

CYCLE FORUM

Minutes



Meeting No. 10
 Weds 24th January 2007 at 15:00Hrs
 Enterprise House, Newport

PRESENT	
Name	Organisation
Andy Newman	Wayfarers
Chris Wells	IWC Transport Policy Manager – co chair
Claire Wittington	IWC Events
Cllr John Hobart	IWC Councillor
Cllr Geoff Lumley	IWC Councillor
Helen Stichbury	IWC School Travel Plans – co chair
Ian Middleton	IWC Transport Policy - minutes
Malcolm Ross	Cyclewright
Martin Gibson	Island2000 Trust
Martin Tigg	Sustrans Ranger
Matt Archer	IWC Road Safety Officer
Simon O'Dea	Hampshire & IW Police
Simon Richardson	Hampshire & IW Police
Valerie Lawson	Cyclewright

CIRCULATION	
Name	Organisation
Adrian Wheeler	Extreme Cycles
Alan Ransom	IWC Engineering Design
Gavin Sullivan	Wight Offroad & Island Youth Cycle Club
George Wilks	Sustrans Ranger
Iain Thornton	IWC Traffic Engineer
Ian Gardiner	Battersby Cycles
Jason Joshua	TAV Cycles
Jeff Smith	Bikeshed
Jim Fawcett	IWC Agenda 21 Officer
Jonathan Fitzgerald-Bond	IWC Councillor
Keith Jolliffe	IWC Planning Officer – Development Control
Ken White	Wight Mountain
Matthew Chatfield	IWC Parks and Countryside Manager
Nick Farthing	Sustrans
Steve Chapman	Offshore Sports
Tanzie Page	Teacher Representative
Tim Slade	IWC Rights of Way
Tom Wilkinson	Halfords

ITEM		ACTION
1.	<p>Welcome Chris Wells welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that Sue was unable to attend due illness.</p>	
1a.	<p>Newport – West Wight Greenway Chris explained that it is a large and important part of the Heritage Lottery Bid, connecting Newport to the West Wight in a sustainable way. He explained that some landowners had issues but working alongside Sustrans it is hoped that these could be resolved. He drew attention that a public meeting to discuss the issues will be held at Yarmouth Institute at 7.30pm on Monday 29th January.</p>	
1b.	<p>Cycle Monitoring Chris Wells explained that we currently monitor cycle use on the Yarmouth - Freshwater, Newport – Sandown and Newport – Cowes cycle tracks as well as cyclists using the floating bridge. Through this we have recorded a massive increase in the numbers cycling and DfT see this as one of the Isle of Wight’s success stories. Due to budget restrictions we will no longer be able to employ people to carry out manual counts. Therefore we are looking to install automated counters that will provide data 24 hours per day 365 days per year.</p>	
1c.	<p>PFI Chris explained that as far as he was aware the PFI bid would not affect the cycling budget. For 2006/07 it stands at around £100,000 although Sue will use every pot of funding available to supplement this. Cllr Lumley said he would do his best to support this spend especially in his role as Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee.</p>	
1d.	<p>Maintenance The group pointed out that the cycling infrastructure does not yet fully facilitate. It was felt this was to some extent down to poor maintenance. Chris explained that the Rights of Way department have over 500miles to maintain on a very small budget. It was suggested that an IWC web page be developed where people could report issues and follow progress on them; the IWC will look into this option. In the meantime, Forum members were encouraged to continue reporting issues, to Sue if necessary and by email if possible, as they are spotted. Susan.cracknel@iow.gov.uk</p>	<p>Sue to liaise with Tim Slade All members</p>
	Chris then left the meeting and Helen Stichbury took over the Chair.	
2.	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting (29th November 2006) Minutes agreed</p>	
3.	Matters Arising	
3.1	<p>Round the Island Cycle Route Map The revised Map has been circulated by email to members, and was tabled. Ian Middleton explained that we are going to use the map issued in 2003 but we needed suggestions of how to improve it and bring it up to date. Comments can be sent to ian.middleton@iow.gov.uk .by 2nd Feb 2007.</p>	All members

