

*Subscriptions are due - £5 individual, £8 family. All those who have entered the Drumochter Drop are paid-up members. Anyone else should download the application form from [www.bycycle.org.uk](http://www.bycycle.org.uk) and send with their remittance to George Alexander, ByCycle Treasurer, 81 Struan Road, Perth PH1 2NJ.*

*Useful contacts:*

*Chair: Sarah Walker, [aileen843@fiscali.co.uk](mailto:aileen843@fiscali.co.uk) 01738 787302*

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## ByCycle Quarterly Meeting

# ByCycle

THE PERTH AND KINROSS CYCLE CAMPAIGN

Wednesday 26 October, 2011

Room 415 2 High Street PERTH

### Present

Sarah Walker SW(Chair), Mike Simm MS(Vice Chair/Rides), Katharine Melville KM(Secretary), George Alexander GA(Treasurer), Kenneth Ward, Fiona Robertson, Peter Fullarton, Chris Moore, Scott Peddie, Margaret Scott, Rosaline Mongan, Iain Ross.

### Apologies

Roger Humphry, Seph Beer, Lewis Simpson, Ian McConnell, Evelyn Ellis, Bill Grigg, David and Elspeth Pentland.

### Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the Quarterly Meeting July 2011 were accepted as a true record.

### Matters arising

a) **Loss of Sustainable Transport link with Perth and Kinross Council.** According to Seph Beer, the former Sustainable Transport Officer, the Cycling and Walking Co-ordination Group – “a useful forum for sharing what is going on in the cycling and walking world” – is now defunct. It was suggested that members should continue sharing their views by attending ByCycle meetings, which are also an open forum.

Sarah Walker is attending the day-long meeting at Loch Leven Community Centre concerning the physical activity agenda, and will report back.

**Sarah Walker**

b) **Publicity.** There had been front page coverage in The Hub of the Drumochter Drop, as well as an article in The Courier. With reference to the Bike Polite scheme, slap bands advertising the concept had been issued to all those who took part in the Drumochter Drop. The slap bands were kindly supplied by the Edinburgh group.

Iain Ross suggested signing up for the app “miperthshire”, at a cost of £150 per year.

Katharine Melville would call a meeting to discuss future publicity needs.

**Katharine Melville**

KM mentioned that she and Evelyn Ellis had attended the Highland Perthshire Cycling AGM, where they had drawn attention to ByCycle as the local campaigns group so should be included as “stakeholders” in Perth and Kinross cycling matters.

Ken Ward commented that the ByCycle website continues to receive regular “hits” and is now recognised by Google.

c) **Membership of Cyclenation.** George Alexander reported that although he had sent off a membership cheque, this had still not been cashed. KM would check the website.

*Note: Perth and Kinross Cycle Campaign is listed on [www.cyclenation.org.uk/groups/groups.php](http://www.cyclenation.org.uk/groups/groups.php)*

*It is also possible to email ByCycle from the website.*

### Treasurer's report

George Alexander reported that the current balance stands at £3038.02. The final payment from Fabian4 for the Drumochter Drop brought the total up to £761.40. Outstanding payments are for annual insurance and affiliation to the Sports Council, plus some secretarial and Drumochter Drop travel expenses.

## ByCycle Rides

- a) **Monthly rides.** Mike Simm reported that the rides continue, with 10 – 15 participants each month.
- b) **Drumochter Drop.** MS paid tribute to the helpful service from Stagecoach and Abbey Removals. There had been no reported injuries, and many compliments from riders who had expressed the hope of a similar organised ride in 2012.

Amongst constructive suggestions:

That if bacon rolls were on the menu in future, Mike should take orders and phone ahead to eliminate queues.

That a central lunch stop venue should be nominated so that riders could socialise over their packed lunches.

That a “pack” could be formed for those people who prefer to cycle in a sociable group – perhaps single riders – while retaining the freedom for other participants to cycle at their own rate.

The Police had not been encouraging, and had insisted that the Logierait crossing be marshalled.

KM commented that Sustrans are trying to put some pressure on Transerv to improve the maintenance of the cycle path between Dalwhinnie and Dalnacardle.

Thanks were expressed to Mike for his organisation of the event.

- c) **Summer ride programme.**

SW reported that her response from Bernadette Malone had been that the traffic revenue budget was cut by 70 per cent, so the Council “were no longer in a position to promote sustainable transport”.

Brian Gall had some ideas for future rides, but in his absence this had to be left until the next meeting.

KM reported that the Birnam and Dunkeld group probably would be leading weekly rides from May until August.

*See also Women on Wheels under Any Other Business.*

## Campaigns Group

SW reported that Roger Humphry under pressure of work and family commitments had resigned as Campaigns Coordinator. Thanks were passed to Roger for his work in the role. It was proposed that at future meetings campaign issues should be brought up for discussion on an “as and when” basis. People should be encouraged to contact the Secretary or the Chairperson with items for discussion.

- a) **20mph speed limits legislation.** SW reported that the Council had declined to send a representative to speak at the meeting. Instead the membership had been directed to read the Council’s policy document on the website. It was commented that 20mph speed limits had proved very popular with community groups. Also that Sustrans as part of their “Free Range Kids” campaign “will be calling on UK government to introduce area-wide 20mph speed limits in residential and built-up areas”. It was suggested that ByCycle should leave it to Sustrans to lead the way on this campaign.
- b) **Proposed lengthening of lorries legislation.** SW reported that ByCycle was too late to take part in the consultative process. The Government have proposed a ten year trial of lengthening lorries to 18.55m (60 feet). There had been appropriate responses from CTC and ROSPA amongst many others.
- c) **Proposed changes to A85 junction.** ByCycle would keep an eye on any public consultations. It was suggested that the St Johnston’s website was a good source of information on the present plans.

## Any Other Business

- a) Margaret Scott asked about cycle maintenance. Bike Station and Highland Perthshire Cycling were suggested, as well as more formal classes at Perth College.
- b) Margaret also asked about the future for Women on Wheels now Cycling Summer is defunct. The Committee would consider the matter at a future meeting.
- c) The subject of bike racks on buses was discussed. It was decided that ByCycle would write to Brian Soutar of Stagecoach, proposing that the organisation trial bike racks on certain routes. Stagecoach had been very sympathetic to ByCycle in the past, sponsoring free buses for the Ride to Perth and Drumochter Drop.

**The Committee**

**SW/KM to draft letter.**

**Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 25 January, 2012 at 19.00 in Room 415, 2 High Street, Perth **Seph Beer to arrange.**