

CYCLEWIGHT Committee, 16 April 2020

Zoom joiners: Jess Garbett (JG), Martin Gibson (MG), Naomi Hyland (NH), Julie Jones-Evans (JJE), Val Lawson (VGL), Alex Lawson (AL), Kayleigh Richter (KR), Malcolm Ross (MR), Tim Thorne (TT), Matt Whitaker (MW), George Wilks (GW).

1. LCWIP

The Department for Transport Cycling & Walking Investment Strategy sets national targets for walking & cycling, and encourages local authorities to prepare Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plans. Councillor Ian Ward, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure and Transport, sets out plans with a view to government funding, and recommends Isle of Wight Council adopts the plans. A decision will come after 22 April 2020 and will likely accept the recommendation.

Documents circulated 2780-LCWIP-Report-v1.pdf 2780-LCWIP-Appendix-1.pdf The appendix goes into detail regarding Newport and Ryde. Criticism has been raised that these areas only are targeted. However MG & TT said that these need not be the sole areas included. MW said he would like to see a link across the island. AL said Cyclewight had contacted parish councils, who should be involved. JJE said she could contact Lee Matthews to suggest that further projects are included. MG said that the document contains errors. Also the CycleWight Cycling Strategy is in final version not draft. *****Action JJE & TT to co-ordinate with with IWC Strategic Manager Lee Matthews *****

2. NEWPORT HARBOUR

Newport Harbour is the cycling route hub for the island with at least 200 commuting journeys each day. Re-development of Newport Harbour has been studied and consulted on over the last 2 years. The consultation terminates on 20 April 2020.

NH said the plans do not give enough priority to cycling routes already there. A new hub is envisaged near Premier Inn hence well away from town centre. The route could be pushed away from its existing alignment towards the road.

KR said most of the time travel plans are not followed up – will we end up simply building more roads? AL said that the Cowes Newport cycle route past the Bargemen's Rest pub is currently dangerous to walkers and cyclists and promised safety improvements have not been carried out.

The points that we feel could be made are:

* It is a busy commuter route for cyclists and any proposals should not make it more difficult; At least 200 commuting journeys a day.

* Design should be of the highest standard so there is no conflict in areas where cyclists and pedestrians mix.

* The cycling and walking routes must be part of the initial planning application so as to ensure the development will have the best possible outcome for all users of the area.

* Vehicular traffic must not be allowed on the west side of the development: Blackhouse Quay and Little London.

* Cycle routes need to be clearly identified.

**"The bridge" may have limited use depending on the design.

*****All Members to submit comments by 1200 on 20 April 2020 *****

<https://www.iow.gov.uk/Residents/Environment-Planning-and-Waste/Planning-Policy/new/Supplementary-Planning-Documents/About-1718> policy.consultation@iow.gov.uk

3. Letter to Bob Seely re government spending

The current lockdown shows the benefits from cleaner air and quieter roads. As reported by Cycling UK the Rishi Sunak Budget for England & Wales allocated £27 billion for road building but left local authorities with no money for walking & cycling networks. It was agreed to

*****Write to Bob Seely MP to demand investment in active & sustainable transport infrastructure.*****

4. Space for Cyclists

Do we have any faves? Fairlee Road is an obvious one! There is much talk of social distancing. It appears that it will be with us for some time. In other parts of the country (London, Brighton and York) there are moves afoot to give up more space to pedestrians and cyclists. Please read the article. Can you think of places on the Island that may be worthy of such action? Please do contact us.

<https://road.cc/content/news/more-space-cyclists-and-walkers-major-london-roads-272771>

5. Undercliff event

From previous minutes: The IWC intention to seek funding to re-open the vehicle through route was discussed at the Cycle Forum. There is now a speed limit of 30 mph on the Undercliff, and the alternative Round-the-Island direction signs have been approved by the DfT. CW should chase Island Roads to install these, and when this happens we should arrange publicity and an event/ride/celebration. The IW Ramblers & Hants & IW Wildlife Trust could be invited to participate. Saturday 6 June was suggested as a date.

TT has contacted parish councillor Stephen Cockett, who says he would support this but thinks local businesses would not give much support. It was felt that we should review this on the next few months. There was nothing stopping CW from running an event.

6. Web site addresses

We have acquired websites IWCyclingfestival.com & co.uk & .org.uk. JG confirmed we have paid registration fees. AB is completing formalities. MW suggested we need to put contact information on the websites so that people are aware of the availability for any such event. They should be linked back to the Cyclewight website.

7. AOB

As part of Zero Carbon targeting, Kayleigh Richter has been tasked to set out (by end of April) an Environment Strategy particularly including transport covering the next 5 years. She requested any suggestions to be made or sent to her later.

JJE said 20mph speed limits would contribute to safety & hence more use of active travel. AL said electric vehicles should be promoted in order to encourage use of non-fossil fuel. MR said a Greening of Ryde project is underway, and hedges are being restored.

MW said we should list the bike shops open to support them

The Coastal Path consultation is open to representations until 13 May 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/england-coast-path-on-the-isle-of-wight-comment-on-proposals>

8. FUTURE MEETINGS

CW20200416.odt 2Of 3 19/4/2020

IW Cycle Forum normally February, June, October.)

Committee: TBA

