



Minutes

Name of meeting

Cycle Forum

Date and time

22nd August 2007 at 15:00

Venue

Meeting room 1, Enterprise House, St Cross Business Park, Newport

Present

PRESENT	
Name	Organisation
Andy Newman	Wayfarers
Chris Bartlett	IWC Road Safety Engineer
Chris Wells	IWC Transport Policy Manager (part)
Claire Whittington	IWC Events (part)
Cllr John Hobart	IWC Councillor
George Wilks	Sustrans Ranger
Helen Stichbury	IWC School Travel Plans – minutes
Malcolm Ross	Cyclewight
Martin Gibson	Island2000 Trust
Nick Farthing	Sustrans
Susan Cracknell	IWC Cycling Officer - chair
Tim Thorne	Cyclewight

CIRCULATION	
Name	Organisation
Adrian Wheeler	Extreme Cycles
Alan Ransom	IWC Engineering Design
Alex Russell	IWC Rights of Way
Cllr Geoff Lumley	IWC Councillor
Cllr Tim Hunter-Henderson	IWC Councillor – Transport Portfolio Holder
Gavin Sullivan	Wight Offroad & Island Youth Cycle Club
Ian Gardiner	Battersby Cycles
Jason Joshua	TAV Cycles
Jeff Smith	Bikeshed
Jim Fawcett	IWC Agenda 21 Officer
John Allen	Wight Cycle Hire
Keith Jolliffe	IWC Planning Officer – Development Control
Martin Tigg	Sustrans Ranger
Matt Archer	IWC Road Safety Officer
Matthew Chatfield	IWC Parks and Countryside Manager
Simon O’Dea	Hampshire & IW Police
Simon Richardson	Hampshire & IW Police
Steve Chapman	Offshore Sports
Steve Mew	Halfords

Tanzie Page	Teacher Representative
Valerie Lawson	Cyclewight
Will Downer	Wight Mountain

1.

Minutes of Previous Meeting (2nd May 2007)

1) Mountain Bike Trails – update

Helen contacted Matthew Chatfield (Parks & Countryside Manager) who is very supportive of the concept of mountain bike trails in the forests (Parkhurst, Bouldnor & Brighstone), and would like to encourage wider public access to the forests in general. There are examples of well-managed access all over the country, and Matthew would be keen to use this and the expertise and labour offered by Wight Mountain, once permission has been gained from the Forestry Commission (FC). As there is no FC presence on the Island he will use his contacts in the South East Region to pursue this idea. Failing that, he suggests Joe Duckworth (IWC Chief Executive) may have to make contact at a strategic level.

The Cycle Forum requests that, if Matthew is unable to make contact with the FC, Matthew asks Joe to pursue.

Action: Matthew Chatfield

2) Cycling Maintenance Webpage – update

Gavin Muncaster is the contact within IWC regarding a potential web-paged maintenance log page. Gavin has not replied to Andy Newman's contact yet – Andy to log a call through the main IWC switchboard (tel. 821000) in order to activate the call management system (CRM) if necessary.

Action: Andy Newman

3) St James Square Traffic Regulation Orders

The temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) in St James Square have expired and are being reviewed.

The Cycle Forum would like to know what are the current plans for central Newport, what is the delivery timescale, and would like the opportunity to comment on plans with regard to cycling facilities.

Action: IWC Road Safety and Traffic Management

4) NCN 23 at Horringtonford

A capital sum has been identified to permanently solve the surfacing issues at Horringtonford. Martin suggested some signage telling users what's going on at that point might be positive. Sue said she'll take it up with Alex Russell of IWC Rights of Way (who holds the maintenance budget).

Action: Susan Cracknell/Alex Russell

5) St. Helen's Cycle Route

There is a desire to continue the route from Brading to St. Helen's off-road (from where the off-road route joins Carpenters Road), but this is not in the 2006/07 Capital Programme. There is also a 65-bed hotel development planned for St Helen's Marina, which could bring some planning gain through a Section 106 agreement.

Action: Susan Cracknell investigate with Planning Section

6) Newport Cycle Routes

George and Martin reviewing Newport and will bring their suggestions to the next meeting.

Action: George Wilks/Martin Gibson

7) West Wight Greenway

The West Wight Greenway is part of the West Wight Landscape Heritage Project which has a new Chairman, Sue Postern, who Sue has met. Sue Postern is now leading the project. The first phase of the bid was accepted by the Lottery; the second phase has just been submitted to the Lottery. Chris Wells confirmed that the IWC has had a desire for a West Wight to Newport link for some years, and will continue to assist the West Wight Landscape Heritage Project with this scheme.

The Minutes of the 2nd May 2007 were agreed by the Cycle Forum.

At this point Chris Wells left the meeting.

