

# RESOURCES GROUP NOTE OF 2.02.17 MEETING

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

**Present:** Mies, Judy, Paul, Rosie, Dave, Martin, David, Joe (Taylor). **Apols:** Martyn

## **Next meeting**

- Weds Feb 15, at St Martins, 7pm. Will include envelope labelling for mailout, which is to be Sat 25 Feb.

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

## **A. RELEVANT NON-SPOKES MATTERS**

- CEC 20mph communications steering group, 22.2.17. **Martin** to attend and confirm to them.

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

- *Feb 25, March 25* **Farmers Market**
- *Feb 17* **Ed Uni Student Assn Green Festival** [also Sat 18 infra tour by Planning Group/Martin]. Due to a mix-up by EUSA the 17<sup>th</sup> is now their food stalls day, but that should give us a new audience! **Dave** to print some copies of our cycling recipes leaflet on coloured paper to stand out at that stall.
- *Mondays Feb 6 (central), 13 (West - Wester Hailes), 20 (North Ed), 27 (East - craigmillar)* **Ed Council Locality planning exhibitions** – we are sending a person to set up spokes materials at these exhibitions 9-10.00 and stay for launch 10-11 by local councillors – chat to councillor about cycling if possible, so they know of the spokes presence.
- **Ed Council roadshow for local businesses green coordinators** – possibility of us having a stall here – **David** to find details of what/when. General feeling it would be good to try this once if feasible.
- **EdFoC week** – see below.

### **STALLS FUTURE/ GENERAL**

- **Mies** has taken over as main stall organiser. Martyn cannot attend Resources Group at present due to looking after mother in London. **Dave** included in Spokesworker a request for assistant stall organiser to work with Mies, but no volunteers. Will repeat request again in next email circular but **Mies** possibly to ask the list of people who ticked stall help.
- **Stalls review meeting, Tues 7 Feb** – **Mies** organising. All stall volunteers or potential volunteers welcome. Topics include...
  - *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** – n/a currently

## **D. EDFOC WEEK, June 9-18**

- **Bike Breakfast** Thurs June 15 (due to WCCC conference on Weds). Council agreed. **Mies** organising – will book into EdFoC programme.
- **Public meeting** – see below – need to book into EdFoC programme once details fixed
- **Other Spokes events??** Resources Group members to think if anything else. Also **Martin** will raise at Planning Group – possible infrastructure tour?
- **Spokes sponsorship** - Agreed we would offer to be an EdFoC sponsor on same conditions as last year. **Dave** to contact Kim.

## E. SPOKES PUBLIC MEETINGS [twitter hashtag #SpokesMtg]

- **Spring** – Council elections hustings, **April 6 at Augustine United**. **Martin** organising. Booking extra room so we can easily fit in 5 discussion groups. *Note* - Date of election is Thurs 4 May.  
Green – Cllr Nigel Bagshaw, Lab – Cllr Maureen Child, SNP – Cllr Adam McVey, Con – Cllr Nick Cook, LibDem – no reply yet – **Dave** to contact Inverleith candidate who followed spokes on twitter.
- **June – EdFoC week public meeting** – if possible Thurs 15, same day as bike breakfast. Second choice Monday 12. **Martin** organising. If poss, theme of reducing road danger, with speaker from police re. introducing the West Midlands 'closepass' initiative in Scotland. Possible other speakers ...
  - road justice – Donald Urquhart??
  - presumed liability? – Brenda Mitchell? But had a speaker from Cyclelaw at our health meeting
  - a councillor on the council Police Board?
  - 20mph speaker? from council? or govt official? Or Living Streets?
  - Other ideas??NB - Police speaker likely to be main attraction – if they won't come, need to change topic??
- **Possible future topics** -
  - *Autumn meeting* – probably policies of the new council – new Council Transport Convener
  - *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.

