

Minutes of the Pedals Meeting held at 7.30pm in the Vat & Fiddle Public House, Queens Bridge Road, Nottingham on **Monday, 16th March, 2015**.

Present: Andrew Martin (Chair for this meeting), Hugh McClintock, Arthur Williams, David Easley, Iain Lane, Coral Simpson, Susan Young, Terry Scott, David Miller, Peter Osborne, Roy Wilson, Spike Davies, Jo Ward (1st part of meeting), Gary Smerdon-White (1st part of meeting).

Apologies were received from: Roland & Hilary Backhouse.

Guest speaker Paddy Tipping: (Notts Police & Crime Commissioner). Paddy opened with a brief description of the background of budget cuts, but said that the Camera Partnership is useful as a specific budget for highway safety.

Cycle thefts have fallen, especially, Jo reports, at Nottingham University, where students have been encouraged to use D-locks through a specific campaign. Gary said that there has not been consistency of approach from the police. Paddy commented that Pre-crime group has taken over responsibility for advice re cycle marking and registration. Andrew pointed out the problem of poor stamping of cycles by manufacturers. Paddy suggested that this is an issue to raise with incoming government, once the election is over. He commented that similar work with car manufacturers made a big difference to car theft when he worked in government.

According to Paddy, the police are following up serious cycle accidents more carefully. Police cars are now monitored for speed and they are tracked. He was interested in the idea of further training of drivers who are caught for driving unsafely around cyclists. Coral suggested a clear sign with advice to users of the Citycard bikes. Andrew also commented on the success of training for HGV drivers relating to driving around cyclists. He also raised the issue of police not following up on use of third party evidence relating to dangerous driving (cycle mounted video cameras). Paddy is sympathetic but understands that the police are unwilling to follow up from such evidence.

Use of money from Camera partnership is currently being audited. He will send a copy of the report when available. Paddy is willing to look at good suggestions for how this could be used more effectively.

Minutes of February Meeting were agreed.

Matters Arising:

Gary has written a letter to Highways Agency covering lack of positive decisions relating to Non-motorised Users (NMU) policy. One issue is following up consultations about footpaths and bridleways cut through by new road schemes.

Haydn Road – Iain Lane managed to get some changes made to improve the design and will be keeping an eye on construction.

John Bann (the new Cycling Strategy Officer at the City council) has taken over from Chris Carter attending Cycling Development Group (CDG) meetings. Hugh suggested inviting him to a future Pedals meeting. 2 cycle forums are planned – it was agreed that it would be good to have one in the evening, and to have notes of meetings to follow up from one year to the next. **Hugh** will follow this up.

Update on Foot/Cycle bridge (Trent Lane to Ladybay):

There has been a set-back in terms of funding for feasibility study, because money from Bridges Trust is now committed for repairs on Trent Bridge. Project is long-term, so the steering group is continuing to raise awareness and get the idea put into ideas for regeneration of Eastside. 23 local groups have signed up to support the project. Survey in Lady Bay area shows approx. 2/3 support for the bridge. Any **Pedals members** with contacts in Rowing Clubs, Canoe Clubs, etc. please contact them to increase support. Peter O also

suggested involving local employers, though this is probably something for later once the feasibility study work has been completed.

Tram line audit of cycle facilities: Useful meeting on Wed 25th Feb. that pinpointed several mistakes along the route, but these are among hundreds of problems that have been highlighted from snagging. Further site meeting planned the date of completion.

Finance/Membership: Nothing to report.

Future Pedals Meeting plans:

AGM: 28 March, 10am for 10.30 start. Followed by short ride ending at Bike project open day. Susan will organize tea/coffee. Andrew will order samosas.

20 April: Lucy Hoelmer, Canal & River Trust. Discussion could include ideas for improvements to towpaths, including links to the proposed Bennerley viaduct route.

Idea for May: someone from Ridewise to talk about good practice in relation to cyclists coping with tram tracks and tramstops. Hugh is also trying to arrange for a Tramlink driver to come along.

Facilities An email from a local resident raised an issue relating to cycle lanes along Aspley Lane – unanimous agreement that the existing facility on the road is far superior to having a cycle path as part of the pavement, as this is interrupted by many side roads.

A453 – new cycle facilities should be installed, but need to be checked in time for changes to be made while contractors are still working. Where cyclists are sharing “quiet” roads, these should have suitable (30 mph) speed limits.

New cycling hub to be installed at W. Bridgford. Completion of Beeston scheme still delayed.

Centre of W. Bridgford – Tudor Square roundabout. Hugh was consulted at very short notice, but after discussion we strongly recommend not re-instating cycle lane around the roundabout. **Hugh** agreed to follow up with Paul Hillier.

Comments from Roland about the latest police cycle stickers. There was some agreement with his views that the image of the cyclists was not useful in promoting “everyday cycling”.

Iain put forward the idea of using Cyclescape as a forum for dealing with cycling issues, as it will enable members to comment on issues and issues relating to TROs and new developments. Suggestion is that as many **Pedals members** as possible sign up to Cyclescape and start to use it. It was agreed to follow up with a workshop at the June meeting. Issues to do with Cycling Ambition project should appear on a new website run by the city, but this is currently blank.

Hugh has compiled revised wish list for Rushcliffe, but in checking with Paul Hillier has been asked to revise the list to show priorities more clearly. He will now try to do this work, in parallel with further work on the bridge feasibility study.

Iain has put together a draft letter to local election candidates – he encourages as many **Pedals members** to look at this and edit or send comments. They should go out as soon as possible once the candidate lists are available. Responses could be published on the Pedals website. Agreed that Pedals will cover postage.

Meeting closed at 9.40 pm.