

## **CYCLEWIGHT Committee, 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020**

**Present:** Naomi Hyland (NH), Julie Jones-Evans(JJE), Val Lawson (VGL), Alex Lawson (AL), Malcolm Ross (MR), Tim Thorne (TT), Matt Whitaker (MWh), Mick Watts(MWa) Tim Thorne(TT) Andy Newman (AN) Alan Bennett (AB)  
Apologies Jessica Garbett, Martin Gibson, Tanja Rebel, George Wilks

Comments will not necessarily be attributed to a particular person.

### **1. Island Roads contract**

After a Freedom of Interest request from a CW member it has become clearer the part IR plays in the maintenance of the paths. CW has sent a letter to Ian Ward and Jayne Dando, the new highways manager, posing some questions seeking clarification. The issues include but not exclusively.

- i. The inspection process, results and how they are acted upon by IR.
- ii. The difference in approach to sealed and unsealed surfaces.
- iii. The issue that funding appears to be needed by IWC to repair the shortcomings in the surface.

TT sent the FYI document to the committee post meeting.

### **2. AGM**

It was decided to go ahead with the AGM on its traditional last Friday in November, the 27<sup>th</sup>. A keynote speaker could make a presentation live or it could be pre-recorded. TT suggested maybe someone from Cycling UK. Google Meet allows up to 100 participants for an hour. It was felt that it would be enough especially if the Chairman's address did not go on too long! MWh said it would need a rehearsal before committing to one particular system. Could we have a virtual raffle? It was suggested that questions from the membership could be asked for before the meeting.

### **3 The Vision**

The Vision was sent out to the membership for comments. All the responses were very favourable. There are several points made that may be worthy of inclusion. TT would send them to NH to make the necessary amendments if deemed relevant. There has been an offer from a professional proof reader to look at the final draft for free.

### **4. Bells and posters**

The bell sessions so far have been very successful. Over 200 bells have been issued. It was felt that it was good to make contact with a wide variety of people. The Cw postcards are very useful to issue when talking to people. NH had talked to visitors who were disappointed with 'Bicycle Island'. NH felt the comments could be used as a campaign tool. This is worth further investigation. The next bell issuing session is to be at Appley on the weekend of 31/10- 1/11 MR MWa, NH

The posters were not discussed. Oversight of the Chair.

### **5. Ways of increasing participation of the membership.**

MWh has added to Membermojo member's page a section on what are they interested in linked to CW. It has been successful. NH produced a table of responses.

Top of the list is organising a ride. This at the moment would be difficult. It is something the group did at one time on a regular basis. It was felt our Cycling Uk insurance would be sufficient. GW is very keen on rides and so it was unanimously decided to ask him to organise a ride once Covid restrictions had lifted. This could a good opportunity to highlight some of the problems of the cycleways.

Other ideas for those who wanted to help with campaigning are to write letters, contact Councillors etc.

TT has used Membermojo to send out short news briefings to the membership. This was felt to be a good way to keep in contact with the membership. In no way should this be seen as a replacement of the newsletter.

AB suggested to revitalise the on line chat forum as a means of members discussing issues. (Now done) In the next newsletter/bulletin members need to make the membership aware of this facility.

Going on rides	15
Actively campaigning	5
Helping on stall	3
Distributing publicity	2
Helping with admin	1
Training	1
Bike Repair	1
Admin?	1
Helping with Media	1

## **6 CycleWight Admin**

MWh has now created a CW office in the cloud via Google. MWh has issued instructions on how to access this. It was felt all members of the committee could use it. New files could be placed in the “unfiled” folder for filing at a later date. This will take some time to be true resource but it does mean CW records will be safer than on one computer.

## **7. Cycling UK Cycle Advocacy Network**

CW has been invited to a member of this group. TT sent the invite to the committee. It was felt to be a good move. TT has accepted on behalf of the group. We would need to i/d one or two committee members to be our reps. Cycling Uk has issued a handbook for advocacy groups, which is very useful. It is something that could be placed on the web site to help members. There are web pages too.

## **8 AoB**

JJE. Road Safety week at the end of November, She also been drawing people's attention to 20's plenty campaign, with longer evenings coming.

TT. The first part of the Gunville Greenway is being constructed during half term at Hazel Close making the connection to Hinton Road much easier. Rights of Way are keen to do something linked to its completion. Maybe a way of getting the membership involved? JJE pointed out the Newport Council now lease the Rec and Vectis Field from IWC so completing the path to Wellington Road may become easier. JJE reminded teas could now be purchased from the cricket pavilion.

MWh asked what had happened to the funds for the Emergency Active Travel Fund. TT said he did not know. Subsequently MWh has had an answer from Ian Ward. In

short not much. IW said most of the money from Tranche 1 had been spent (!) and they were waiting to hear back from the DfT about Tranche 2

Comments from the committee on using Google Meet would be good. **(All)** Several members did not get the link though it was easy to send it again when notified. VGL found she kept losing the connection. Does it have some of the facilities of Zoom? Muting groups of people, view of a master screen etc.