2. **Department for Transport (DfT) Cycling Infrastructure Design – consultation document**

This was forwarded to the Cycle Forum by email and a hard copy is available at Enterprise House if required. Individuals are encouraged to make their own responses direct to DfT. In addition, if Cycle Forum would like to make their comments to Sue (via susan.cracknell@iow.gov.uk) by 16th October, a considered response could be made to the DfT from the Isle of Wight.

Action: All members

3. **Electric Bike Charging Points – 'One Island' Project**

There is an IWC 'One Island' project to install electric car charging points throughout the Island. It was pointed out that there are currently as few as three electric cars on the Island, which cannot yet be serviced locally. However, there are very many more electric bikes

(possibly three figures) so the Forum suggested that the project was expanded/remodelled to include electric bike charging points. These could be provided at every IWC-owned building; schools, libraries, tourist information centres, etc.

Action: Susan Cracknell to put Forum's suggestions to Peter Taylor

4. **2007/08 Capital Projects**

The capital programme for 2007/08 includes the following cycling schemes:-

- Cowes contra-flow
- Little London/Blackhouse Quay
- Racecourse/Fairlee Road
- Coppins Bridge
- Toucan crossing, High Street, Newport (by County Hall)
- Resurfacing of NCN 23 at Alverstone if any budget remains after the Horringford works

Andy (Wayfarers) asked why the recent reinstatement at Alverstone by Southern Water was not extended to include the whole of that section, given that once a contractor is on site, the costs of the additional works would be minimal. Sue advised that contractors are only obliged to reinstate to the standard surface requirement; however, the new DfT design guidance will help to ensure that the standard will be raised, so improvements will be gained.

5. **Officers Reports**

1) Chris Bartlett – Road Safety Engineer

a) Revetment

To help resolve the issue of cycling along revetments, Chris has recently conducted a safety audit at Sandown and Shanklin. Revetments will probably be designated as footpaths, and have traffic regulation orders placed upon them.

b) Capital projects

Chris confirmed that the needs of all user groups (including cyclists) will be considered in projects.

c) East Cowes Roundabout

The bushes are being removed.

Claire Whittington joined the meeting.

2) Sue Cracknell – Cycling Officer

a) Signage

Signs to cycleways are required, could be on-road thermoplastic to reduce road clutter, or fingersigns when

required. Advice is that DfT have now approved the use of thermoplastic signs.

Action: Chris Bartlett to check with DfT

b) Highway Code

DfT have made amendments incorporating feedback after consultation.

c) Loan of Temporary Cycle Parking

Sue suggests that, when temporary cycle parking is loaned for events for free (such as to IW Festival), those arriving by bike get a reduced entry charge.

3) Claire Whittington – Events Officer

Claire circulated the programme for the Cycling Festival which commences 15th September.

4) Helen Stichbury – School Travel Plan Advisor

a) Joint Cycle Forum

Portsmouth and Southampton Cycle Forums were invited to a joint meeting with the IW Cycle Forum on 7th July; Portsmouth were unable to attend but take-up was good from Southampton. Southampton City Council's cycling officer, Dale Bostock, gave a presentation on cycling in the city, and Martin Gibson and Sue Cracknell gave presentations on Island 2000, and the IW Cycle Forum, respectively.

The IW members present were impressed with the amount of resource and level of support which cycling attracts in Southampton. Similarly, the Southampton members were impressed with what the Isle of Wight achieves with relatively small resources and good partnership working, and were particularly impressed with the breadth and inclusion of the cycle forum membership. So much so, that they propose restructuring their cycle forum along the same lines as the Isle of Wight.

Southampton CC have also offered to invite the Isle of Wight's traffic engineers to the city in order to share expertise on cycling infrastructure.

b) Proposal for Brighstone - Shorwell off-road cycle route

A proposal for an off-road route between Shorwell and Brighstone is put forward within Brighstone Parish Council's Parish Plan. The school are actively promoting cycling. Helen is doing some investigation into the feasibility of such a route on behalf of the Parish Council (contact is Jill Wareham), including Sustrans (via Nick Farthing). Post-meeting, Helen circulated proposal to Andy Newman (Wayfarers), Martin Gibson (Island 2000), John Hobart (Councillor), Malcolm Ross (Cyclewight) and George Wilks (Sustrans Ranger) for them to have a look and feed back comments to Helen (Helen.Stichbury@iow.gov.uk). If any

Forum members have any comments, please contact Helen ASAP. Any proposals will be developed alongside the Rights of Way department.

Action: All Members

The Forum asked if the Rights of Way department are actively seeking to develop paths from single to dual (if not multi-user) use?

Action: Rights of Way

6. **Any Other Business**

None

7. **Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 20th November, 3.00pm-5.00pm
Meeting Room 1
Enterprise House
Newport