



# Minutes

Name of Meeting  
Date and Time  
Venue  
Attendance

Cycle Forum  
29 October 2008 at 3.30pm  
Meeting Room 1, Enterprise House, St Cross Business Park, Newport.

<b>Present</b>	
Chris Wells	IWC Transport Policy Manager – chair
Claire Critchison	IWC Events Officer
Malcolm Ross	Cyclewight
Simon Richardson	Hampshire & IW Police
Lee Skinner	IWC Rights of Way
Valerie Lawson	Cyclewight
Cllr John Hobart	IWC Councillor
Alex Brown	IWC Monitoring Assistant – minutes
Helen Stichbury	IWC Sustainable School Travel Officer
Andy Newman	Wayfarers
Malcolm Smith	IWC Policy & Strategy Manager

<b>Circulation</b>	
Adrian Wheeler	Extreme Cycles
Alan Ransom	IWC Engineering Design (apologies)
Alex Russell	IWC Rights of Way (apologies)
Andy Cooper	IWC Firefighter (SQ2SQ)
Chris Bartlett	IWC Road Safety Engineer (apologies)
Cllr Geoff Lumley	IWC Councillor (apologies)
Cllr Tim Hunter-Henderson	IWC Councillor – Transport Portfolio Holder (apologies)
Gavin Sullivan	Wight Offroad & Island Youth Cycle Club
Rebecca Tuck	IWC Assistant Road Safety Officer (apologies)
Susan Cracknell	IWC Cycling Officer (apologies)
Iain Thornton	IWC Senior Traffic Engineer (apologies)
Ian Gardiner	Battersby Cycles
Jason Joshua	TAV Cycles
Jeff Smith	Bikeshed
Jim Fawcett	IWC Agenda 21 Officer (apologies)
John Allen	Wight Cycle Hire
Keith Jolliffe	IWC Planning Officer – Development Control (apologies)
Kelvin Wright	IWC Firefighter (SQ2SQ)
Kevin Burton	IWC Road Safety & Traffic Management Team Leader (apologies)
Matthew Chatfield	IWC Parks and Countryside Manager (apologies)
Richard Clark	Carisbrooke Sports Partnership - Teacher Representative
Steve Chapman	Offshore Sports
Steve Mew	Halfords
Tanzie Page	Teacher, Sandown School

Tom Wilkinson	Halfords
Will Downer	Wight Mountain
Martin Tigg	Sustrans Ranger (apologies)
Tim Thorne	Cyclewright (apologies)
Nick Farthing	Sustrans (apologies)
Martin Gibson	Island2000 Trust (apologies)
George Wilks	Sustrans Ranger

Chris Wells (CW) introduced the meeting and explained that due to Sue Cracknell's absence he would be chairing the days meeting.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting (21 August 2008).**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Mountain Bike Trails & 'Go Ape' – Update.

CW has sent a letter to the Forestry Commission with regards to establishing a permanent off-road cycle trail/'Go Ape' adventure facility on the Island. It was thought that the FC were assigning a permanent officer to the Island, which could be useful for progressing this idea.

Bikers Breakfast, Future of Events – Update.

It was thought that establishing a sub-group to discuss the future events of biker's breakfast with employers would be useful. Some employers had their own events and it was felt that co-ordinating events would result in a better outcome. **Action: Val Lawson to email Mike Marlow (GKN) & Alex Brown to email cycle forum to gain support for a sub-group.**

Cycle Track Maintenance and Signage – Update.

No news to date. **Action: SC to contact Southampton City Council (Dale Bostock) with regards to signage.**

Seaview Road, Cowes & Safety Issue – Update.

Chris Bartlett (CB) & Simon Richardson (SR) had a site visit and reported that the cycle crossings were correctly marked and signed, possible confusion over the exact crossing in question. **Action: VL to clarify location & CB to investigate further.**

2. **IW Cycling Festival '08 - Report | Hampshire Cycling Festival '09 Events**

IW Cycling Festival '08 – Report.

The IW Cycling Festival launched on Saturday 13 September 2008 and ran for one week until Sunday 21 September 2008. Claire Critchison (CC) reported that the event was a success with 40 rides over the 9 days of events. 2300 people participated, which was an increase of 500 since 2007. Also, there

were more participants in the Round Island ride, at 700. The event also gained more general interest, with an increase in the number of spectators. A full report is due out next month, which will give a comparison to previous years. Some participants commented on finding it difficult to navigate through towns, notably cross Newport, although signage was put up. CC volunteered that some additional funding could be available for new/improved signage.

The date for the 2009 festival is yet to be finalised, but likely to be 19<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> September.

**Action: CC and SC to discuss possible improvements to signage.**

#### Hampshire Cycling Festival '09 – Events.

SC and CC have been working to combine the two festivals to increase publicity and target audience, this is ongoing and any progress will be reported back to the forum.

