

RESOURCES GROUP NOTE OF 01.12.16 MEETING

- These notes may include any relevant developments subsequent to the meeting
- They also include some notes from earlier meetings, if still relevant

Present: Judy, Dave, Martin [a select meeting!] **Apols:** David, Mies, Paul, Rosie [also Martyn away till Jan 3]

Festive Resources Group meal

- *Thurs 5 Jan* Provisionally 6.30 at Tanjore – same place as last year. **Judy** will book. Please let her know if you can come (**Dave** will email Resources & database people separately about this).

Next Resources Group meeting

- *Tue 10 Jan or Thurs 12 Jan, 7pm*, at Martin's house. **Dave** to email Resources to finalise date.

Google Calendar reminder... Spokes dates calendar by Martin <http://tinyurl.com/SpokesCalendar-v1>

A. RELEVANT NON-SPOKES MATTERS

- *Dec 8* – St Martins get-together for hall users, 5.30-6.30. **Judy** to attend. Anyone else welcome to go too – mince pies and “something warm to drink” will be provided

B. STALLS - Anyone who can help at stalls please contact Mies or the person shown.

- **Farmers Market** dates - 10/12
- *Feb 16 or 17* **Ed Uni Student Assn Green Festival** [also Sat 18 infra tour by Planning Group/Martin]

STALLS FUTURE/ GENERAL

- **Mies** has taken over as main stall organiser, with Martyn away a lot including Oct 24-Jan 3. **Dave** included in Spokesworker a request for assistant stall organiser to work with Mies, but no volunteers. Repeat request again in next email circular? Or **Mies** to ask the list of people who ticked stall help?
- **Stalls review meeting** – **Mies** to organise a stalls review meeting in January, including to discuss...
 - *purpose of stalls* and whether/how to prioritise
 - *content/ materials* for stalls
 - *Stall helpers instruction sheet* – Judy said useful to update to answer difficult common questions – e.g. complaints about cyclists on towpath [on that question (1) give them shared paths flyer (2) say we have been pressing council for bike facilities on parallel roads to encourage faster cyclists to go there].

C. STALL & OFFICE MATERIALS

- **Mudguard Stickers** – now arrived
- **Spokes map on office wall** – **Goff** investigating methods of fixing without wall damage – we agreed simple fixing rather than framing.

D. SPOKES PUBLIC MEETINGS [twitter hashtag #SpokesMtg]

- **Autumn 2016** – *Benefiting Business through Cycling, Thurs Nov 10, Augustine United.* Successful meeting, lots of potentially useful contacts made. Several people have as a result contacted David re setting up a BUG at their workplace. Also good to get Chamber of Commerce exposed to the level of interest in cycling as transport mode. [Report](#) on website.
- **Spring 2017** – Council elections hustings, April 6 at Augustine United. **Martin** organising. Booking extra room so we can easily fit in 5 discussion groups. Three speakers already, Con and LibDem still awaited...
 - Green – Cllr Nigel Bagshaw
 - Lab – Cllr Maureen Child
 - SNP – Cllr Adam McVey
 - *Note* - Date of election is Thurs 4 May.

- **Possible future topics -**
 - *June meeting* – probably policies of the new council
 - *Any meeting* [suggested by Ian] – Cycling for all ages & abilities. e.g. speakers from a school, from Ageing Well, from ABC (all-abilities) and a relevant senior councillor.

E. SPOKES MAPS

- **Shop/ bulk sales** - Peter Hawkins has taken over from Ian Maxwell.
- Edinburgh edition on **new base map** (XYZ) to allow electronic version - no likelihood any time soon.
- 3rd **Glasgow edition** was paid for by the council, 12500 copies, and is available free (on ordinary paper). We have now discovered that Glasgow Council will post out copies free on request, so Dave has put this on our website maps page, and Council is to send us a small supply (more can be requested). Development of an electronic version and a paid-for printed water/tear-resistant version is currently on hold as Ian is very short of time.
- **Old Glasgow paper maps.** We can't really sell these given the above. **Judy** to find out how many are left. Probably to be pulped (unless we can identify a company who take old maps to make into products).
- **Longer term spokes maps future** unclear as Ian very busy at work and Tim unsure about doing future maps. On the other hand, David Gardiner has come in and done a lot on the reverse of the new Edinburgh map. May be a meeting of the maps group to discuss – **Dave** to contact maps group.
- **Employer initiative** - Grant of £2500 towards map obtained from Edinburgh Council, in exchange for which we promised copies for the Council (for schools or employers) and that we would run an employer initiative. **David** liaising with Judith on this. 50 flat copies now delivered to Council (probably will to be pinned up in all schools); and employer bulk offer has now been included in a Council sustainability newsletter to employers, notifying of our bulk prices – orders to the maps@.. address, handled by Peter. If no or few orders result we could email Chamber of Commerce, Essential Ed and FSB to see if they would include the notice in newsletters to their members.
- **Surplus existing Ed maps** Approx 400-500 remaining copies – need to find a good use for them without jeopardising sales of the new map. Offer to schools for use in classes [now on website](#). **Mies** is main organiser, with **Martin** helping delivery – but hope can mainly deliver mainly c/o Council. Dave has tweeted the offer to all schools for which he has addresses (about 15 each primary & secondary). Unlike with our Midlothian surplus, there was not much takeup from the tweet. **Mies** to contact other schools by email and/or via council (Mark Symonds?). So far, only two lots of 20 supplied? **Mies** to keep a note of what recipients say they will be used for. **Judy** to get the maps to the office from store and from Tim.

