

CYCLEWIGHT Committee, 2 July 2018

Present: Tim Thorne (TT), Julia Jones-Evans (JJE), Tanja Rebel (TR), George Wilks (GW), Steve Archer (SA), Alex Lawson (AL),

Apologies: Matthew Whittaker(MW), Martin Gibson (MG), Val Lawson(VGL), Mike Marlow, Steve Goodman

1. IW Cycle Fest

The launch is over weekend of 25-26 August at field by Arreton Barns. Cyclewight will be given facilities for a display which we need to man. ****All Members****

For safety a 30mph speed limit on the stretch of road from East Lane to Arreton Barns entrance should be sought from Island Roads. TT suggested that CW could make some kind of donation towards the paying of the road traffic order for the 30 mph zone. **** Cycle Festival organisers to approach Island Roads *****

There was a feeling that as it is our 25th anniversary we should lead a ride on the Cowes to Sandown track starting from the site. TT has spoken to the organisers and this most probably would be on the Saturday.

We have been asked to arrange a Bikers' breakfast on Wednesday 29 August. This will be at the Sea Street/ Quay Street junction in Newport. It was suggested we approach Lidl as the nearest supermarket. ****All Members****

The website is now live: <http://www.iwcyclefest.com> .

2. Quay Street/ Riverside Bridge

The bridge structure is to be replaced, starting we are told in late August. Cyclewight believes it should be possible to restrict use by bollard(s) which could be deployed when appropriate. Write to support this approach to Chris Ashman, cc. Cllr Ian Ward, Wendy Perera. *****TT to write *****

3. Sustrans NCN: Isle of Wight

Over the last two years Sustrans have carried out a National Cycle Network survey over England and Wales. They made a presentation to IWC of their assessment of the Isle of Wight network. Tim has seen the conclusions which should soon be available to the public. They rate viability of cycle routes based on vehicular usage data i.e. volume & speed of traffic, so the data is valuable. However there are some errors & omissions, including the Fairlee Road route. *****TT to liaise Sustrans (Simon Pratt) *****

4. Gunville Greenway

There will be a meeting on 12 July which will discuss the land swop involving Newport C of E Primary school; this is key to a multi-use through route from the town centre via the recreation ground to the Gunville. Much of the land in question is owned by the council but the agreement of interested parties is required.

5. Undercliff Road

Cllr Dave Stewart has instigated plans to re-instate Undercliff Drive as a through route for traffic. He has the backing of Bob Seely MP. Niton Parish Council are pushing for this. A Bournemouth University study concludes that the closure has led to a loss of income to local businesses. There is also an 'engineering solution' to the land slip problems. Cyclewight takes the view that the route is attractive to walkers, cyclists and horse riders as it is, and therefore will bring other business to the area and provide considerable amenity value. *****TT to write to Cllr David Stewart accordingly*****

6. Permeability Study

The Newport Permeability Study has been completed, and studies at Whippingham & Wootton are near completion. JJE said she hopes to implement improvements in the Mill Street/ Crocker Street area as a test scheme. This is in discussion with IWC Planning.

7. IWC PROW Local Access Forum -

Previous minutes <https://www.iwight.com/azservices/documents/1376-LAF-Minutes-05-04-18.pdf>

The next meeting is on 5 July. Items to raise are:

Medina Greenway has been trashed again by IW Pop Festival traffic – damage reported to

be even worse this time. What is to be done? Since the meeting we have been contacted by PROW who are to pursue reinstatement to a good quality. A CW member is providing photographic evidence.

Island Harbour to E Cowes. Pleased that PROW/ Island Roads have re-instated the footpath from Island Harbour to the Folly. In view of possible developments providing employment at Kingston Cyclewight would urge a sustainable commuting route connecting Newport, Island Harbour, the Folly Inn and direct to Saunders Avenue. This seems to be practical on the ground, given income resulting from planning permission.

An improved **cycle route across Cowes** is something Cyclewight have sought to discuss with Cowes Town Council. Cowes Harbour Commission have published their Harbour Handbook 2018-2019 with a pull-out map showing walking and cycling routes. These include Birmingham Road & High Street as a cycle route, and an unsigned route from Arctic Road to Seaview Road cycletrack, rather than the signed cycle route via Smithards Lane, St Faiths Road & Love Lane. Meanwhile cyclists use Birmingham road in the wrong direction. Cyclewight cannot condone law breaking but would like to see improvements considered by highway authorities and Cowes Town Council.

IW Cycle Festival which will have 35 events across all disciplines. The website is now live: <http://www.iwcyclefest.com> . For the opening weekend on the 25-26 August a village & track will be set up in the field by Arreton Barns weekend. There will be a Cyclewight Bikers Breakfast at Sea Street/ Quay Street junction on Wednesday 29 August – early!

8. Innovation Grant CycleWight Proposals.

Cyclewight applied to the IWC Innovation Grant for funding a project arising from our Strategy. The scheme would be to identify paths that have strategic value but are designated as footpaths or bridle paths that need some upgrading. eg

footpath to bridleway upgrade F24 from Wilmingham Lane to the Yarmouth Freshwater track.

footpath to bridleway upgrade B69 from Yarbridge to Brading Station and connect via new section east of Brading Station to exiting route to Laundry Lane.

We would work in conjunction with PROW

JJE suggested many such schemes are possible but go for the low hanging fruit first.

There are 18 applicants so competition is fierce .

9. Cyclewight stuff

TREASURER Colin Boon has contributed greatly to keeping Cyclewight on the rails so to speak, but is now going on his world cruise so to speak. We desperately need someone to relieve him. Training provided! *****All Members*****

IW CYCLE FORUM Took place on 21 June 2-18 at Wendes Scout Hall. This was an excellent venue but rather out of the way. We are back in touch with IW Fire & Rescue and it was decided to hold the October meeting there. We have a provisional booking for the 17th but the 10th may be better. *****AL to contact IWF&R to book*** ***AL to thank Rod Warne for arranging Wendes Hall *****

10. AOB

Green Impact Scheme is an IW Chamber of Commerce Advisory Committee initiative which Julie Jones-Evans has taken on. JJE found that a Winchester “Green Impact” scheme has been running for a few years and provided a model, having gained a UNESCO award. Local businesses are asked to commit to measures which provide a benefit to the community and to the environment, for example for provision of secure cycle parking for staff and customers. Several have signed up already: see tool kit at www.greenimpact.org.uk/IW

TT suggested an idea to encourage people to travel by bike when on holiday. Cycle shops or businesses stamp (electronically) a record of visits by people arriving on bikes. This could attract a future discount from Wightlink/Red Funnel when purchasing some more tickets.

JJE noted that she has been asked to meet a company called SISTRA who offer cycling related services to local authorities. Do we know anything about them?

Further discussion took place about studies relating to a West Wight route & Gunville Greenway. Cyclewight does currently have some funds to to commission studies when needed.