
CAMBUSLANG CYCLING PROJECT:
REPORT TO CAMBUSLANG COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING – 20 MAY 2014

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

1. **South Lanarkshire Council Cycling Partnership:** As previously reported, the next meeting of the SLC Cycling Partnership is to be held at the Cambuslang Institute on 23 June, preceded by a cycle from Cambuslang to Dalmarnock and back to give the Partnership an idea of cycling conditions in the area.
2. **CamGlen Bike Town Initiative.** The first CamGlen working group meetings have been organised, with invitations to Neil Berry (training/support working group), Iain McKenzie (recycling) and John Bachtler (infrastructure). The formal launch of the Initiative during Bike Week is also being planned – locations to be confirmed. At the infrastructure meeting, John was invited to present the Clyde Loop proposal (see below) which generated useful feedback from SLC and Sustrans.
3. **Dr Bike sessions:** The programme of free cycle check-ups is well underway, with one at Morrisons (17 May) and others to follow. Extensive promotion for the Morrisons session was undertaken via email to contacts and local schools and posters in shops; 24 bikes were fixed during the session. A photo opportunity was arranged with the Reformer, with Councillors Clare McColl and Richard Tullet. Special thanks are due to Jim Bryceland of Nairnbrook (www.nairnbrook.co.uk) who kindly printed and donated a free banner for the event. Healthy n Happy and the Dr Bike programme were commended in the Scottish Parliament through a motion from Bob Doris MSP and colleagues.
4. **Clyde Loop.** A meeting was held with the Forestry Commission (Joneen Clark) on 1 May to discuss how the proposed green cycle loop could fit with the Cuningar Loop development. The response was very positive; the Forestry Commission would welcome the south Clyde route connecting with the Cuningar Loop network of paths. They would also be interested in helping us develop the woodland sections of the route. Paths for All (see below) have also provided useful advice, including contacting the Central Scotland Green Network. A proposal has been sent to the Tata Steel to explore their involvement in the project. The possibility of incorporating an industrial history trail into the route is being discussed with local historian, Colin Findlay, and other members of the Cambuslang Heritage Group, Matt Laird and Norman Rae. We are now at the stage where we will need to get a professional survey and costing of the route; a meeting is being arranged with SLC Countryside Access in late May to discuss the way forward. **Note: On advice of the Forestry Commission, we propose that the Community Council joins the Scottish Rights of Way & Access Society at a cost of £25.**
5. **Westburn link.** Network Rail are still consulting internally to determine if there are any conflicts with our proposals. In the meantime, we have met with the charity 'Paths for All' (John Duffy) who have visited the site; they are encouraging us to apply for funding (up to £1500). They have also provided useful advice on the project. It has emerged that the project site is just over the border of the CCC area; Iain McKenzie is in touch with Halfway Community Council to discuss their involvement.
6. **Cycle Track.** The possibility of a cycle track for road-race training is being explored as part of the discussions on a site for new sport pitches, possibly at Peter Brownlee Park or the former Gaelic football ground at Eastfield.
7. **Cycle events.** The possibility of a Cycle Festival in Cambuslang is still being discussed with the CamGlen Bike Town Initiative. Separately, Jim Ewing has arranged with Friends of Cambuslang Park to have a cycling event at the Family Fun Day on 9 August.

John Bachtler
19 May 2014