

CONSTITUTION OF SPOKES

- typed from the original 1982 typescript copy, as updated with the 1998 revised objectives.

1982: Originally adopted by general meeting 10 Feb 1982

1998: Objectives modified by vote open to whole membership [reported in Spokes 69]

1. NAME

The association shall be known as Spokes, the Lothian Cycle Campaign.

2. PURPOSES

(a) To promote cycling, as part of a sustainable transport and access strategy, and to ensure that councils and government actively do the same.

(b) To publicise the benefits of cycling for the community and individuals - like walking, it is cheap, efficient, enjoyable, healthy, non-polluting and intrinsically safe.

Provided only that the activities of Spokes in pursuit of these objects shall be charitable within the meaning of the law.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of Spokes shall be open to all. Opportunities for service with Spokes shall not be subject to discrimination on grounds of religion, race, colour, sex or political belief. A minimum annual subscription may be determined by the general meeting from time to time.

Any organisation which support the purposes of Spokes may become affiliated to Spokes on payment of an annual subscription to be determined by the general meeting.

4. WORKING GROUPS

The work of Spokes shall be carried out by working groups, which will be formed by the general meeting as the occasion arises. Working groups may also be dissolved the the general meeting when this is deemed appropriate.

Each working group shall appoint from among its members a convenor to be responsible for the affairs of the group. This shall not prevent the group appointing other members to undertake certain of the work and affairs of the group.

Individual members of Spokes shall also have the power to act on behalf of the Spokes, where this is done at the request of or with the agreement of the general meeting.

5. AFFILIATIONS

Spokes may affiliate to any other organisation having aims similar to the objects of Spokes, save that Spokes may not affiliate to any political party.

6. GENERAL MEETING

Spokes shall be managed by a general meeting, which shall be held once every month, or as the occasion arises.

Each working group shall, at each of its meetings, appoint a person to attend the next general meeting as its representative.

The general meeting shall be open to all, save that anyone who is not a member of Spokes shall not be entitled to vote.

Decisions at a general meeting shall be taken by majority vote of those present and eligible to vote. Provided that no decision shall be binding unless those voting in its favour include the representatives of at least 3 working groups; and that where a resolution concerns dissolution or change to the constitution the further conditions in the relevant clauses shall also apply.

The time and place of all general meeting shall be advertised to all members at least 4 week prior to the meeting.

7. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The general meeting to be held in March shall be the annual general meeting.

At the annual general meeting a treasurer shall be elected.

The treasurer shall present to the annual general meeting audited accounts for the previous calendar year.

8. FINANCE

Spokes may, in furtherance of its objects,

(a) obtain, collect and receive money or goods by way of contributions, donations, legacies, grants and any other lawful method.

(b) engage in lawful trading activities.

Provided that such transactions shall be recorded in the accounts to be presented to the annual general meeting.

9. DISSOLUTION

The association may be dissolved by the unanimous decision of a general meeting. Provided that the convenor of each working group either shall be present at the meeting or shall have sent to the meeting his or her written agreement to the dissolution of Spokes.

Any funds remaining in the accounts of the association shall be divided equally between the Cycle Campaign Network and Friends of the Earth (Edinburgh), provided that if either of these organisations have ceased to exist the unallocated portion of the funds shall be donated to any other organisation or organisations having objects similar to those of Spokes and agreed by a majority of those voting at the meeting.

10. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This constitution may be changed the the consent of two-thirds of the members who are present and voting at a general meeting. Provided also that the convenors of at least two thirds of the working groups have also indicated their approval tot he change by being present and voting or by a written agreement sent to the meeting.

Not part of the constitution ... additional notes on objectives ...

i. We work towards these objectives through a range of methods, including lobbying government and councils, heavy encouragement of individuals to do their own lobbying, and many promotional activities such as our cycle maps which have now sold over 100,000 copies and our 11,500-circulation thrice-yearly freely-distributed Spokes Bulletin.

ii. We have no involvement in cycle sport such as racing or mountain biking. Our cycling interest is solely in transport, access and everyday leisure].