

## **CYCLEWIGHT Committee, 7 Oct 2021 at Clatterford Rd**

Present: Alex Lawson via zoom (AL), Malcolm Ross (MR), Tim Thorne (TT), Mick Watts (MWa), Matt Whittaker (MWh) George Wilks (GW) Apologies: Jess Garbett

### **1. AGM November 2021**

This could be held at Carisbrooke Village Hall. The Friday is not available but TT will find out if Saturday 28 November can be booked.

There will be a new IWC Local Transport Officer in post who could be invited to speak. Alternatively Graham Biss could be invited to speak about the West Wight Way.

**\*\*\* TT will follow up \*\*\***

### **2. Island Planning Strategy**

The Island Planning Strategy has been issued and determines the planning principles for the Island for the next 15 years. CW made a detailed submission which pointed out policy gaps in covering transport policies. TT said he had assistance for a member to prepare our input, and more will go onto the website.

### **3. West Wight Route**

Each parish council on the proposed West Wight route has now received a presentation by Graham Biss. The presentation to Yarmouth parish council was attended by John Allen, who spoke to say that local residents will benefit as well as visitors & the tourist industry. TT understands that there are a couple of objectors, one being a landowner on the route.

Graham Biss, who works for Natural Enterprise CIC, will be project manager; this is ideal as there will be continuity from negotiation through to the implementation. Natural Enterprise manage part of the route and could make an early start here, which is to be welcomed.

It was discussed if Sustrans should be contacted for their support. It was felt that this may be helpful provided Graham Biss is in agreement.

A name is needed for the route to help with publicity. Ideas are sought. Should we contact others for their views? (Ramblers/equestrians/LAF/Parish Councils/MPs)

### **4. Barriers**

A member contacted TT to ask why there are still many barriers on cycle routes. LTN 1/20 actually says they are unnecessary & should not be present. It was agreed we should make a list of existing barriers which are the most inconvenient and this could then be submitted. These could include Seaview Road; Park Road; Blackhouse Quay; Old Westminster Lane. MWh said he had a list of 10 barriers / bollards round Cowes which could be removed. (Now provided) AL said there are cases where they provide safety such as the barriers at Lady's Walk in Ryde where the route is steep and cycles can reach speeds dangerous to pedestrians. There will be a cost to removal and in some cases replacement by bollards. This would be something that would take several years and will have to be funded by IWC. TT would contact Martin Gibson

who has long campaigned for their removal.

MWh asked which mapping tool should we use? TT said anything that Island Roads can work with.

## 5. Meeting with IWC & Island Roads

MWa agreed to contact Stewart Chandler to arrange a further meeting. Topics to include #Barrier removal # State of track at Blackwater & elsewhere. It was noted that badger burrows need to be dealt with in a November window. TT said there is a badger expert on the island who can advise and is permitted to carry out such work. **\*\*MWa will contact IWC/IR\*\***

MWh said the East Medina Greenway route is a shambles after the IW Festival event – the stabilising mesh is sticking up in places. AL said PROW have dealt with the festival organisers following previous damage. GW suggested that we obtain pictures of damage and send to County Press. **\*\*TT contacted PROW. They are awaiting a report from Recreation Manager.\*\***

Referring to the A37 bridleway from the cycle track into Rookley TT said that the landowner has agreed to a possible upgrade to make it cycleable. Can we ask PROW to take this on board to provide a cost estimate? Should we chase IWC to raise 106 money from housing developments in Rookley? **\*\*TT has contacted PROW and they will carry out an initial survey.\*\***

TT said there is serious track damage caused by a tree root on the Priory Farm Lane route from Carisbrooke into Newport.

## 6. Cycle Forum

The last Isle of Wight Cycle Forum was in February 2020 (14 attended & 8 apologised). AL & TT will update the circulation list. We will circulate current contacts to establish interest.

We will say there are record numbers cycling on the island in 2021, and the Tour of Britain will hold its closing stage on the Isle of Wight on 11 September 2022. **\*\*TT to contacted Parks and Recreation to establish their plans.\*\***

The Local Transport Plan launch was attended by MR & TT. It was noted that cycling accidents were very high on the island last year; the KSI figures for 2020 should be available on line. A meeting is to take place involving Island Roads and the Police. TT has asked for CW to be represented. It is understood that Cllr Phil Jordan is cabinet member responsible for roads while Cllr Ian Stevens is responsible for public safety.

A forum agenda would include cycling safety as part of sustainable transport and zero carbon future. IWC officers concerned are Natasha Dix and Holly Jones.

## 7. Car Free Day 2021 & 2022

World Car Free Day on 22 September was promoted at St Thomas Square, Newport, attended by # Beryl Bikes # People Powered CIC # Dr Bike # IW Heritage Zone # CycleWight and others. Laura Cansdale from the Regeneration Team, who organised the event, is keen to repeat it next year but with more activities etc: corporate participation, closed roads, additional displays. It was discussed that it could be across Island towns, Ryde, Shanklin, Sandown to

help to make on impact.

## 8. AOB

# For COP26 in Glasgow Cycling UK is co-ordinating rides across the UK on Saturday 6 November. We discussed holding rides on the island, perhaps converging at Church Litten at noon. We agree to follow up the event. **\*\* TT to contact Newport Parish \*\***

# TT was contacted by a Robert Sauven regarding help for local councils to apply for LCWIP funding. MR said this is matched funding that is available, and many councils are not aware of it. TT to contact Robert to see how councils can be encouraged to apply. Wootton and Cowes have both expressed interest in having a LCWIP. **\*\*TT will contact \*\***

# MR drew attention to the Tour of Britain which will hold its closing stage on the Isle of Wight in September next year. CW will contact Lee Matthews to be kept informed and to give support. See AGM item & Cycle Forum items above.

# Tee shirts, polo shirts, hoodies etc with CW Logo – discussed. **\*\*TT to send graphics to MWh who will find costs\*\***.

# MR said the Ryde Esplanade scheme is going through approval, having adopted many suggestions from the consultation. Cycle Route 22 will be continued past the Hovertravel entrance to the gardens. It will be surfaced in green, while the bus route will be surfaced in red.

# MWh said the Cargo Bike trial has ended after 2 months. Bike(s) are still available for loan subject to conditions including suitable insurance cover. A report will be issued. A good future is foreseen and schools are seen as a customer for document deliveries which are currently carried out by internal combustion engines. (ICE)

# MR said that a route for cycling and walking at the top of Ryde has been resurfaced. This connects with Pig Leg Lane & Rosemary Lane near to a new residential home for the elderly. Tim suggested a photo to add to website. **\*\*MR to take photo\*\***

# The cycle route from Quay Lane to Laundry Lane is to be closed for up to a month. This was scheduled for October but has been deferred. This is an important link from Brading to St Helens for local cyclists and for the likes of the Wayfarers. The reason for closure is for a cable to be installed by Wight Fibre. AL thinks a month is too long and would like CW to oppose closure for this length of time. TT said utility companies often overestimate the length of time they need. **\*\*AL to contact PROW for update and to express our concern over length of closure\*\***

# Previous minutes item 5 Godshill area routes. TT said he has been contacted re our response.

# Previous minutes item 6 AOB Medham Link. PROW have inspected surface damage, deemed due to water flow, and have added work to their maintenance schedule.

# Previous minutes item 6 AOB Fairlee Road footway (pavement) shared walking and Newport-Wootton cycle route: AL has contacted Cllr Matthew Price. No reply yet. **AL will bring up at LAF.**

**Next Meeting: TBA**