CAMBUSLANG CYCLING PROJECT: REPORT TO CAMBUSLANG COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING – 16 SEPTEMBER 2014

The Cambuslang Cycling Project is being taken forward by a sub-group comprising John Bachtler, Neil Berry, Richard Cairns, Jane Churchill, Jim Ewing, Alison Hay and Iain McKenzie.

- 1. **South Lanarkshire Council Cycling Partnership.** John Bachtler and Jim Ewing attended a meeting of the SLC Cycling Partnership on 23 June at the Cambuslang Institute, preceded by a cycle ride through Cambuslang and along part of the NCR 75, also involving the chair of the Partnership Cllr Graham Simpson, Stuart Laird, Head of Roads at SLC, and Rowena Colpitts of SUSTRANS. The meeting itself provided an opportunity to update the Partnership on Bike Town and the Cambuslang Cycling Project, and several participants offered assistance.
- 2. **CamGlen Bike Town Initiative.** Bike Town was launched at an event in Cambuslang Park on 16th July, with a bike tower. The video is here: http://vimeo.com/101656775
 - Dr Bike sessions have been held at weekends since April throughout Cambuslang and Rutherglen with hundreds of bikes being checked and repaired free of charge.
 - Two bike breakfasts were organised on two key commuter routes NCR 75 at Cambuslang Bridge and NCR 756 at Shawfield with over 100 cyclists being recorded in a two-hour period.
 - The first bike hub has been established in a refurbished shipping container at Rutherglen Links industrial estate near Farme Cross. 24 bikes have been acquired. The hub should open in October. Discussions are still going on with Morrisons about a second hub in Cambuslang.
 - A range of actions for working with primary and secondary schools in the area are starting.
 - The possibility of a Cambuslang & Rutherglen Cycling Club is being explored. Existing clubs in places like East Kilbride have waiting lists, so there could be demand for a club in the area.
- 3. **Clyde Loop.** Good progress has been made over the summer on the plan for a south Clyde cycle path from Cambuslang Bridge to Dalmarnock Bridge. The plan has been discussed with South Lanarkshire Council, Clyde Gateway, Forestry Commission, SUSTRANS and Central Scotland Green Network Trust (CSGNT) all of which are supportive. A brief and terms of reference for a feasibility study have been drawn up, priced at £10k. CSGNT have a development fund, open for applications at the end of September, and have indicated that they would welcome a bid for funding from us. The Bike Town Infrastructure Working Group will be the steering group. Land ownership issues are now being explored and a first meeting was held with Tata Steel (the largest landowner) who are very supportive and willing to provide assistance 'in kind' in the form of steel for construction, steel sculptures, signage etc. We have written to 12 other proprietors and tenants of land along the route and are setting up discussions as they respond. SLC Countryside Access are providing support and advice.
- 4. **Westburn Link.** The planned route of a path from the Overton Grange estate to the NCR 75, for which Paths for All were prepared to provide almost £1500, needs to be reconsidered due to objections from some residents. An alternative route runs from Westburn Road (near the junction with Old Mill Street) to the NCR 75 and has been discussed with SLC. The next step is to contact Scottish Power who appear to be the landowner of the adjacent land.
- 5. **Cycle Track.** Further work is being done to investigate the feasibility of a cycle track for road-race training in the Cambuslang area; this would need to be 1-2km in length. Two options being discussed with South Lanarkshire Leisure are Peter Brownlie Park or the former Gaelic football ground at Eastfield. Scottish Cycling, Cycling Scotland and sportscotland will be contact to check the availability for funding. A project outline will be drawn up for discussion with SLC councillors and officials.

John Bachtler, 14 September 2014