

## ***Wheelrights***

### **Notes of meeting on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016 in the Environment Centre, SA1 1RY**

Present: Mike Cherry (MC), Alun Evans (AuE), Colin Fielder (CF), Nick Guy (NG), David Naylor (DN), Hamish Osborn (HO), Kerry Rogers (KR).

Apologies: Dawn Aplin (DA), Phil Brophy (PB), Peter Clarke (PC), Chris Connick (CC), Allyson Evans (AIE), Gordon Gibson (GG), Dale Hall (DH), Mike Lewis (ML), Alice Saville (AS), John Sayce (JS), Chris Walsh (CW).

The meeting was chaired by NG.

#### **1. Matters arising** from 11 January meeting.

- (a) Cycle carriage on trains. (Item 1d) DN had written to Ian Bullock (Arriva Trains Wales CEO) on 16 Feb. but had not yet had a reply.
- (b) Report on CAP meeting. (Item 3) Work on the Bonymaen cycle route has started.
- (c) Sustrans work camps. (Item 8b) NG and DN have still to respond. **[Action: NG, DN]**

#### **2. Bike Week** (11-19 June).

The proposed programme was discussed and modified as follows:

- (a) Sun. 12<sup>th</sup>. 43-2-C and Sustrans rides. NG advised that the 43-2-C ride would continue to Castle Square where it would meet up with a Sustrans ride and where there would be stalls, etc. Both rides would be family oriented with the Sustrans ride following NCR 4 from Blackpill. NG to liaise with Tim John and Richie to fix times, etc. **[Action: NG]**
- (b) Wed. 15<sup>th</sup>. Wheelrights-CTC ride. This will be to the Gower Heritage Centre where the film *Belleville Rendez-vous* will be shown. DN to lead the ride.
- (c) Thu. 16<sup>th</sup>. Swansea Cycling Conference. NG explained that this conference was about the implementation of the Active Travel Act. It had three themes:
  - Regeneration of the city centre.
  - Living Streets (a la Ben Hamilton-Bailley).
  - Tourism.

How it would be funded was discussed and KR indicated ways in which NRW could help.

- (d) Sat. 18<sup>th</sup>. Mass ride. We decided to change the date because a bike ride was already scheduled for the 11<sup>th</sup>. The theme of the ride would be "Space for Cycling". By means such as placards on riders' backs and leaflets we would try and get this across to passing motorists and pedestrians.

In an exchange of views KR noted that we needed strategies to cope with cyclists who might make the ride other than peaceful, and CF suggested the southern leg of the route be along the bus lane along Oystermouth Road to avoid obstacles on Wellington Street. DN liked this as it would provide greater exposure to passing motorists.

DN would take the lead on organising this ride assisted by KR. He would seek advice from others and form a small working group. **[Action: DN]**

- (e) Sun. 19<sup>th</sup>. BHF rides. No other events are planned for this day.

#### **3. BikeAbility (Wales) cycle training** (INM).

How to implement our idea that BikeAbility provides this training following the ending of our adult beginners classes last year was discussed. MC indicated that there was flexibility and that with existing arrangements adult beginners could be accommodated, mainly on a one to one basis. But this was likely to be too costly for many. MC agreed however to a suggestion that if we could gather together a group of potential learners he should be able to lay on special classes at a price they could afford. We offered to help with the training plus either a donation or subsidy to help with the costs. We would ask Rhian, Allyson and Alice (who have the contact details of those who attended our classes) to make enquiries to see if a group (Minimum five?) of takers could be formed. **[Action: NG]**

**4. Integrated Network map (INM).**

NG advised that the Council were obliged to prepare this map which would show proposed utility cycle routes in the County. He suggested that Wheelrights members and other cycle groups be invited to propose routes for inclusion in the INM.

**5. A Rhondda Tunnel talk.**

Tony Moon of the Rhondda Tunnel Soc. had contacted DN to follow up our earlier invitation to give a talk at a Wheelrights public meeting. They were keen to do this and DN has booked the Environment Centre from 7.00-9.00pm on Monday, 4 April. He will prepare a poster in collaboration with them. It was suggested that the talk be preceded by a short (15 min.) introduction in which Wheelrights would explain what they do. **[Action: DN]**

**6. AOB.**

(a) Swansea Rural Development Group. HO advised that there was a budget of £440k to support a network of rural cycle routes in Gower. A feasibility study needs to be convened which would produce a strategy for Gower (including the Peninsula). We agreed that Wheelrights should support this. HO would advise how. **[Action: HO, NG]**

(b) Re-cycle. CC, who could not attend the meeting, asked that we record the achievements of this charity which refurbishes old bikes and sells them at very reasonable prices thereby providing an important service, particularly for new cyclists. He would have it recorded that in the past five years they sold more than 3,000 bikes and that they provide evening bike maintenance classes.

He had hoped to speak about them at the recent Swansea Bay Cycle Forum but didn't have the opportunity. A link to their website together with contact information and opening times is given on the 'Links' page of our website.

**7. Next meeting.**

7.00 pm on 4 April in the Environment Centre for the Rhondda Tunnel presentation

Notes prepared by  
David Naylor (*Wheelrights* secretary)