

CYCLEWIGHT Committee, 20 August 2018

Present: Tim Thorne (TT), Matthew Whittaker(MaW), Martin Gibson (MG), Val Lawson(VGL), George Wilks (GW), Mick Watts (MiW), Malcolm Ross (MR), Andy Newman (AN), Alex Lawson (AL),

Apologies: Julia Jones-Evans (JJE), Tanja Rebel (TR)

1. Cyclists' Breakfast

Weds 29 August 630-900, at Junction of Sea Street & Quay Street. Andy will provide camper van facility although we can call on Peter Gould. Food Safety was discussed.

2. IW Cycle Fest

The launch is over weekend of 25-26 August at field by Arreton Barns. Saturday will be covered by MW, SA, MR & Sunday by VGL & AL. Arrangements made for printing newsletters & breakfast flyers & for gazebo. A "Wider for the Rider" banner will be produced – it has been designed by Cat James. SpyVelo will have a police close pass mat on show. TT will circulate the programme and the H&S documents.

3. St Mary's Roundabout

On 5 September the consultant's report will be made available to the cabinet who are scheduled to come to a decision on 13 September. From info published so far TT & MG say few of our suggestions have been taken up apart from making the Dodnor Lane path continuous. MG considers the highway width is greater than required, and more space could be allocated to adjacent paths.

VGL & others said the scheme is aimed at speeding up vehicle traffic so will make things worse for cyclists unless specific improvements are included. VGL added that the Cowes bus stop opposite the hospital should be designed so that cyclists can pass behind so people queuing feel safer. MG said we should write to make our disapproval known to cabinet members once the report is published. TT said we have access to a traffic consultant, Mark Philpot, City Infinity; should we commission & pay for advice? It was agreed to enquire re rates for this. *****TT MG*****

MW said there have been two serious/fatal accidents in the area which have not been taken into account. Should we contact the council scrutiny committee to look at this issue? *Is there a link to this map of crashes?*

4. Undercliff (Drive)

Island Roads have sought the views of cyclists on developing & signing Undercliff Drive as a quiet multi-use section of the Round the Island route. This implies that in the short term the road will not be re-connected. A meeting is convened for 23 August which will be attended by some of us.

GW said there had been a public meeting at Niton Village Hall which discussed the issue of re-instating Undercliff Drive as a through route for vehicles. Views for and against were expressed. The Green Party and the parish council was represented. AL said that the Public Rights of Way considered the issue at its meeting on 17 July 2017, with a view to promoting a walking/cycling/horse-riding route, but was told by Niton Parish Council that local businesses would not survive in their current form unless re-instatement was funded.

AN expressed the Randonnee view that they should continue using the current route. This is on grounds of safety as large numbers of cyclists would be turning at the junction. In addition the Undercliff route would bypass the rest stop at the rugby club on Whitwell Road. However it is highly desirable to have alternative routes here and elsewhere on the island. Consider different coloured signs.

5. Bob Seely Vision for the Island

This document can be obtained at <http://islandvision.uk/#manifesto> In one chapter "Getting Around – Island Transport" he gives credit to Cyclewight along with Natural Enterprise and the Council for progress in cycle routes, and he advocates several cycle projects in some detail. We agreed the Cyclewight should write to welcome & thank him for his support. However cycling should be promoted as sustainable urban transport, not simply as leisure & tourist activity.

*****Write to Bob Seely MP*****

6. Wider for the Island banner

With the message "Go Wider for the Rider" and showing a cyclist, police officer and car with the gaps labelled, we have procured a banner about 2m long. Artwork is by Cat James. MG noted that West Midlands police, who initiated the promotion, have a good Twitter site.

7. Permeability study, Newport.

The final element of the contract is to seek the views of non-cyclists. This will be done via Facebook.

The Creative Interpretations project has collaborated with Newport Parish Council re Crocker Street/Mill Street changes aimed to promote streets as residential access and limit through routes. MR asked about collaboration with the council. MG said the Regeneration team are now also dealing with infrastructure and are updating the Island Plan which recognises urban permeability. MR says the Mayor of Ryde is interested, in the context of Smallbrook area.

8. Innovation Grant

Cyclewight has been awarded a £5k IWC Innovation Grant, which we will supplement with matched funding of our own. Unfortunately it is all to revenue. We will look at cycling network strategic links where through routes can be constructed. End date is 1 April 2019.

9. Gunville Greenway

Permission has been granted for the land transfer although official letter is awaited. The IWC have transferred Vectis Field to the parish council.

10. Cyclewight stuff

TESCO Ryde have been in touch with TT and have offered the facility to have a display board in the entrance. This could be for a Friday night & Saturday morning sometime around 20/27 October.

BANKING We seek a new treasurer. We agree to move our account to a new provider, (Nationwide?)

11. Cycling Safety government consultation

Tanja Rebel has drawn attention to the government consultation on cycling safety.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/new-cycling-offences-causing-death-or-serious-injury-when-cycling>

She has written to minister Jesse Norman to draw attention to the lack of money for measures for cycle safety. One of the Queen's doctors has been killed by a lorry while cycling in London, which highlights the problem. Cyclewight & members should follow up this issue. *****Write to minister: TT & ALL *****

12. County Press: St Mary's Roundabout front page

It was discussed 1) Should respond to the County Press ? 2) Should we push for an eastern through cycle route ? 3) Should we ask the public for their views when we display at three future events ?

It was agreed that we should consult the public and that we need to come up with suggestions & solutions, not just to condemn..

13. Isle of Wight links with mainland

VGL had visited Gosport and found that signs for the Isle of Wight Ferry are inadequate through Portsmouth Harbour station. Cyclists are mistakenly travelling on the Gosport ferry. Decided to contact Nicola Rogers of Visit Isle of Wight. *****Action TT*****

VGL added there is a BROMPTON hire facility at the Hard. The charge is £2.50/day.

14. Cycle Track future maintenance

MG said we should ask how funding will be arranged for cycle track maintenance in the future. When section 106 money is available will it be used for sustainable transport or simple to fund the PFI ?

MG also noted that there are cracks in the cycle track behind Wootton High Street which hopefully have been fixed in the last few weeks.

15. Local Access Forum

The **IW Cycle Forum** will be on 10 October from 6-8 pm at IW Fire & Rescue HQ.

*****Action AL & TT to prepare & circulate agenda*****