

MASSBUG Minutes

3 December 2003

Attendance: Ian, Matt, Fiona, Amy, Kate, Leo, Col, Rachel, Jonathan, Mark, Emma

1. Membership

Natalie has sent out 35 letters to people on the membership database. Response so far has been from people attending meetings rather than to the letters.

Agreed: Organise invitation to join to Bicycle NSW members in local area. BNSW to approve invitation letter, MASSBUG to copy letters, provide maps, application forms and volunteers. Mail out should occur end of January.

Mini Focus Group

We took advantage of the number of people attending for the first time to ask about their expectations of MASSBUG. A summary and comment on this is at the end of the minutes.

2. South Sydney Development Corporation Consultation

Fiona attended the community consultation on the Zetland development. Residents called for less traffic and less speed among other things. Cyclists were acknowledged by those conducting the consultation and attendance helped create useful links with South Sydney Council.

3. South Sydney council

Development Control Plan is being revised. The revision allows for more parking. Submission is complete, suggestion is that if increased parking is allowed it is restricted to Green Square development and not all new developments.

South Sydney Bike Plan – brilliant plan, Chloe to hold meeting 6th Dec to finalise submission.

Thank you to Anthony for checking the routes.

4. Local Council elections 2004

List for discussion at next meeting and strategic planning meeting: survey of local candidates on position on cyclists and possibility of holding public forum for candidates to put their position to the community.

5. RPA cycle map launch

To occur February 2004. Fiona to forward suggestions on distribution and promotion of map.

6. Sunday Bike Ride

Limited interest but still to go ahead. Brenda, Fiona and Rachel to meet at 8.30 at Newtown.

7. Marrickville Council

The Council has not held a bike meeting for six months. Rachel to make contact and try and organise a meeting to discuss progress of bike plan.

It is suggested that members look at Marrickville Council website to become familiar with the councillor in their local ward.

8. Newtown Festival

Very busy day. Suggestion for next time is to provide list for people to note their address if they want further information and how to get onto email listing.

9. Tempe Reserve

Members conducted rides at opening of Tempe Reserve last weekend. Organisers feedback was that it was very successful and that the bike tours made a big difference to the day.

10. Hawthorn Canal Active Transport and Greenway

Update provided via email.

11. South Sydney Traffic Committee

Redevelopment of Redfern St being considered, this will include bike lanes and a 40k speed limit. Changes also made to Moore Park Road island refuge to accommodate bikes.

12. Marrickville Traffic Committee

MASSBUG not represented on this committee. However, members interested in reviewing papers (available at the library) the evening before please contact Fiona. Issues will be raised with individual members of the committee. **Help needed with this.**

13. Reporting pot holes and other hazards.

Agreed: Fiona will create proforma to complete, list will then be collected and sent to relevant Council for action.

Members also encouraged to advise Council directly.

14. Strategic Planning Meeting

17th January 12.30, bring something to share for lunch. Fiona's house.

15. Bus Review

Referred to BNSW for action.

Next Meeting: 7 January 2004

Members Expectations MASSBUG

Learn about what was happening in the local area
Meet other cyclists – camaraderie
To be involved in advocacy actions
Help on local cycling issues
Social reasons
Reach advocacy goals – want some good news for cyclists
See improvements in the local area
Good to be invited to group activities
Catering at meetings
Moral support from other cyclists
Learn about local issues
Linking with other BUGS
Joining with others to find local solutions
New to the area – wanting to make it easier to cycle locally
Actions to improve cycling

Summarising this, this sample of members are after:

- Learn about actions and improvements in the local area
- Opportunity to meet other cyclists for support
- Take part in local advocacy actions with others

Key words – ‘local’ and ‘joint action’

Building on this:

- How do we create opportunities for members to talk about local issues which are of concern to them – which may not fall under our usual agenda items.
- We need to know more about what advocacy actions members feel comfortable being involved with – is it governed by time, skills and personal interests.
- Do members want opportunities to meet cyclists outside of meetings and in what forum, and how do we reach other cyclists.

It might also be interesting to consider the activities and goals MASSBUG are currently pursuing which members did not mention. These might be areas of further learning for members to understand their importance.