## F. SPOKES MAPS

- **Maps group meeting held.** Decisions on future editions –
  - **Polyart** – all new editions will be on polyart (and hence price rise by £1)
  - **Edinburgh** (2016) map selling well. New edition probably needed in 18 months or so. Big problems about what base map to use. **Joe** says Ed Uni social history map (MESH?) may be suitable – **Dave** to put Joe in contact with David Langworth of maps group, who is our Ed map cartographer.
  - **Edinburgh electronic version** – map group agreed no pressing need for this, given google and openstreets online versions. Also not technically possible with current base map.
  - **East Lothian** (2014) Low stock (print run was too small). New edition hopefully late Spring, Tim doing cartography
  - **West Lothian** (2012) Still have big stock (print run was too high). Need to try and sell more, then possibly new edition next year. Unclear who will do it – Tim not interested; David Gardiner possible.
  - **Midlothian** (2015) Stock and age both ok.
  - **Glasgow 3rd edition** now out, developed by Spokes & Go-Bike, 12500 copies paid for by council, and is available free (on ordinary paper). Glasgow Council will post out copies free on request, so this is now on our website maps page, and Council is to send us a small supply (**Dave** to remind them). Development of a paid-for printed polyart version is possible (and electronic) but we would need find an organiser/producer/promotion person (no cartography skills needed), some payment possible.
- **Employer initiative** – A brief note was included in a Council sustainability newsletter to employers, notifying of our bulk prices [orders to the maps@.. address, handled by Peter] but no known significant results. **David** has emailed Chamber of Commerce,; still to do Essential Ed, FSB (are there others??) to asks if they would publicise – e.g. include in newsletters to their members and/or on websites, and to add to their 'green' credentials. **Dave** to send David FSB contact if can find it.
- **Shops sales initiative** Paul had suggested we write to all bike shops with free sample map and order form. Maps group agreed. **Dave** to liaise with Peter to arrange letter and which shops.
- **Surplus existing Ed maps** Mies has organised distribution to schools etc. Now only 100 or so left? **Mies** to keep a note of what recipients say they will be used for.
- **Maps archive.** **Judy** to identify which old maps we have copies of then **Dave** include request for missing maps in a member email circular. Ideally keep 2 of each, with one always kept in the office?

## G. TRAFFIC COUNT

- Tues 15 November [report](#) on website including some new photos. Results have belatedly gained considerable publicity in [Evening News](#) then catching on (worldwide!!) on social media (example [here](#) – nearly 100 RT's and over 100 Likes) – more as a result of the fall in inner-city car traffic than cycling increase. Strongly justifies our decision 10 years ago to count all traffic, not just bikes!

## H. SUMMER COMPETITION 2017

- Agreed Judy suggestion, **Simple cycling improvements** - simple improvements, by Council, employers or others, at low cost, to improve existing everyday journeys and/or encourage more people to cycle. Entries must be for a specific location (in Ed or Lothians), not general ideas.
- Discussed how can we be clear it is for simple/cheap ideas. Could say “*ideas costing from nothing to no more than a few £1000*”?? Give examples of what could be included (signing; planting; information; employer incentives to employees; a 1-way street suitable for 2-way cycling without significant physical measures; a vital missing dropped kerb, etc) and what not allowed (a new or widened cyclistroute; redesigning a roundabout; etc).
- As always, photos will be welcome; and we say that in judging we take into account not just the idea but also how well its benefits are described.
- **Dave** to do a draft entry form [final not needed till comp launched in June Bulletin].

## J. MOTORIST AWARENESS CAMPAIGN – 'BIKE ALERT'

- *Video & leaflet at [www.spokes.org.uk/videos](http://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, being discussed by **Martin & Mies**. **Mies** looking out previous database of such addresses [now rather old]. **Martin** is taking leaflets round to a few such bodies – Hertz will offer to all rental drivers, Enterprise, Avis, Quickfit will put them on display.
- Wary of offering to provide speakers unless we can find a panel of a few potential speakers, e.g. from the schools event volunteers.

## K. SAFETY ISSUES

- **Martin** considering setting up a Safety group, now that a good number of Spokes members have been involved at the 6<sup>th</sup> 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 (NB – BW is now a Labour candidate in the council elections).
- **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.
- *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).
- [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].

