

MINUTES
Marrickville South Sydney Bicycle Group
7 September 2005

Attendance: Brenda, Fiona, Robert, Paul, John, Ian, Liz, Gilbert

Apologies: Bruce, Chris

1. Local Issues

There were still concerns about the implementation to the Sydney Council Bike plan, in particular Erskineville road.

2. T-shirt design

The work of three volunteer designers were tabled and discussed at the meeting. The criteria used to decide on the design was: bold and legible, worked in one colour, image was inclusive of different cyclists.

Decision: to accept Hally's design illustrating several different cyclists in a line with the web address under the image. Need to discuss with Hally changing the design to fit printer's size requirements and removing 'www' from address. Design is on the website.

Thank you letter and small gift to be sent to other designers, with offer to send their details to other BUGS and keep notice on web site.

Samples of t-shirts, including one made from hemp will now be obtained, and a shirt chosen.

3. Marrickville Festival 18th September

Volunteers needed for the stall. Contact Fiona to be placed on the roster. Two people will be away, so really need some help handing out maps.

The day will be used to gather information about issues local residents have about cycling. Visitors to the stall will be asked to list problems or other issues in the local area, the list will be used in discussions with the Council about the Bike Plan and other matters.

4. By-election

John has sent letters to the candidates in the local by-election asking them their position on cycling issues. Responses will be circulated. Members are asked to raise cycling issues with candidates if meeting them at street stall or 'door knock' visits.

5. A model for developing a social plan to increase cycling

Liz provided a summary of how a social plan could be developed. She has done some preliminary work looking at the questions that could be asked of the plan, such as

seeking clarity about outcomes, targets - increasing recreational cycling, using cycling for specific trips, and commuting. The strategies for achieving the outcomes would then ask what knowledge and skills people would need to participate in these outcomes, what attitudes and aspirations are needed to achieve the outcomes and what would motivate them to change and maintain the behaviour.

There was general agreement that such a document would be useful for planning and advocacy activities. Discussion centred on whether it was a document prepared in conjunction with Council or an independent document belonging to MASSBUG. There was merit in both approaches, due to resource limitations the immediate response would be to assist Kendall with a Council plan.

6. Events

Dulwich Hill Public School in Hercules Street will be celebrating its 30th anniversary this Saturday 10th September, 10am to 4pm

Gilbert is planning to attend and test a survey about cycling behaviours. It was suggested that Gilbert approach Chris for technical advice about the survey. Testing the survey with a small number of people will indicate whether it is too long and questions are understood.

Bike Sydney Forum – 1-3pm Sydney Town Hall, Saturday 10th September

Leichhardt Bike Day, Sunday 25th September 10 to 3 pm, War Memorial Park, volunteers needed for ride (ride is only about an hour of this event)

Newtown Festival – please note diary for 13 November.

Conference: Connecting Cycling Brisbane 5-8 October, suitable for non-specialists. www.bfa.asn.au for more information.

Friends of Cooks River – meeting Saturday 10th, separate email sent. Ashbug and Burstbug encouraged to attend.

Meeting with Leichhardt BUG – Thursday 29th September.

7. RIDES

Gilbert reported on the **Cooks River Foreshore Working Group Assessment Ride** on Saturday 3 September. A number of non-standard bikes were used on the ride, this demonstrated the hazards to riders of current path design. A comprehensive written report was tabled at the meeting. It was clear that the ride achieved a greater awareness of the improvements that could be made on the Cooks River such as signage, food outlets, and better design of paths for non-standard bikes. Improvements in the path would also improve access to people with disabilities.

8. Marrickville Bike Plan

Bike plan is progressing, general comment that members were pleased and optimistic with the way it was heading. No specific actions.

9. Other Business

Renewals and annual report – AGM will be part of the November meeting

The Annual report should be prepared in the next month.

Members should be sent: notice of renewals, annual report, notice of AGM and an offer to purchase t-shirt. Also send Charter.

Mailout to BNSW members

We should do this again this year providing BNSW bears the mailing cost. This should be done once t-shirt is available.

Greenway Committee

There is a vacancy on the Management Committee of the Greenway project, please contact Bruce for more details.

MASSBUG Charter

Robert has drafted a charter for MASSBUG. He will email to members and ask for comments before finalising at October meeting.

2006 Ride calendar

This should be listed on the agenda for the October meeting. Members are asked to think of ideas for rides and bring them to the meeting, or email ahead so they can be considered.

Meeting with Newtown police

Newtown police have agreed to the invitation to meet with them. A date is will be set shortly.

Women's services

Marrickville Council recreation officer has asked if they can include MASSBUG services in their recreation information. Agreed on the condition that services are accessed only when resources are available.

Correspondence

A letter has been sent to Erskineville resident Jenny Ward offering to assist with improving safety for pedestrians.

NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY 5 OCTOBER 7.30, TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE FROM 7.15