

Minutes of the Pedals Annual General Meeting held at the Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street, Nottingham on **Saturday, 28th March, 2015.**

Present: update Hugh McClintock, Peter Osborne, Thomas Madar, Arthur Williams, Andrew Martin, David Easley, Susan Young, David Rhead, Roy Wilson, Coral Simpson (2nd part of meeting).

Apologies were received from: Peter Briggs, Larry Neylon, Roland & Hilary Backhouse, David Lally, Andy Wood,

The meeting started at 10.30 and was chaired by Andrew Martin. The minutes from last year's AGM were agreed as correct.

Reports from Facilitator, Membership Secretary and Treasurer: The full reports are available from the Pedals Secretary. What follows are the main points.

Facilitator's Report from Andrew Martin:

Andrew's report covers the following:-

- **National Picture:** CTC continues to run national campaigns including the "Space for Cycling" campaign which Pedals has taken up locally. We are also supporting the campaign for £10 per head per year funding for cycling.
- **Local Picture:** Pedals ran a stall at the Cycle Live event in July.

Active members of the group continue to campaign around cycle facilities within new infrastructure projects such as A453 and NET, which has been particularly time consuming given the length of work and many small errors made such as misplaced signs.

Key improvements have included the River Leen route extension. A new focus has been on the proposed foot and cycle bridge over the Trent between Ladybay and Eastside.

- **Media:** Pedals committee members Hugh, Roland and Andrew have contributed to radio and/or local press coverage, including interviews for media students.

- **Working with other organizations:** We have continued to work with other cycling organizations locally. RideWise had a busy year due to changes in funding focussing on the TravelRight project in collaboration with the Big Wheel.

- **Role of the Facilitator:** Chairing monthly meetings has been shared between Andrew, Hugh and Susan. Active members of Pedals continue to be involved with other organizations promoting cycling, e.g. Sustrans.

● **Pedals this year & next:** With continued cost-cutting by local councils, funding for development of transport projects is specific to successful bids, such as the Cycling Ambition Grant. This new funding for cycle infrastructure will produce opportunities and challenges in the next year.

After 5 years as facilitator, Andrew has decided that he will not be standing again, although is willing to continue as a committee member.

In response to the national issues, Susan reported on improved training for HGV drivers in relation to cyclist safety.

In relation to local issues, Hugh commented on the lack of support from current Rushcliffe DC for cycling, e.g. development of facilities at new Health Centre and expansion of CityCard.

Another area for concern is the very slow response to requests for information and follow up of improvements for non-motorised users by the Highways Agency (HA).

Treasurer's Report from David Easley:

Stable finances, with figures similar to last year. Membership income is our most important source of funds and this was down slightly since last year. Newsletter is largest expenditure. Members are asked to check the list of those paying into the old account. There has still been income from sale of City County forest books – thanks to continued input by Lawrence Geary.

Thanks to Andrew Househam for checking the accounts. In the discussion afterwards, it was agreed to investigate the costs of producing a black & white newsletter, similar to Cyclonda. Susan offered to follow up. Hugh pointed out that although postage is a significant expense, it can be combined with sending out leaflets, e.g. relating to tram and Cycle Live.

Re-election of Officers.

Andrew Martin – Facilitator – standing down, but willing to continue as a committee member.

David Easley – Treasurer – nom Susan, sec Andrew

Hugh McClintock – Newsletter Editor – nom Peter, sec. David E

Roland – standing down; publicity officer post now vacant

Peter Osborne – secretary nom Andrew, sec, David E

Arthur Williams – minutes secretary – nom Andrew, sec. Susan

Larry Neylon – webmaster nom Thomas, sec David E.

Hilary Backhouse – membership secretary – nom Hugh, sec Arthur.

Susan Young and Peter Briggs to continue as Committee members.

The above postholders were willing to stand and were duly elected by the AGM.

Membership Secretary's Report from Hilary Backhouse:

A report was circulated before the meeting. Hugh presented the report which highlights that we now have 160 memberships, slightly down on last year, but including 30 new members over the year. Slow reduction in members receiving newsletter by post, increase in those accepting electronic copy.

Susan raised the issue of declining membership and looking at how to publicise the work of the group. It would be useful to find someone within the current membership to help with this, e.g. a regular blogger who would draw in interest.

AOB – Questions for discussion in the second part of the meeting:

Facilitator role: Given that there is still a rota of committee members willing to chair meetings it was agreed to put further discussion off until the April monthly meeting.