### 3. **Sandown Revetment – Update.**

A group consisting of the Council, Town Centre Managers and Lake Parish Council have been established to discuss the issue. Surveys have been undertaken along the revetment during August on three weekends. The data suggests there are no immediate problems with cycling on the revetment and a report is currently out for consultation. SC & CB have visited Bournemouth to see how the promenade is now managed, and cyclists are restricted at certain times, but encouraged outside of these periods. This method was seen as unnecessary for Sandown Revetment. A code of conduct has been produced that all users should be considerate of one another and use the shared surface responsibly. The group welcomed the code of conduct but still had concerns over whether 'no cycling' signs were still present on the revetment, which were not legally enforceable and seen to be exacerbating the issues.

**Action: SC to confirm if 'no cycling' signage has been removed.**

### 4. **Newport Accessibility.**

#### Nine Acres Development.

Val Lawson (VL) stated that a site meeting had taken place and an architect had produced plans for the site. Potential users had been consulted and scope for activities on the site was good, including potential cycle training and possible inclusion under extended schools scheme. Cllr John Hobart informed the group that Mr Roger Dixcey CC lived in Elm Grove and would possibly be interested in getting involved in the project. **Action: SC to update at next meeting.**

#### Pan Urban Regeneration Development.

Time Thorne has emailed Phil Salmon, IWC Development Team, with regards to the provisions of cycle infrastructure in the development. No reply as of yet. VL highlighted an issue with some plans showing cycle infrastructure, and others omitting it.

**Action: CW to contact Phil Salmon with regards to email.**

Bus Contraflow – St. James Street, Newport.

Tim Thorne has emailed Nicola Hunter, IWC Assistant Traffic Technician with regards to a possible right turn into St. James Street from the High Street for cyclists. No reply as of yet.

**Action: CW to contact Nicola Hunter with regards to email.**

5. **Capital Programme.**

R23 Newport to Cowes – Update.

Remedial works to repair the damaged cycle track between Riverway and Dodnor Lane has begun, with a closure of the section of track between Riverway-Dodnor Lane from the 27<sup>th</sup> October to 5<sup>th</sup> December. It was highlighted the work was underway over half-term due to the limited window of opportunity for works with regards to the presence of Badgers.

The group felt the diversion route through Dodnor Lane was well signed and easy to follow and that the use of the Newport to Cowes track was constantly increasing. CW added that automatic counters were now in full operation at the Newport end of the Newport-Cowes route and Newport end of the Newport-Sandown route, which offers a 24/.7 record of numbers of cycles, as opposed to previous manual counting at set hours of the day on a monthly basis.

A pothole had developed at the Cowes end of the track which is awaiting repair following assessment of gas-mains which are present underneath, it was thought that this repair would warrant a one-day closure, but would be confirmed following assessment of the extent of the work required.

VL also added that some drain covers along the track (north of Dodnor Lane, west side of track) were rusted and a possible hazard to walkers or cyclists.

**Action: Lee Skinner (LS) to organise an inspection.**

Additional Capital Allocation.

£143k re-allocated from electric charging points has been made available to cycling. A list of schemes has been drafted is due to be finalised. CW gave a brief summary of the schemes, which are predominately small scale schemes, aimed at a quick delivery. These will include resurfacing on R23, Signage & gateway treatment on R22 and drainage works near Dodnor Lane.

**Action: SC to update on progress at the next meeting.**

Horringford Boardwalk – Update.

SC has investigated possible surfaces which offer value for money and are long lasting. The tender process is complete and a contractor has been selected.

**Action: SC to update on progress at the next meeting.**

6. **PFI & Cycling – Malcolm Smith.**

Malcolm Smith gave a brief summary of the forthcoming PFI, stating that the Outline Business Case is due to be submitted in April 2009. Procurement of a contractor is expected to take two years, with work commencing on the ground in November 2011. The contract is for 25 years, with a seven year core investment period followed by an 18 year maintenance period.

The PFI would improve and maintain what infrastructure is already present including footways and cycleways, it does not build new roads, although integrated transport funding would still be available for improvements to bus, walking and cycling infrastructure. The PFI contract would include any new highway infrastructure that is added to the network, including cycleways.

Opportunities exist to use recycled materials to minimise the import from external sources. Although the contractor procured could be national, the contract would include provision to use local labour.

Cllr John Hobart suggested that Malcolm Smith attend an Access Forum meeting and update the group on the status of PFI. He also raised issues regarding the Marine Bill, which may offer the opportunity to improve coastal access.

**Action: Malcolm Smith to contact LS to arrange attending a meeting.**

7. **Any other business.**

Birchmore Lane.

Alex Russell has visited the site a number of times and recognised a risk to users. ROW are looking into getting some warning signage and possible gates to be installed. **Action: LS to update at next meeting.**

Future Closure of Yarmouth-Freshwater Cycle Track.

Southern Electric have requested to close the cycle track for four days to repair a substation at the Causeway, Freshwater. The date is yet to be confirmed but likely to be in January 2009. **Action: SC to update at next meeting.**

8. **Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009 at 3pm @ Meeting Room 1, Enterprise House.