3.2	<p>Cycle Crime Simon O’Dea explained that cycle crime on the Isle of Wight is very low. He said he was not aware of any increase in crime at properties near cycle tracks. It reinforces the fact that cycling is a safe thing to do.</p> <p>He pointed out that all beat officers on the island have access to bikes and that shortly all PCSOs will also have access. Officers use the cycle tracks to commute as well as in the course of policing activity.</p>	
3.3	<p>Potential Park and Cycle Site at Blackwater Without Sue Cracknell nor Keith Jolliffe (Planning) there is no further information.</p>	
4.	<p>Newport Town Route Consultation has so far included all Cycle Forum members and the Newport middle and high schools. The results indicated cyclists would like to use all routes. However, with Iain Thornton (Traffic Engineer) and Sue Cracknell unavailable there is no further information at this stage.</p> <p>Cllr Lumley explained that he was interested in getting people onto bikes for commuting and making Newport safer for cyclists. He gave his support for sustainable transport initiatives and was interested in getting involved.</p> <p>Martin Gibson explained that Island2000 has purchased some land near Matalan and has secured funding to construct a cycle way. He is in liaison with Sue Cracknell about how to continue this route on Council owned land.</p> <p>The group congratulated Island2000 and Cllr Lumley offered his support.</p>	Sue to contact Cllr Lumley
5.	<p>Brading to Bembridge Cycle Path – Wayfarers (Including Rowborough Corner) Sue will be meeting a Traffic Engineer on site in the near future.</p>	
6.	<p>Road Signs – Wayfarers Sue will be meeting with Chris Bartlett in the near future.</p>	
7.	<p>Cyclists riding without lights – Halfords Halfords had pointed out that many cyclists are riding without lights. Simon O’Dea told the group of a trial scheme where people who are found riding without lights will be reported, then given the opportunity to purchase cycle lights instead of being given a fixed penalty.</p>	
8.	<p>Officers Reports Rights of Way Forum members are aware that Tim Slade may be leaving the IWC. Could the group be informed about this please.</p> <p>Events Claire Whittington passed copies of the Cycling Festival leaflet around. She also asked any members of the Forum if they wanted any rides included on the program, and if anyone wants to lead a ride there is an application form attached with these Minutes</p> <p>A magazine is interested in having a written description of 3 or 4</p>	Sue Cracknell/Tim Slade All members All members

	<p>Island rides. It was suggested that Cyclewight could do this.</p> <p>School Travel Helen told the group that Travel Options Leaflets are being developed for the West Wight and the Cowes area (once the Cowes town route has been agreed). She also told the group that a further 20 schools are working on Travel Plans.</p>	Cyclewight
9.	Any Other Business	
9.1	<p><u>Trafalgar Road</u> Simon Richardson asked for opinion on the reversal of Trafalgar Road and its impact on cyclists. The group felt it made the High Street worse for cyclists. Andy said he had some near misses at Nodehill, and it was felt this was due to the confusing road layout. The Forum would like clarification as to whether the traffic order to remove the cycling facilities is temporary or permanent. Martin Gibson said that we needed to ensure that two way cycling was maintained in Trafalgar Road</p> <p>Cllr Lumley said he was aware that a major Traffic Management review for Newport will be taking place shortly. The Forum must have a strong role in this review to ensure the cycling facilities are optimised. The Forum would like to know when this review will be taking place.</p>	Helen ask Kevin Burton (Traffic Management)
9.2	<p><u>Baring Road Cycle Route</u> Cllr Hobart believes the provision is dangerous due to parents parking. He commented that there should be mandatory 20mph zones outside all schools.</p>	Sue Cracknell/ Cllr Lumley
9.3	<p><u>Debris on Roads</u> Andy Newman asked the group if leaving debris after hedge cutting was a criminal offence. It was thought that it may come under the Highways Act. Simon Richardson offered to find out.</p>	Simon Richardson
9.4	<p>Merstone Conservation Work Martin Gibson informed the group that Island2000 had secured funding to carry out habitat improvement work at Merstone Station.</p>	
9.5	<p>Sandown Airport Martin Gibson drew attention to the Planning Application at Sandown Airport. It was felt that pressure should be applied to encourage them to improve cycle and pedestrian links. It could link to the Newport – Sandown Route. Helen said she believed Sue was already aware of this.</p>	Sue Cracknell
9.6	<p>Arctic Road, Cowes Cyclewight will be contacting Cllr George Brown regarding traffic calming in Arctic Road as a result of the Harrison development. Sue to pursue also.</p>	Sue Cracknell
10.	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting Next meeting to be arranged by email for the end of March.</p>	