

Wheelrights

Notes of AGM on 22 October 2007 in Environment Centre, Swansea

Present: Martin Brain, Claudine Conway, Amy Critchlow, David Croxall, Helen Davies.
Rhian Evans, Nick Guy, David Naylor, Des Radford, John Roach

Apologies: Paul Elliott, Geoff Wood, Veronica Wood.

The meeting was chaired by Nick Guy.

Reports

The following reports were presented and are included as Appendices:

- Secretary's report on past year (Appx A)
- Chairman's report on plans for the coming year (Appx B)
- Treasurer's report on membership and Finance (Appx C)

Officers

There being no alternative nominations Nick Guy, David Naylor and Geoff Wood were confirmed as respectively Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

Other business

This took the form of an informal discussion on a number of issues.

Campaigning

At the Chairman's request David Naylor summarised some of the campaigning issues in the past year. He described events which led to a recent meeting with Cllr John Hague (Cabinet Member for Environment) the purpose of which was to get some cycling provision incorporated in the Metro Phase 2 works. An article on this is expected to be included in the forthcoming issue of *Wheelrights* newsletter due out in November.

The NCN 4 closure near the Jersey Marine junction was discussed. This was closed in late August by the Amazon construction works and initially no diversion provided. This was promptly reported and it is understood (from post-meeting information) that there are now some diversion arrangements. However it is still necessary to cross over the busy dual carriageway and there are problems with glass on the S. side cycle path. See www.wheelrights.org.uk (-> various) for a photo.

Explorer rides

David Croxall outlined a plan *Wheelrights* are hatching for short social evening rides for next summer. These will use some of the less well known by-ways (hence the 'explore') and incorporate visits to places of refreshment (one per ride?). He had had (good) experience of such a scheme in Salisbury. It would be suitable for graduates from our Adult Beginners Cycle classes who need shorter rides than offered by the CTC. *Wheelrights* working group would produce a programme. (Hopefully at our meeting on 26 Nov. – see below.)

Cycle Forum

David Croxall spoke about the recent CF on 17 October. This took the form of a workshop to solicit ideas for the Regional Transport Plan a draft for which is expected to be completed next spring. A useful outcome was that written proposals for what should go in it were invited. We intend to respond to this and will consider it at the 26 Nov. meeting.

Connect2

Helen Davies, Sustrans new manager for SW Wales, spoke about the local schemes which form part of the 79 in Sustrans Connect2 bid. These are the Cydach pipe Bridge replacement on NCN 43 and the Avon Valley link, with the N. Gower Penclawdd path in reserve. Since the meeting it has been announced that Connect2 is on the final shortlist of four. It remains for it to win the phone-in vote between 26 Nov. and 9 Dec.

Next meeting

There will be a Working Group meeting at 7.30pm on Mon 26 November in the Yacht Club, E. Burrows Rd. Any interested *Wheelrights* member is welcome.

Notes prepared by David Naylor (*Wheelrights*' Secretary)

Secretary's Report on past year

Wheelrights, having been in 'limbo' since 2005, was revived at the start of this year. A 'working group' – we chose not to call ourselves a committee – consisting of any interested member was set up and we had our first meeting on 29 January 2007. At this meeting the present Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer/Membership Secretary were appointed. Subsequent working group meetings were held on 26 February, 23 April, 25 June and 3 September. All these meetings were held in the *Yacht/Sub-aqua Club* on E. Burrows Rd, Swansea Marina. In addition a public meeting was held on 26 March in the *Environment Centre* at which David Judd gave a talk. Notes (we chose not to call them 'Minutes') were made of these meetings. A summary of what was covered is given in the table below.

Of the various achievements during the year the following are highlighted:

- re-establishment of links with the *City and County of Swansea Council*;
- the setting up of a website: www.wheelrights.org.uk;
- revival of the Newsletter. (This used to be produced by the late Bob Burn);
- production of the yellow (folded A4) *Wheelrights* flyer for mass distribution;
- continuation of the Adult Beginners Cycling classes (aka Cycle Training).

Date (present)	Summary
29 January (11)	Aims decided; summer programme planned; website proposed and other publicity planned; subscriptions agreed (incl. dropping Life membership)
26 February (13)	Publicity for 26 March meeting; content of website – now up and running – discussed; bank account and membership matters agreed; plans laid for <i>Wheelrights</i> contribution to the forthcoming (June/July) Cycling Exhibition in Swansea Museum; David Croxall appointed our rep. on <i>Cycle Forum</i> .
26 March (30)	This public meeting marked the revival of <i>Wheelrights</i> . David Judd spoke on: <i>A Cyclist's Paradise? 25 years later in Swansea and LLanelli</i> . The talk was preceded by an outline of what <i>Wheelrights</i> was about and was followed by a discussion,
23 April (12)	Decision made to (re) join the <i>Cycle Campaign Network (CCN)</i> ; summer programme considered incl. arrangements for <i>Sustrans 30th Birthday Ride</i> ; also considered were campaigning issues leading to letters to the Council enquiring about cycle provision in new developments in SA1 and the City Centre and requesting that we be consulted. A letter had also been written to Martin Cayton (MP for Gower) with proposals for improvement in rail cycle provision. (The outcome of this was a response from the Minister involved and from the heads of <i>First Great Western</i> and <i>Arriva Trains</i> . These were in part encouraging.)
25 June (7)	Proposed cycle infrastructure work reviewed: Pont-y-Cob Rd traffic calming, new swing bridge in Marina, progress on Fabian Way NCN 4 crossing, and NCN 43 pipe bridge alternative at Clydach (Sustrans Connect 2 project); response to letters about SA1 and City Centre considered: former encouraging, latter discouraging (except that it did lead to <i>Wheelrights</i> representation on CCS's Transport Forum which met on 13 July.)
3 September (7)	European Mobility Week publicity ride on 15 Sept. and Cycle Training on 22 Sept. planned; Newsletter discussed (Issue No. 1 out in August) and editor for Issue 2. chosen. How to reproduce our new flyer at reasonable cost was considered.

David Naylor (Secretary)

Chairman's Report

Future proposals and plans for 2008

1. To continue to build on our achievements during 2007, ie:
 - Participation on Council's *Cycle Forum*,
 - other meetings incl. *Swansea Bay Alternative Travel Forum* (SBATF), SA1, etc.,
 - Cycle Training courses.
2. Organise a meeting with Reena Owen (Director of Environment, Transport and Highways).
3. Organise regular "Explorer Rides" to encourage new and less experienced riders to discover and use the lesser known routes such as:
 - NCN Route 43 along the River Tawe,
 - North Gower Route
4. A "GOWER BIKE FESTIVAL" in September 2008. Initial ideas:
 - 3 or 4 rides of varying lengths,
 - *Cycle Training* and *Doctor Bike*,
 - European Mobility Week

Nick Guy (Chairman)

Finance/Membership Report

We have 37 members so far. Most of them use e-mail, so this makes contact easy and will save money in printing and postage.

£117.10 was carried over from Wheelrights' earlier existence. Most of this was from the cycle training in 2006.

The balance on October 17th was £237.61. Details are below.

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Brought forward	117.10	Rent	14.50
		Postage	22.08
Membership	165.00	Xerox	10.00
Donations	10.70	CNN subscription	15.00
		Donation National	
		Cycle Collection	50.00
Training fees 2007	155.00	Website registration	6.09
		700 copies of flyer	84.00
		Photocopying	8.52
		BALANCE	237.61
TOTAL	447.80	TOTAL	447.80
Bank balance	232.61		
cheque in hand	5.00		
TOTAL	237.61		

Geoff Wood (Treasurer)