

CycleHerts: Minutes of a meeting held 20th October 2011

Present: John Metcalf (Chair), Adam Edwards (Minutes), John Shead, Ian Gregory, Richard Stubbs, Robert Finney, Kate Jenkins, David Calder, Roger Bangs, Tom Spaven, Bob Jones, Anne Nobbs.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Steven Wragg, Jim Brown, Chris Whitehouse.

2. **Minutes of the meeting held 29th June 2011 and matters arising:**

- Meeting with Stuart Pile: Letter draft circulated and will go to Stuart after the meeting. Please email any comments to John.

3. **Formation of CycleHerts and draft constitution:**

- Agreed to add parish and town councils to the list of authorities. To read "... district, parish and town councils."
- Amend disciplinary wording to "...behaviour of CycleHerts members..."
- Constitution accepted at the meeting.
- Officers will be elected at the next meeting to hold their posts until the first AGM.
- Member groups will need to declare at the next meeting who has the right to vote for them. **Action all groups.**
- Agreed to invite Dave Burt, Nick Truran (HCC cycle training) and any officers with responsibilities for cycling in the District Councils to attend meetings

4. **Memorandum of understanding between Cyclenation and CTC:**

- Cyclenation is a volunteer run group of cycle campaign groups. **Action John and Adam to contact them to say we now exist.**
- They recently ran a conference in Sheffield with approximately 150 attendees.
- As part of the agreement, CTC will write to all their members in Hertfordshire should we ask them. **Action John and Adam to ask CTC to mail possible members.**
- Cambridge Cycling Campaign are a good model for us to learn from and we should ask them to talk to us. **Action John and Adam to contact Cambridge Cycling Campaign to speak to us.**
- Website: This is being created and should be live soon. **Action David Calder**

5. and 6. **HCC's Hertfordshire Cycling Forum and Hertfordshire's bid to the Local Sustainable Transport Fund**

- The major topics discussed were **traffic signals prioritisation** and the **Local Sustainable Transport Fund** bid, which has been funded at stage 1. This allows money to be spent on developing the stage 2 bid for £10.2m. The bid is called Big Herts Big ideas.
 - If we want to see any changes we need to bid by December.
 - St Albans Green Ring is one of the stage 2 plans and will at long last see routes via Verulamium Park. Consultants are also working on gaps in St Albans network.
- The Cycling Strategy will be replaced by a **Walking, Cycling and Schools strategy**. **This** combines and enhances all three strategies.
- Minutes of the HCF, the date of next meeting and the list of route developments are not yet out. **Action Adam to chase.**

6. Policy Development

- John' suggestions were discussed. Policies will need to be general county wide issues, not local specifics. Draft policies for discussion gives us something to have on the web site to encourage participation. Agreed to add to the list:
 - Safe routes to schools
 - Key missing links
 - The need for direct good quality routes.
 - Common cause safety issues for all non-motorised users
- **Action all to come up with futher ideas to work on.**

7. Items for information

- HCC Cycle resources page: This had errors and omissions. **Action all to notify HCC if errors are found.**
- **Locality road budgets for local county councillors:** Most of the spend goes on resurfacing. with about £90,000 per councillor for road maintenance. Therefore £20,000 per division is available for improvements. Details can be seen in the minutes from September 2011: http://www.hertsdirect.org/your-council/civic_calendar/hightranscp/16963196/.
- Agreed we need county wide ideas we can lobby for. We should aim for a manifesto for the county elections in 18 months time.
- Sustrans are due to appoint a Bike It officer to cover the LSTF area. It is not clear if they have been appointed yet. **Action Adam to ask Nigel Brigham or Andy Knight.**

- Skyrides: HCC is going to support getting rides in the county. Kate raised the need to ensure leaders are trained and work with existing local groups, not parachuted in. Advertising locally for Shyrides has been very poor with no signs provided. Experience elsewhere is they are not planned or organised early enough.
- HCC interest is in the Hemel/St Albans/Watford area as part of LSTF bid. Aim is to have 25 rides over 3 months. There are four levels of rides depending on length and pace. Towns can also go for a big event with roads closed. Each town is charged £82,000 to fund this from which ride leaders and planners are paid. Skyrides help reach people we might not normally reach through promotion on Sky TV. The aim is to get a lot more riders.

8. AOB

- **Herts Highways Minutes:** Noted that cycling is not mentioned very much and there was no discussion of the safe routes to schools petition despite petitions being considered. **Action Adam to ask David Burt why.**
 - **Ride on 6/11/11:** There is a Resonance FM Bike Show ride East London to St Albans, Hatfield and back to London.
9. **Date of next meeting:** Early December pre-HCF and LSTF bid deadline. **Action John and Adam. Ask University of Hertfordshire if they can provide a room.**