Publicity – David Rhead suggested that a poster in Bike Shop windows would be useful. It was agreed to use the current A5 flyer at A4 size as an interim poster. Arthur agreed to print off more of these and also email a pdf version for others to print.

There are large numbers of people using the Pedals information on Facebook. David E suggested to use Facebook likes to set up a competition for a new poster, with a prize.

It was agreed to expand regular item at monthly meeting agenda of membership to include Publicity.

Tram Routes – Andrew suggested a group of riders to take video of the tram routes and log the problems. Hugh joined a meeting last month and it is clear that there are many snagging problems all along the route. Susan raised the issue of dropped kerbs, which are a danger to wheelchair users as well as cyclists. Meeting in May – Hugh has invited a tram driver to join us, as well as someone from Ridewise.

David E offered to run a session to train others in updating the website. Hugh suggested that it would also be useful to have a small group who would review the material and remove out of date information.

Bridge – the foot/cycle bridge. The steering group are currently looking at how much work and money would be involved in producing a feasibility report. In the meantime the proposal for a fourth road bridge east of Netherfield is moving forward to feasibility stage with support from Gedling Borough council.

Ucycle – this Sustrans run project is coming to an end, with some key roles such as cycle hire and Dr Bike being supported directly by the University.

The meeting closed at 12.25 pm and was followed by lunch and a ride.

Appendix

Summary of Pedals representation at meetings and liaison with other organisations: Current and new volunteers.

The following is a brief summary of the changes agreed at the 2015 AGM and other changes since the 2014 AGM:-

- **Pedals Committee (officeholders and cooptees):**
Andrew Martin, Peter Osborne, David Easley, Hilary Backhouse, Hugh McClintock, Susan Young, Larry Neylon, Peter Briggs
- **Greater Nottm Cycling Development Group (CDG):** Hugh, Peter Briggs and Andrew (occasionally) continuing with this with Arthur still willing to come when he can make it.
- **Nottingham Local Access Forum:** Hugh McClintock (since 2012 and Chairman since January 2014)
 - **Broxtowe Transport Group:** Peter Briggs.
 - **Liaison with the NET extensions planning team:** Hugh McClintock and Peter Briggs.
 - **Stapleford Local Transport Group:** *No volunteer.*
 - **Greater Nottm Light Transit Advisory Committee:** Hugh.
 - **West Bridgford Local Traffic and Transport Group:** Hugh willing to continue representing Pedals on this group, chaired by John Bannister. Richard and Sue Mallender also involved as a Rushcliffe Borough Councillor (as well as being Pedals members as is John Bannister).
 - **East Midlands Cyclists Forum:** Hugh, Andrew and Susan have regularly attended these twice-yearly meetings, with the next one due to be hosted in the autumn by the Chesterfield Cycling Campaign or the Derby Cycling Group. Other Pedals members are of course also very welcome
 - **Monitoring planning applications:** Hugh does this on an ad hoc basis this for Rushcliffe or occasionally for Nottingham, Broxtowe and Gedling where he is sent details of particular applications because of our known past interest in certain sites. Volunteers required for Broxtowe, Gedling and City to help do this much more systematically, preferably with one volunteer for each District (Borough).
- **Notts CC cycling instructors:** Andrew and Susan.
- **Ridewise:** Andrew Martin and Susan Young

- **Great Notts. Bike Ride Support Group:** Hugh to continue.(Terry Scott represents the local CTC on this group, as well as Pedals indirectly1)
- **Sustrans:** Peter Osborne, Andrew Martin, Steve Holland and Brian Goss involved as Sustrans volunteer rangers and Hugh more generally liaises with Matt Easter, Regional Director.

It is important that Pedals representatives at meetings make sure that they have any necessary background information on the background to agenda items likely to be of interest to Pedals, or which we wish to raise, as well report back to the Pedals business meeting on the outcome of meetings.

A specific agenda item 'Reports from people who have attended recent meetings on behalf of Pedals' was now always included on each agenda, to help ensure that other Pedals activists were aware of what was being said in Pedals name at these meetings and what did or did not come out of them, and what needed following up.

It was also important to ensure that any comments on behalf of Pedals at different meetings were consistent with our statement of strategic aims, as revised in 2010 and available on the Pedals website at http://www.pedals.org.uk/pedals_plan