

Cross-Party Group on Cycling, Walking And Buses

8th Meeting

Tuesday 11 June 2019, 18:00-19:30

CR5, Scottish Parliament

MINUTES

Present: Claudia Beamish MSP (Co-convenor, chair), Graham Simpson MSP (Deputy convenor); Mark James (Transform Scotland, group secretariat); Ken Haig (LMRC/CLEAR), George Mair (CPT), Keith Irving (Cycling Scotland), Suzanne Forup (Cycling UK), Fergus Boden (FoE Scotland), John Donnelly (GoBike), Stuart Hay (Living Streets Scotland), Ian McCall (Paths for All), Roger Park (Police Scotland), Mike Harrison (SATA), Tom Bishop (Scottish Cycling) Adrian Davis (TRI, Edinburgh Napier University), Colin Howden (Transform Scotland), Chris Day (Transform Scotland), Claire Rampen.

Apologies: Liam Kerr MSP, Jeremy Balfour MSP, Alison Johnstone MSP, Chris Slade (CoMoUK), Rod Mitchell (Cycle Law Scotland), Maureen Kidd (Cycling Scotland), Douglas Clark (Elgin Community Council), Helen Todd (Ramblers), Cate Vallis (RNIB), David Giles (SAPT), Dave DuFeu (Spokes), Ruaridh MacGlone (The Bike Station), Robert Samson (Transport Focus), Joanne Boyle (Transport Scotland), Karen Furey (Transport Scotland).

1. Welcome and introductions

2.1 Graham Simpson MSP opened proceedings at 18.10, and welcomed those in attendance.

2. Apologies

2.1. These are noted above.

3. Confirmation of agenda

3.1. Women's Cycle Forum was added to item 6.

3.2. It was noted that the CPG membership application was from Scottish Cycling and not Cycling Scotland who are already members.

4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

4.1. **DECISION:** The minutes of the meetings held on 28/11/18 and 19/03/19 were approved as a good record.

5. Matters arising from previous meeting

5.1. There were no actions from either of the previous meetings for the CPG

6. Membership Applications

6.1. Applications were received from CoMoUK, Police Scotland, RNIB, Scottish Cycling and Women's Cycle Forum Scotland. Applicants, if present, backed up their application with a short statement or if unable to attend a written statement that was read to the group.

6.2. All the membership applications were approved.

6.3. **ACTION: MJ** to contact Sam Currie at the Standards, Procedures and Public Appointments Committee to update membership.

7. **Presentation from Victoria Barby, Environment Performance Manager, Scottish Parliament**

7.1 The data presentation can be found on the [Transform Scotland Website](#).

7.2 The presentation covered all aspects of the Scottish Parliament's Sustainable Travel Plan: the background, actions that have been taken and the resulting modal changes. The talk concluded with next steps. VB said they were open to suggestions for the next Travel Plan.

7.3 In addition to the presentation it was noted there was one electric vehicle with training provided and bike buddies assisting new cyclists. The Parliament were also encouraging activity during working hours, chiefly walking and cycling.

7.4 This was followed by questions/comments:

- JD suggested the use of E-cargo bikes, for example for the mail run.
- AD suggested that more detail would improve the reporting.
- GS asked about getting more survey responses. An annual all staff survey was a future option
- It was suggested that the Scottish Parliament could organise events for Bike Week or in conjunction with the Edinburgh Festival of Cycling
- CD asked about improving the bus service and whether there was bus route demand as there were approximately 2000 journeys a day to and from the Parliament and the site is currently poorly served. TB had been asked about bus information and felt there is room for improvement. KH stated there was a lack of bus info at Waverley as well as at the SP, both inside and outwith the building.
- IM suggested asking, in the next survey, what staff thought about parking charges.

8. **Next Steps from Active Travel Task Force Report**

8.1 Neither Joanne Boyle or Karen Furey (Transport Scotland) were able to attend the meeting. A statement was provided that was read out to the meeting. There was an opportunity for comments to be made, however none were made. They made a firm commitment to attend the next meeting.

9. **Holyrood-Waverley Street Audit report** - report from Stuart Hay (Living Streets Scotland)

9.1. A review of the complex nature of the issues surrounding the route from the Parliament to Waverley was given. This included the complexity of the street and street management and including Canongate, The Royal Mile and Jeffrey St. There are twelve user groups. There wasn't any consultation due to possible consultation fatigue, however previous feedback was used.

9.2. Little has happened in the last 8 years since the 2011 charette held by The City of Edinburgh Council (CEC). SH argued that the project should be part of the Edinburgh City Centre Transformation project. He further argued that it should be a *strategic project* as its the main railway station to the the National Parliament; likewise locations such as Union Street in Aberdeen and the Avenues project in Glasgow.

- 9.3. There is a target of 2025/26 to have something on the ground.
- 9.4. There was unanimity when it came to agreeing that this project should be supported. CH stressed the purpose of the CPG was to transact business. However there was only MSP at meeting (CB had to leave early) and three are required.
- 9.5. SH proposed there would be a draft by August to comment on. **ACTION: SH**
- 9.6. GS suggested CEC be invited to comment on what is proposed. KH encouraged the use of plain English in any consultation materials. CD stressed the need to involve CEC as they owned the road.

10. Proposals for date & theme for next meeting

- 10.1. Dates for the next two meetings have been set and the information circulated to the members and Parliament.
- 10.2. Next meeting will include the deferred speakers: ATTF update; Progress on the street audit from Waverley to Holyrood; Presentation by Active Nation Commissioner. **ACTION: MJ** to invite speakers
- 10.3. GS closed the meeting at 19:26.

Minutes: Mark James, 19/08/19.