F. SUMMER COMPETITION 2017

- Agreed Judy suggestion, **Simple cycling improvements** - simple improvements, by Council or others, at low cost, to improve existing everyday journeys and/or encourage more people to cycle.

G. TRAFFIC COUNT

- **Barbara** organised for Tues 15 November. [Report](#) on website including some new photos.

H. MOTORIST AWARENESS CAMPAIGN – 'BIKE ALERT'

- *Video & leaflet* at www.spokes.org.uk/videos. In total ~3000 leaflets used at schools events, 2000 in mailout; 5000 remaining.
- *Other uses* – driving schools, car hire offices, police rehab, etc, etc, being discussed by **Martin & Mies**. **Mies** looking out previous database of such addresses [but now rather old] and **Martin** to take leaflets round to a few such bodies to get a feeling for likely levels of interest/non-interest. Wary of offering to provide speakers unless we can find a panel of a few potential speakers, e.g. from the schools event volunteers.
- Possible article about the Schools events/ Bike Alert project etc for website – **Martin & Mies** to do a draft.

J. SAFETY GROUP

- **Martin** considering setting up a Safety group, now that a good number of Spokes members have been involved at the 6th former sessions and interested in some continuing involvement. Major aims would be to promote safer cycling in a positive way, not making cycling look dangerous, and trying to influence council, police, etc, to use similar approach. The group could also get involved with police / streets ahead initiatives, working with Resources on stall staffing and other overlapping matters.
- Ben Bate (Spokes presumed liability person), Donald Urquhart (Cycling UK) and Brenda Mitchell (Cycle Law Scotland + Roadshare Presumed Liability campaign), Bruce Whitehead (journalist and activist) interested in a group.
- **Martin** has emailed CEC Road Safety Team (Allan Hoad, Caroline Warhurst from Edinburgh Police's contact), Police Scotland (Edinburgh - Dominic Doyle (PC?) who went to West Midlands to look at their Safe Passing initiative) and Living Streets (Stuart Hay) to talk about their activities and how we might work together. No replies yet? *For reference* – the officer (Inspector?) responsible Scotland-wide for vulnerable road users is Vinnie Fisher.
- Martin went to one of the [Edinburgh Uni / police "Be Bright, Be Seen" events](#) to get a feeling for them (no stalls). Streets Ahead (CEC road safety project) also involved. Lots of free lights were given out – many new students don't realise how dark it can be apparently! We agreed it is vital for cyclists to be aware of road dangers, but need to avoid suggesting cycling is particularly dangerous, and also need to tackle the source of the problem not just the victims. Martyn had done stalls last year and thought it worthwhile.
- Hi-Viz discussion ... it seems a common-sense precaution but evidence is remarkably thin [e.g. [West Midlands police blog](#)] so must not be promoted in a way that makes cyclists over-confident of being seen.
- *CEC Streets Ahead* - **Martin** trying to find out why we are not invited to participate in Streets Ahead planning meetings (Mies used to attend). Mies thinks similar meetings with outside representation may no longer happen at all because 2 key enthusiastic personnel left (Steven Murrell & ?police person).
- Martin met someone interested in starting a campaigning ('spokes?') group at Ed Uni. **Dave** to send Martin a scan of previous 'UniSpokes' – 1979!!
- [later thought] Another possible project that could be considered by such a group would be Bill Neilson's suggested project – identification of traffic offences [Resources Gp notes of 6.11.13].

K. 40TH ANNIVERSARY - 2017

- **Mies, Martin, Rosie, Martyn** to form a subgroup to develop & progress ideas. Anything involving a lot of work should only be done if to be seen by lots of people, to be worthwhile effort. Suggestions...
 - **Scottish Parliament reception** – suggested by Ian M. Would be great but could be a lot of organising, to get displays, invite relevant people, etc. Need to ask well in advance via a supportive MSP – Alison Johnstone MSP the obvious one now that Sarah Boyack is not there. **Martin** to discuss this with Ian. **Dave** to ask Alison Johnstone provisionally if it might be possible.
 - Or **Council reception** – as for previous anniversary – 25th? 30th? Must ask well before, via councillor.
 - **Exhibition** as we had for 25th anniversary, touring Edinburgh libraries and other public outlets. A lot of work, but seen by many people. Mies was involved in previous exhibition, with Euan Renton.
 - **Public meeting** celebrating the history. Could be one of our regular public meetings, or additional. Martin was involved in an anniversary meeting in Bristol, but a lot of work for relatively small number of people, 25ish. If we have an exhibition it could also be displayed at a public meeting.
 - **Minimal effort option** – Just have a pub evening, booking a pub room – possibly combine with AGM.
 - **Video documentary** of Spokes history/ achievements/ lessons – **Rosie** to investigate college/uni student project possibilities.

