

Scottish Parliament Cross-Party Group on Cycling, Walking and Buses

11th Meeting

Held on Tuesday 3 March 2020, 18:00-19:30

At Scottish Parliament committee room 2

DRAFT MINUTES

Present:

Graham Simpson (Deputy Convenor, chairing), Claudia Beamish MSP (Co-convenor, chair), Alison Johnstone MSP (Co-convenor), Sarah Boyack MSP; Colin Howden (Transform Scotland, secretariat); Helen Todd (Ramblers Scotland), Craig McLaren (RTPI), Rona Gibb (Paths for All), Stuart Hay (Living Streets Scotland), Brendan Paddy (Ramblers Scotland), Alex Quayle (Sustrans Scotland), Lara Fahey (Sustrans Scotland), Suzanne Forup (Women's Cycle Forum Scotland), Sarah Whelan (Queen Margaret University), Rod Mitchell (Pedestrian Law Scotland), Keith Irving (Cycling Scotland), Ian Findlay (Paths for All), Michaela Jackson (Gorebridge Development Trust), David Giles (Scottish Association for Public Transport), John Donnelly (GoBike), Carmen Martinez, John Russell.

Apologies:

Gillian Martin MSP; Dave du Feu (Spokes); Douglas Clark (Elgin Community Council); Stuart Wilson (CalMac); Richard Ardern (Friends of the Far North Line); Mike Robinson (RSGS); Jim Densham (Cycling UK); Cate Vallis (RNIB); Julianne Robertson (Xplore Dundee); Mike Harrison (Scottish Accessible Transport Alliance).

1. Welcome and introductions.

The meeting chair (GS) opened proceedings at 18.05, led a round of introductions, and welcomed the speakers.

2. Apologies.

These are noted above.

3. Confirmation of agenda.

It was agreed to add items 4 & 5 to the agenda.

4. Motion of thanks to Mark James.

Colin Howden (CH) noted that Mark James had now left Transform Scotland, and as such was no longer able to provide secretariat function to the CPG; CH would resume this role. A motion of thanks was passed for Mark's work over the past couple of years.

5. Videoconferencing of meetings.

CH noted that a request had been made for videoconferencing of meetings. An initial correspondence had been carried out with the Parliament, and this would now be followed up.

ACTION: CH to investigate videoconferencing of meetings.

6. Approval of minutes of previous meeting.

The minutes of the 27/11/19 meeting were approved as a good record. **ACTION: CH** to submit the minutes of the 27/11/19 meeting to the Parliament.

7. Matters arising from previous meeting.

The only outstanding item was the request for a timescale for the expected Scottish Government review of Traffic Regulation Orders. Keith Irving reported that he understood that the review was "ongoing".

8. Membership applications.

DECISION: Sarah Boyack MSP & Gillian Martin MSP were both approved as Group Members.

ACTION: CH to advise the Parliament of the new Group Members.

9. Presentations on 'Get Scotland Walking!' (National Walking Strategy).

The meeting received a joint presentation from Rona Gibb (Paths for All) & Craig McLaren (RTPI & chair of the National Walking Strategy Delivery Forum).

The presentations would be made available online. **ACTION: CH** to publish presentation online.

A Q&A session followed. Topics raised included: barriers on pavements (David Giles); provision of continuous pavement constrained by LAs' concerns regarding legality (John Donnelly); the need for 'culture change' by engineers, developers & planners (Craig McLaren); the opportunities afforded by NPF4, public health reform & STPR2 (Ian Findlay); the role of active travel NGOs in advocating the case for extra Scottish Budget investment to be invested in crossings (Keith Irving); "dangerous" shared space in housing developments (GS). This last point was contested by Alison Johnstone, citing German experience.

10. Presentation on 'Walking for active travel vs walking for leisure and outdoor recreation; overlaps and differences, barriers and solutions'.

Helen Todd (Ramblers Scotland) delivered the second presentation.

The presentation would be made available online. **ACTION: CH** to publish presentation online.

A Q&A session followed. Topics raised included: the reasons for the decline in LA-owned outdoor recreation centres (GS); the reasons behind the apparent limited levels of investment in walking for leisure (CH). On this last point, there was a wide discussion; amongst other things, Brendan Paddy highlighted the apparent disconnect between beneficiaries & local communities.

11. Holyrood-Waverley Street Audit progress report.

Stuart Hay indicated that Living Streets' report was not quite ready for publication, but would be soon.

12. Dates & themes for subsequent meetings.

CH reported that the next meetings are as follows:

- Tuesday 26 May, 18:00-19:30, CR4: Alison Johnstone chairing.
- Tuesday 1 September, 18:00-19:30, CR4: Claudia Beamish chairing.

The final meeting of the year would be held in November, at a date yet to be confirmed; this meeting would be chaired by GS.

It was proposed by Lara Fahey & Suzanne Forup that the May meeting be held on physical accessibility issues. It was proposed by Stuart Hay that the September meeting include a presentation on the completed Holyrood-Waverley Street Audit. It was proposed by GS that we seek the transport or environment ministers to speak at either the May or September meetings.

ACTION: CH to secure speakers for the May & September meetings.

Minutes prepared by CH, 11/02/20.