# Dundee Cycling Forum

## Meeting
## 31st March 2025 6.30pm-8.30pm
## Meadowside St Pauls Church, Dundee

## Participants

**Present:**
Catherine Wykes
David Wykes
Donald Baddon
Jenny Baddon
Steve King
Ralph Coats - Dundee Wheelers
Richard Sandeson - Kinross Cycling Club and St Andrews Space for Cycling
Angela Cantali
Russell Pepper

**Apologies:**
Jojo Neff
Valentine Scarlett
John Whyman
Jonathan Simpkins
Alice Turpie
Graham McBain
Peter Clinch

1. ## Welcome and Apologies
   CW - Welcomed all to the meeting, which is her first as new chair of the DCF. As there were a few new faces, she suggested a round of introductions.

2. ## Address by new chair
   CW - Read out appended address and noted she is keen to focus on the constitution, which will be moved to a more prominent place on the website. ACTION - DW

   DB - Noted that the main difference now is DCC has a Sustainable Transport Delivery Plan (STDP). However, it is funding dependent. Great if the funding come, not otherwise. He noted that organisations such as Cycling Scotland have had their funding cut significantly (60%) this coming financial year. Also that in 2018 a similar project to the active freeways (Northern Links) was proposed but due to internal differences at DCC, these did not progress.

## 3. Minutes of last AGM

DB - proposed the minutes
DW - seconded the minutes

## 4. Task Groups

a. **Planning Group**

Riverside McDonald's - there's a consultation (more of an information dissemination event) on 16th April from 3-7 at Bonar Hall.

RP explained the development has already been approved. DCF may look to protest the development outside the consultation. Could join forces with other groups who are similarly-opposed to the development e.g. the Palestinian Solidarity Campaign (PSC).

ACTION - EVERYONE TO CONSIDER THIS.

There was general discussion about how the planning team functions. The DCF used to object to and speak at committee meetings on every objection that made it to those meetings, but now the process of commenting has been internalised with the Planning team receiving comments on any relevant planning apps from the Sustainable Transport Team as part of a holistic response from Sustainable Transport and Roads.

DB - Due to this, there is now far less need for the planning team to comment as frequently and comprehensively as previously.

RP - Despite this, there is still value in the DCF commenting on the more important applications.

DB - DCF used to be on a weekly email list but no more.

RP - Will send the DCF an email address that they can request to be included in the weekly list. ACTION -RP

b. **Campaigning and Engagement Group**

i. CW - had a Breeze ride with Cllr Short. Had an enjoyable ride and discussed cycling issues including "Pedal to the Pitch" - an initiative to get more folk cycling to football games (professional or amateur). ACTION - CW - CONTACT PTTP
ii. Chicane barrier at grange road - is being looked at by DCC and Angus. DCF can report any inaccessible barriers they come across to DCC and they will look at removing/redesigning them

iii. Tom Johnston Rd. DB - said that he had contacted DCC about improving the Green Circular as it crosses the road there. DW - Sustrans had said that what they are doing with their network is accepting they can not go anywhere else sometimes and so must improve upon what they already have - much like what needs to be done here.

iv. DCF Can campaign with Cycliung UK and Cycling Scotland on issues. DCF are keen on getting a stall at the Cycling Scotland Conference and are making enquiries about this.

c. **Communications Group**

i. Comms Strategy

1. Social Media

Agreed that the DCF are happy to put out/share any positive news stories re: anything DCC are doing.

SK - Twitter updates - he has requested a download of the data from Twitter to archive the account and deactivate it (not close it, as it would leave the account name available for someone else). He has also run the "Skybridge" plugin to find accounts that DCF were following on Twitter, but on Bluesky. Some general discussion around some irrelevant accounts that the DCF were following and that they are no longer following them on Bluesky.

General discussion around different social media platforms and their value e.g. Facebook is far mor local than Bluesky, and Instagram is obviously a very visual platform and so may attract more creative people. Instagram, however, is more work to gain traction on with an algorithm and the push for reels.