## L. 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. Most appropriate time would be autumn as lots of preparation needed & long booking timescales. Suggestions...
  - **Scottish Parliament** – Dave has written to Spokes member Alison Johnstone MSP re possibilities for autumn. She will do a motion and will try for a Members' debate (but not many opportunities). Exhibitions also possible – there are 2 locations in the Parliament, with different exhibitions weekly.
  - **Council reception??** – as for previous anniversary – 25<sup>th</sup>? 30<sup>th</sup>? Must ask well before, via a councillor. Council would probably meet refreshments costs and we could probably extend the invite to all members [possibly with a limit]. We would need some sort of exhibition there.
  - **Exhibition** as we had for 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, touring Edinburgh libraries and other public outlets - plus to use at Scot Parl if we get a slot there, and at council reception if get that. A lot of work, but seen by many people. Mies was involved in previous exhibition, with Euan Renton. Note that library slots –

especially Central Library – have to be booked many months in advance. Need a fairly professional exhibition - **Dave** to discuss with Colin re *Transform Creative* and/or include in next member circular a request for exhibition volunteer with relevant skills to help with this. Would need some finance.

- **Video documentary** of Spokes history/ achievements/ lessons – **Rosie** has identified 2 possible Napier students to do this as a project.
- **Archive material** for exhibition &/or video. Some main points are in Bulletins of our 10 and 30 year anniversaries (B33 and [B98](#)) – copies given to Martin. Also in [B100](#). Also some materials still in office from 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibition.
- **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. However, if we have an exhibition it could also be displayed at a normal public meeting.
- **Minimal effort option** – Just have a pub evening, booking a pub room – possibly combine with AGM.

## M. SUPERMARKETS PROJECT

- Iain can't now take the lead on this. **Joe Taylor**, who works for Cockburn is interested in taking this on, having experienced the vicissitudes of supermarket parking and of trying to tackle his local one.
- **Dave** to organise mtg with Joe, Martin and anyone else interested, to discuss.
- Iain had circulated email with 2<sup>nd</sup> version of a draft good practice guide some time ago. Once we are closer to being ready to use it and reasonably happy with the content we can ask David Gardiner if has time to do a professional layout – or could possibly get funding for David or for Transform Creative – see below.
- **Aim of the good practice guide ...**
  1. to enable members to lobby their local shops/supermarket, as an individual on their own initiative.
  2. to contact local regional managers of supermarket chains - aim to find at least one to undertake an exemplary project covering all their stores. This action could potentially also liaise 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. Sestran 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](http://spokes.org.uk) : documents : spokes projects : supermarkets or click here [www.spokes.org.uk/documents/papers-documents/supermarkets-project](http://www.spokes.org.uk/documents/papers-documents/supermarkets-project).

*Discussion ended here as we were over-running*

## N. AGM / MEMBER MEETING

- Postponed 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 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary public or members meeting, as above, an AGM could precede it.

## P. 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). Resources Group decided single-tier is only realistic option – see minutes from 2016 for reasons.
  - **Single-tier** – structure is 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.
  - **Dave** to try and edit the single-tier model constitution to tie in with our practice, to then report to the working group & AGM about the single-tier preference.

## Q. 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.

## R. OTHER TOPICS TO REVISIT AS AND WHEN POSSIBLE

- **Possible research projects** [details in 6.11.13 notes] – census ideas; valuation of cyclist time; identification of traffic offences.
- **Website – how it relates to other Spokes media, and possible changes**
  - *facebook* and *twitter* give a timeline of current very immediate activity
  - *bulletin*, *member email circulars* and the *blog element of the website* do the same in a longer-perspective way and with more ability to recall/locate info [e.g via the 'cloud' or the search box].
  - the other important current function of the *website* is an *archive and reference point* - for those involved in campaigning and for professionals (e.g. copies of all important Spokes submissions) and to some extent for everyday cyclists needing advice (e.g. Maps, bike security)
  - *issues* – (1) website does not currently well serve the purpose of introducing new people to the cycling scene in Edinburgh (2) its front-end is not sexy.
  - Martin has contacted Stuart to see if google analytics can help give some clues to how the website currently used. David volunteers to help investigate possible changes, but an expert with current software would be needed to do any necessary work on the website. Member Adam Shepherd (who runs the Roseburn support group website) had also offered help.