

Isle of Wight Cycle Forum Minutes

21 February 2018 @ 6pm

Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service HQ, Newport.

Present:

Ross Edmund (RE)	Wight Cycle Training
Martin Gibson (MG)	Creative Interpretation Ltd
Val Lawson (VGL)	Cyclewight & Wayfarers
Alex Lawson (AL)	Cyclewight & Wayfarers
Nicky Metcalf (NM)	Wight Cycle Training
Tim Thorne (TT)	Cyclewight Chair, Wayfarers

0. Introduction

Apologies were received from Robin Lang, Cllr John Medland, Alec Broome, Jan Brookes, Dizz Dyer and Zoe Stroud (Visit Isle of Wight at Telegraph Travel & Outdoor Show).

1. Police issues

TT has written to his police contact. No response.

2. Island Roads

There is still no response regarding the CROSS-NEWPORT CYCLE ROUTE safety concerns which were raised at the Cycle Forum in June 2017, in particular the section past the Bargeman's which we think is used as a rat-run at peak time and where motorists may not expect contra-flow cyclists. Island Roads have allocated **Enquiry Ref:16103682 – Little London, Newport** in response to our email on the subject.

TT has written to ask them to attend. TT has met with IR and Visit Isle of Wight and discussed signage. The Shalfleet to Porchfield section had "Road ahead closed" signs for a month when touring cyclists would not realise that it was possible to pass. Contrary to Island Roads information there is a legal "Road closed except cyclists" sign. The same sign would work at the closed Newport Quay bridge where there is conflict between pedestrians & cyclists. We are unclear what will happen at the Quay bridge, but work may start in June. TT has written to IR for clarification. No response

MG said there is a systematic problem with Island Roads regarding schemes involving cycling. Barriers installed at Shide are closer than 2 metres. TT will write to IWC (Bill Murphy) to ask who is responsible for dealing with Island Roads with regards attending Cycle forum meetings.

3. Newport Traffic Schemes; St Mary's Junction

The St Mary's Junction section would take up £4.5M of £9M. It is to be voted on by councillors on 5 May and work is to commence at the end of May. The St Mary's Junction draft version consultation has been open to the public'. TT submitted the Cyclewight comments (and asked for acknowledgement).

4. Cyclewight Cycling Strategy for the Isle of Wight.

This has been well received. It is available from from IWC website: <https://www.iwight.com/azservices/documents/1376-Cycle-Strategy-2017.pdf> as well as from Cyclewight website from where there have been over 300 downloads. TT has been asked to explain how we produced the document to the Sport Council on the island. A meeting of island sports groups has been convened.

5. Newport Permeability Study – Martin Gibson.

Cyclewight submitted a bid to the lottery funded Awards for All, and was granted £10,000 for this study. Martin Gibson has now published "Cycle Permeability for Newport 2018" which is available to download from www.cyclewight.org.uk. It has been well received (currently 36 downloads) and has been circulated

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to IWC Planning and others.

MG said his object was to map the network as it exists, while illustrating important gaps in connection. There were also possibilities for cycling contraflows which could improve the network. It is hoped to persuade parish councillors to endorse improvements in their wards.

6. Wight Cycle Training – Ross Edmunds & Nicky Metcalf.

Wight Cycle Training are now officially registered with the Department for Transport as cycle trainers with Nicky and Ross as qualified instructors and John Allen providing with bicycle maintenance support. They have now had 20,000 meaningful engagements: e.g. on a day at Haylands School they had a group of 20 children. They are also organising “Active Travel Days” where children survey street or junction traffic. They have good response from Head Teachers who are happy to work with an Island based company.

Wight Cycle Training have also have helped Wootton Skateboard Club. In addition John Allen has established a road cycling club for teenagers.

7. IW Cycle Fest.

This is to be the last week in August with the big round the island ride on the first Saturday. Cyclewight are asked to organise our Cyclists’ Breakfast on the Wednesday 29 August, bottom of Quay Street. GP Sports had been expected to attend the forum.

6. Access Fund

TT said there will be a meeting in two weeks time.

8. AOB

Wayfarers’ Cycle Touring Club has made donations of £1,000 each to Cyclewight and to Hampshire & Isle of Wight Air Ambulance.

Wayfarers’ Randonnée: This will take place on Sunday 6 May 2018. Please make contact if able to volunteer to help at checkpoints www.cycleisland.co.uk .

Isle Access Jan Brookes was unable to attend. Isle Access have been awarded a sum of money by South Western Railways to establish cafe facilities at Ryde Esplanade which would be suitable for disabled. Nicky added that she has discussed with Jan the type of bikes which would be suitable for use by disabled.

Wootton Wheelers is a group established by Ross Edmunds which meets at the Sloop, Wootton on Wednesday Evenings for a ride lasting for a couple of hours.

Date of next meeting

TBC June 2018, 1800.

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