

CYCLE FORUM

Minutes



Meeting No. 9
 Weds 29th November 2006 at 15:00hrs
 Enterprise House, Newport

| PRESENT | |
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| Name | Organisation |
| Andy Newman | Wayfarers |
| Chris Bartlett | IWC Traffic |
| Claire Whittington | IWC Events Team |
| Helen Stichbury | IWC School Travel Plan Advisor (minutes) |
| John Allen | Wight Cycle Hire |
| John Hobart | IWC Councillor |
| Martin Gibson | Island 2000 Trust |
| Matt Archer | IWC Road Safety Officer |
| Simon Richardson | Hampshire & IW Police |
| Susan Cracknell | IWC Cycling Promotion Officer (chair) |
| Valerie Lawson | Cyclewright |

| CIRCULATION | |
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| Name | Organisation |
| Adrian Wheeler | Extreme Cycles |
| Alan Ransom | IWC Engineering Design |
| Chris Wells | IWC Transport Policy Team Leader |
| Gavin Sullivan | Wight Offroad & IW 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 Joliffe | IWC Planning Officer - Development Control |
| Ken White | Wight Mountain |
| Laurence Keynes | IWC Rural Transport Officer |
| Martin Tigg | Sustrans Ranger |
| Matthew Chatfield | IWC Parks & Countryside Manager |
| Nick Farthing | Sustrans |
| Simon O'Dea | Hampshire Police – Beat Manager |
| Steve Chapman | Offshore Sports |
| Tanzie Paige | Teacher Representative |
| Tim Slade | IWC Rights of Way |
| Tom Wilkinson | Halfords |

| ITEM | | ACTION |
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| 1. | Welcome Sue welcomed the group to the meeting. | |
| 2. | Minutes of the Previous Meeting (13th September 2006) The minutes of the meeting were agreed. | |
| 3. | Matters Arising | |
| 3.1 | <u>Cycle Track Signage</u> | |
| | The use of thermoplastic signs has been taken up by Government Office South East (GOSE) with the Department for Transport (DfT), to which the Police have responded favourably. The Police are checking the slip resistance, and a decision from the DfT should be available shortly. | |
| 3.2 | <u>Round the Island Route</u> | |
| | <u>Signage</u> Sue Cracknell meeting Iain Thornton (Traffic Engineer) next week to draw up new sign schedule. | |
| | <u>Map</u> Quote received for £1145 for 10,000 copies excluding artwork amendments. Offers of funds from Wightlink, IWC Events, and the Wayfarers – many thanks. The map will be available for free to users. A draft will be circulated to the Cycle Forum for the next meeting. | Agenda Item |
| 3.3 | <u>Cycling Policy for Esplanades and Sea Walls</u> | |
| | The County Press has recently misreported information about a byelaw which is still being worked through. Sue asked for caution when repeating matters discussed at the Cycle Forum, and to use the agreed Minutes whenever possible. The legal process is complicated and will take around 18 months; meanwhile the current position is that the signage is illegal. | |
| 3.4 | <u>Cycle Crime Figures</u> | |
| | Simon O’Dea not able to attend meeting – agenda item for next meeting. | Agenda Item |
| 3.5 | <u>Potential Park & Cycle site at Blackwater</u> | |
| | Helen Stichbury spoke to Keith Joliffe (Development Control) to ask that a Park & Cycle facility was considered, and he reported that a bridge linking the site to the Newport – Sandown cycleway was already included. Cllr Hobart confirmed that the planning permission has been granted and does include an upgrade to the Standen House right of way to bridleway. | |
| | Post Meeting Note: It appears that proposals for potential Park & Cycle site and upgrade to bridge were not included in planning permission. | Agenda Item |
| 3.6 | <u>Improving road safety for cyclists</u> | |
| | Valerie Lawson, Chris Bartlett and Simon Richardson to liaise on this issue. | |
| 3.7 | <u>Quality Transport Partnership (QTP)</u> | |
| | The Cycle Forum is part of the QTP and the QTP are keen to strengthen that relationship. Agreed CF minutes are now routinely being forwarded to the QTP, and all CF members should have received an invitation to the QTP AGM on 30/11/06. | |
| 4. | Newport Town Route CF members were circulated at the meeting with a plan of Newport on which they are asked to put forward their suggestions for trans-Newport routes. This is attached to the minutes for those members not present – please note response date of 15 th December. This consultation, which has also been sent to Downside | |