2. Internal Comms

CW - Nobody uses Slack anymore. DB noted that it requires a subscription to keep content, otherwise it's deleted after a relatively short timeframe. Decided to use a "Whatsapp Community" instead. The community will allow each team (planning, events etc) to have their own group all under the DCF "community" umbrella. Anyone who is interested or is in any of the DCF teams/groups, please message Catherine on 07986246144.
ACTION – ALL

3. Local Press

CW - Local press can be very good. e.g. PJ Meiklam at DCT ran a very good article recently. He's in editorial and is keen to run good-news cycling stories.
CW is going to a Courier Subscribers' event soon to do some networking.

d. **Treasurer and Fundraising**

SK - Is making progress with removing John Whyman from the bank account and adding Catherine Wykes. The documents are currently with David Martin to progress.
There's ~£1000 in the account with a regular £5/month foundation from an anonymous donor.

e. **Events group**

CW - Need to think about future events. Not enough folk at the meeting this evening but would be good to go away and think about what can be done, e.g:

- Could Kidical Mass be a larger, annual event? Needs buy-in from parents/guardians. DCF could go to schools to promote the idea and get families interested.
- Something in the summer, in a visible location Slessor, Waterfront, City Sq?
- Just a fun thing like a pump track, smoothie bike etc?
- Tagging onto other events is a good idea

ACTION - ALL - THINK ABOUT EVENTS

## 5. **AOCB**

a. Cycling Scotland Conference
Will be at the Apex on 10th September.

b. She Pedals Scotland
Cycling Scotland will be sponsoring which is a campaign to get as many women and girls on bikes as possible. Eveny is on the 14th June and it would be good for the DCF to tie into this.
RC - Dundee Wheelers could help - there was a team who organised a ride for International Women's Day who may be interested.
ACTION - RC and CW to liaise on this point.

She Pedals Scotland ties in with "My Ride our Right", a campaign to reduce the gender gap in cycling. Currently a far lower proportion of women cycle due to a variety of factors, mainly safety-related. CW has a Teams call on this campaign and will report back.
ACTION - CW TO REPORT BACK ON TEAMS CALL

c. DCF to join Changemakers' Hub.
CH is a network of organisations that are all working towards better social and climate justice, primarily. DCF can join as a free member. All agreed - CW will join the DCF up.
ACTION - CW TO GET DCF TO JOIN THE CH

d. DW - Question for RS re: the path between St Andrew's and Guardbridge - what's happening? RS - Will be resurfaced but was delayed as they did not want to do it at the same time as the other roadworks at Guardbridge. Also they are looking at re-routing. DB - There's a restrictive barrier at the Tayport entrance to Tentsmuir. He contacted Sustrans a while ago about this and they don't seem to want to know. The route should be accessible. RS - unfortunately the route isn't very accessible anyway due to the surfacing. DW - perhaps they should remove this stretch of the NCN from their list.
RP ACTION - CONTACT NCN TEAM AT SUSTRANS TO SEE WHY THIS HASN'T BEEN REMOVED/REDESIGNED

## 6. **Date of Next Meeting**

Next meeting Monday 19th May. Meadowside St Paul's Church 6:30pm.
ACTION – RP TO CONTACT JENNY/CLAIRE TO BOOK ROOM.

Positions:-

- Chair/Facilitator – **Catherine W**
- Vice Chair/Facilitator – **David M**
- Secretary – **Russell P**
- Treasurer – **Steve K**
- Communications/Website Team – **Steven K, Valentine S, Donald B, Alice T, Catherine W, David W**
- Event Planning Team – **Trudy C**, **John W**, **Donald B, Jojo N, David M, Peter C, Valentine S.**
- Campaigning and Engagement – **Donald B, Valentine S, David M, Graham MacB**
- Planning Applications Team – **Trudy C, Donald B**

Actions

| **What** | **Who** |
|---|---|
| Move constitution to prominent location on website | David W |
| Consider a presence outside the McDonald's consultation | Everyone |
| Send DCF an email address at planning to get on the weekly list | Russell P |
| Contact Pedal to the Pitch | Catherine W |
| Message Catherine W on 07986246144 to get on the WhatsApp groups | Everyone |
| Think about possible events | Everyone |
| Liaise re: She Pedals Scotland | Catherine W and Ralph C |
| Report back on She Pedals Scotland Teams call | Catherine W |
| Join Changemakers' Hub | Catherine W |
| Contact Sustrans about NCN barrier at Tentsmuir/Tayport | Russell P |
| Book room for next meeting | Russell P |