changes as a result of the review of these signs that we have been promised, by Robert James - NCC Highway Network Management team, in his email of 8 July. Hugh said that it would be interesting, for example, to see if 'Cyclists Dismount' signs were again used in the new road closure due for 4 months due to start on 1 September on Wilford Lane.

Expansion plans for secure cycle compound at Nottingham Station

Hugh said that he and Peter Briggs would be raising this at the next Cycling Development Group meeting, on 25 September.

Agreed that it would be useful to have a track pump available and a supply of basic tools, suitably secured, as well as washing facilities and also a prominent notice board with lots of cycling information including encouragement to use the nearby bike shop, Bunney's Bikes, for repairs and servicing, etc.

3. Report on recent meetings / events by people who have attended on behalf of Pedals including

Experian Cycle Live June 2013: message of 11 July from Chris Simon, Director of Perfect Motion re meeting on 19 July

With short notice, and Hugh away on holiday, noone from Pedals had been able to attend this meeting to review this year's Cycle Live weekend.

Greater Nottm Cycling Development Group meeting, 19 July: Some points arising from the discussion on the Schemes Update

Ring Road Major scheme and cycling

Meeting with Pedals now refixed for 2 September at 10.00

B684 Plains Road (latest plans subsequently circulated by Paul Hillier on 25 July):

Hugh said he would send to Paul Hillier the comments he had received from local Pedals members.

Explore Nottingham/Rural Rides volunteers meeting, 29 July at the Crocus Café, Lenton

Julian Bentley said that he was impressed with the new initiative to manage and expand this programme.

Hugh said that in early September, after the main summer holiday period, he would email all Pedals members about this, particularly to encourage more people to volunteer to be ride leaders.

4. Finance and Membership (David Easley and Hilary Backhouse to report)

Hugh read out the report from Hilary Backhouse, Membership Secretary:

Since the June meeting 4 people have joined Pedals and 2 people have renewed their membership. Thus we now have 152 paid-up members. 29 people have still not renewed their subscription.

Agreed that it was important to chase the 29 people who had not renewed and encourage them to do so!

5. Forthcoming events / meetings

Pedals meetings including invitations to visiting speakers

no reply yet from County Cllr. Steve Calvert. Hugh suggested that we discuss at our next meeting other suggestions for visiting speakers over the next few months.

Other meetings / events

Pedals stall at Nottm Green Festival on Sunday 1 September (12 noon-6pm)

Peter Briggs said that he might be able to help but would not know for sure until much nearer the time.

Hugh said that he would send out an email a few days before the event (and when Andrew was back from holiday, on 28 August) to encourage more people to volunteer to help.

(PS to meeting: Dominic Sweeting has now offered to help)

Highways Agency Network Management meeting, 16 Sept:

Peter Briggs offered to attend and raise the issue of provision for cyclists on local trunk roads.

Cycle campaign conference (CTC/Cyclenation/Leeds Cycling Campaign), Leeds, Sat 5 October 2013

Hugh, Andrew and Peter Briggs interested in going and representing Pedals. Agreed to finalise this next month.

East Midlands Cyclists' Forum meeting, Friends Meeting House Leicester, Sat 26 Oct 2013, 10.00-4pm (including guided cycle tour)

More information next month.

6. Cycle facility and traffic management matters including

Nottm Post (26 July) item re new safety fears over tacks on paths in the Attenboro' nature reserve area and abuse of path by racing cyclists using 'Strava' apps.

Agreed that the apparent use of this upgraded path by racing cyclists focusing only on speeding and not on the safety and convenience of other path users was very disturbing. We must keep up the dialogue with other interested parties including Broxtowe Borough Council, the Notts Wildlife Trust (Attenborough Wildlife Centre) and the Beeston Cycling Club, etc.

7. Miscellaneous items

Cycling gets £94m push in England: BBC website news item of 12 Aug and my comments to Peter Briggs

Agreed that it was important to find out the reasons for the failure of the Nottingham Cycling Ambition Grant bid to the DfT. Hugh and Peter would raise this at the next CDG meeting, on 25 Sept.

There was a welcome for the announcement about new funding for promoting cycling in the Peak National Park.

Edinburgh 'Nice way Code' including 'Should'nt You Grow Out of Cycling on the Pavement?' posters: possible relevance to Nottingham

Hugh mentioned this new campaign and the storm of comments from Edinburgh cyclists, including those on a new blog as well as the comments he had received directly from two key 'Spokes' activists.

The only Pedals comment so far he had received, in response to his circulating the poster last week, was from Mara Ozolin, who said she favoured using such a poster locally and that it should clarify that cycling on pavements was against the law.

8 Any other business

Rushcliffe School (West Bridgford) planning application for new Sixth Form Centre 13/01427/FUL - encouraging non-motorised travel: request for Pedals comments from RBC Cllr. Rod Jones

Hugh said that he had been approached by local Rushcliffe Borough Councillor Rod Jones saying that he thought that the accompanying Transport and Travel report could be more encouraging about promoting cycling and asking him to make detailed comments on this, both to RBC (by 26 Aug) and to the School. Hugh said he had now had a look at the report and would be drafting comments in the next few days.

It was agreed that showering and changing facilities for cyclists were important as well as secure parking and safe access routes, all comprehensively promoted, to staff and students, and in coordination with other organisations including Pedals, Ridewise and The Big Wheel.

Rushcliffe Over 50 Forum 'Moving in 2013' event at St. Paul's Church Hall, Boundary Rd, West Bridgford on Mon 2 Sept - request for info on Pedals and cycling.

Hugh said that he had replied to an invitation from Alan Wain, Secretary of the Rushcliffe Over 50 Forum, asking for Pedals participation in their 'Moving in 2013' Open Event on Monday 2nd Sept and offering to bring along some Pedals information (though not our stall)

He said that Alan, whom he knew as a fellow longstanding member of the West Bridgford Local Traffic and Transport Group, had mentioned that he thought that there could be interest in cycling from those attending more in terms of getting their grandchildren to cycle safely than cycle themselves, especially given all the strong recent publicity for cycling.