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| | <p>Middle, Nodehill Middle, Trinity Middle, ABK Middle and Carisbrooke High Schools, will help to establish desire lines, and will also be sent to Newport Town Forum.</p> <p>It is likely that an interim on-road route(s) will be signed, given that currently there are no funds identified to develop an off-road route which costs around £100,000 per kilometre for new construction.</p> <p>Simon Richardson advised the meeting to ensure that Highways consult with the Forum on any planned traffic schemes within Newport Town. This is the purpose of inviting Iain Thornton and Chris Bartlett, from the IWC Road Safety and Traffic Management Team, to the meeting.</p> | |
| 5. | <p>Cowes Circular Map</p> <p>The map is to be delayed to include the new route which is currently being formulated with Cowes Town Council, enabling good access to the town centre. The scheme is in four sections with two or three options for each section, and agreement has been achieved on one section. Recommendations are being made to IWC council members and senior officer, and an update will be available by the next meeting.</p> | |
| 6. | <p>Sustrans 'Connect To' project</p> <p>The project Sue Cracknell is leading is to provide a 'green' bridge over the railway in Oakfield, including links to Smallbrook Stadium (potential Park & Ride site) and Smallbrook Junction (steam railway). A detailed bid will be available by May 2007, and Sustrans will be putting all bids to a television vote in October 2007.</p> | |
| 7. | <p>Forest Road</p> <p>Helen Stichbury suggested that it might be feasible to make the footway along Forest Road, from Kitbridge School to the Gunville Road junction, into a shared path, thus providing a short off-road section for cyclists.</p> <p>It was generally thought that, although pedestrian use is low, the surface is not suitable and the Gunville Road junction may be an issue for cyclists.</p> | |
| 8. | <p>Isle of Wight Council Officers Reports</p> | |
| 8.1 | <p><u>Cycling Promotion (Sue Cracknell)</u></p> <p>Sue described how suggestions such as the Forest Road one, and routes from Cowes to Porchfield through Parkhurst Forest, may not be feasible at the present time but should be seen as part of the development of the cycling infrastructure.</p> <p><u>West Wight Route</u></p> <p>The team working on the development of this route is sensitive to the concerns of all involved, including landowners, to avoid the urbanisation of the countryside. Whilst the path would be a bridleway and thus provide access to the countryside by all non-vehicular users (including horses, disabled access etc.), treatments to the path surfaces, fencing etc. would all be carried out in consultation with landowners and with regard to the physical environment. The general desire line is to use the existing bed of the old railway, which is almost rideable in it's current condition through much of the length. There are potential gains for landowners to make through access to holiday accommodation, fencing, relocating footpaths away from houses, stewardship awards, etc. Whilst the route would form part of the National Cycle Network, the emphasis has moved away from the term 'cycle route' towards 'bridleway', highlighting the multi-user nature of the path. The project is still in initial stages of consultation and this will continue with as many interested parties as possible. It is key to the development of the strategic network from east to west.</p> | |
| 8.2 | <p><u>Events Team (Claire Whittington)</u></p> <p>The Cycling Festival was an overwhelming success with a huge increase in numbers at different events. Claire is producing a report which will be available to any members on request. Next years leaflet will be in the same format, with the</p> | |

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| | event 15-23 September 2007. | |
| 8.3 | <u>Road Safety – Cycle Training (Matt Archer)</u> Matt reported on the progress of the Bikeability project, which is coming to the end of a three months trial for Cycling England prior to implementation nationally. Currently 97 children have been trained this term to the nationally accredited standard, and we have 10 trainers also up to the nationally accredited level. | |
| 8.4 | <u>Road Safety Engineer (Chris Bartlett)</u> Chris reported that accident figures are showing a steady downhill trend although the number of cyclists is rising. Figures for adults slightly injured are going up but only in line with the national picture. More safety audits are now being conducted, which will help to give a more accurate reflection of events. | |
| 8.5 | <u>School Travel Plans (Helen Stichbury)</u> Almost all schools are reporting around 30% of children wanting to cycle to school. The development of routes, and the provision of cycle skills and on-road training is vital to enabling children to achieve this. | |
| | A 'Travel Options' leaflet including a user-friendly map has been developed with partners for the Carisbrooke area promoting walking, cycling and bus use, and Park & Stride sites for reducing congestion in Wellington Road. The West Wight area has shown an interest in developing a similar leaflet, as are the Cowes schools. | |
| 9. | Any Other Business | |
| 9.1 | <u>Blackhouse Quay</u> Sue confirmed that the development of Little London/Blackhouse Quay in Newport includes a new dual use path linking the Quay to the existing off-road end of the cycle track by the Riverside Vets. | |
| 9.2 | <u>Brading to Bembridge Route</u> The Wayfarers are to pass their comments to Sue re this route. | Wayfarers |
| 10. | Date and time of next meeting Wednesday 24 th January 2007 1500 Meeting Room 1, Enterprise House, St. Cross Business Park, Newport Please send agenda items to Susan.Cracknell@iow.gov.uk by <u>Monday 15th January.</u> MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR! | |