Discussion ended here at Dec 1 meeting.

L. SUPERMARKETS PROJECT

- Postponed meantime. Offer from Joe Taylor, who works for Cockburn, to get involved – invite him next time we discuss this? **Dave** to contact Iain re whether he would like to pass this on.
- **Iain** had circulated email with 2nd version of draft good practice guide some time ago. Once we are closer to being ready to use it and reasonably happy with the content we'll ask David Gardiner or Tim if they have time to do a professional layout.

- **Aim of the good practice guide ... to be used as follows ...**
 - to enable members to lobby their local shops/supermarket, as an individual on their own initiative.
 - to contact local regional managers of all supermarket chains, with the aim to find at least one willing to undertake an exemplary project covering all their stores – this would need one or more people within Resources Group (or other in Spokes) to take this on. The person could then potentially also work with locals from the above bullet point.
 - Note that this is an innovative project for which we could almost certainly get grant assistance if necessary if we decide to take it further in a ways that needs significant funding, as we did with the tenements project – e.g. Sustran or Cycling Scotland or SCSP cash (via Ed Council). This might be particularly helpful if any supermarket chain takes up the project and works with us, or if we organise local members lobbying their stores on a wide scale.
- **Report on our initial survey** is online at spokes.org.uk : documents : spokes projects : supermarkets or click here www.spokes.org.uk/documents/papers-documents/supermarkets-project.
- See minutes of 15.3.16 for initial Good Practice Guide ideas, mostly now in Iain's draft.
- Peter Hawkins had also done a supermarket survey as his Competition entry. [Now on our website](#).

M. AGM / MEMBER MEETING

- Postpone till 2017 due to amount of activity at present. Could be 30 mins before a public mtg, as before, or separate members' meeting, e.g. in a pub room, with business/discussion/, then general chat/ socialising.
- If there is a 40th anniversary public or members meeting, as above, an AGM could precede it.

N. SPOKES STATUS

- AGM in 2015 set up working group of Paul, Ian, Sandy, Dave [with power to coopt others] to progress Spokes becoming a SCIO <http://www.scvo.org.uk/setting-up-a-charity/decide-on-a-structure/scottish-charitable-incorporated-organisation/>
- Spokes objectives modifications to suit SCIO circulated to members, with no feedback except punctuation etc, so we can use these. Dave met SCVO for advice re modification of model SCIO constitution.
- There are 2 models: single tier (trustees only); 2-tier (members + trustees).
 - **2-tier** - most traditionally democratic, powerful members' AGM, and the model we had expected. However, has disadvantages, with an organisation like ours of 1000+ members. Legal requirement to give out names of all members on request by a member; databases must be updated within 28 days (we don't achieve that); must keep all names/addresses for 6 years; all members have certain legal duties – e.g. to ensure organisation sticks to its objectives; etc.
 - **Single-tier** – structure more like many charities, e.g. Sustrans, with trustees and supporters (not members in the SCIO sense of that word) and more like we operate now. Trustees could include any of the people active in spokes, depending on how we drew up the constitution.
 - In either case trustees do have some liability but much less than actively involved individuals have now
 - Resources had a clear preference for the single-tier model because of the above 2-tier disadvantages. **Dave** to try and edit the single-tier model constitution to tie in with our practice, and will report to the working group & AGM about the single-tier preference.

P. ONLINE JOINING AND RENEWAL

- **Clair**, computing adviser at Ed Uni, hopes to do this. Further delay as the proposed software GroupSpaces now no longer has technical support. Dave, Christine, Sarah to meet Clair once there is further progress.
- Meantime we will try to set up a paypal button on the site. **Paul+Stuart** looking into this.

Q. OTHER TOPICS TO REVISIT AS AND WHEN POSSIBLE

- **Traffic Count** – May and November
- **Current topics** flier for stalls
- **Possible research projects** [details in 6.11.13 notes] – census ideas; valuation of cyclist time; identification of traffic offences.
- **Improved website accessibility**, possibly different front end like LCC. All agreed, but might need a professional. Danger of losing existing links – many pages have cross-links, since Spokes info is more web-like than tree-like. + Council and others link to some of our web pages. Most info is findable via either the 'cloud' or search box. Mtg to be held to discuss [new member Adam Shepherd to be invited].