

CYCLEWIGHT Committee, 21 September 2015

Present: Tim Thorne (TT), Vic Mann (VM), Martin Pay (MP), Val Lawson (VGL), Alex Lawson (AL). Apologies: Colin Boon, Mike Marlow, Steve Goodman, Matt Whittaker, Tanja Rebel,

1. Cyclewight AGM

Carisbrooke Village Hall booked for Friday 27 November at 7.30pm. It is opposite the Co-op in Carisbrooke. A speaker from Sustrans was suggested. Nick Farthing will be asked, although he has a lot on his plate as he has to cover a large area. Contact Nick: ****TT****

2. Island Roads

TT suggested that we should give a problem list to Island Roads ahead of the Cycle Forum, so that they could respond at the meeting. Items are

The need to Resurface Shide-Blackwater cycle track. Why was this closed without notice for a week in the summer? No diversion offered.

Cycle track from Crematorium to Station Road, Wootton; Signs appeared to be up after work had finished

Ashlake Copse Lane completion

Tree roots Langbridge to Alverstone

Danger from ice on Horryngford boardwalk and bridge between Stag Lane & Dodnor Lane. from Standing water forms at these places but could be drained in some way to reduce danger.

Cycle route past Bargeman's Rest in Newport.

3. Isle of Wight Cycling Festival, 5 to 27 September 2015.

The launch was held at Seaclose Park and features included BMX /Mountain bike training circuit. However attendance was low as people were attracted to the location. The Cycle Cinema in the evening was successful with 80 or so. Many different leaders arranged rides in the program including VM who led an off-road ride. Both the Wayfarers & Autumn Tints were part of the program. Congratulations to IWC Events team for the Festival organisation.

Cyclist's Breakfast was also successful & was attended by at least 95. Thanks to Peter & Nola for providing campervan & making drinks.

TT proposed a repeat of the breakfast earlier in the year at a different location, e.g. outside the hospital. VGL suggested an electric bike ride event. *****TT plus volunteers to organise*****

Also VGL suggested promoting the Southern Vectis Bike Buses by seeing how many folding bikes could be taken on board at once. However MP said the buses were not well used in the middle of the day while at other times all seats were full and bike spaces empty. MP suggested talking to Southern Vectis to get their views.

4. Cyclewight Website

Alan Bennett is webmaster for www.cyclewight.org.uk. He has requested funding of £45 for premium version of the program he uses. This was agreed by everyone. *****CB*****

5. Community Action IW

This agency is providing LSTF2 money to suitable schemes. Deadline for outline application is 7th October, with full details by November and completion by April 2016. The guidance notes contain: 1. Introduction 2. Objectives: Drive Less See More. 3. Who can apply: businesses & not-for-profit organisations. The minimum grant is £5k. Up to £47k funding is available of which

£37k is for revenue expenditure and £10k for capital.

Ideas: VM said there is a desperate need for off-road maps. Others agreed with this. This could include one of the Red Squirrel Trail. It was agreed that Cyclewight will bid for updating & reprinting the RTI map as well as other ideas. Maps would come under revenue *****TT plus volunteers*****

6. IW Cycle Forum, Tuesday 13 October.

This would take place at 1800 at IW Fire & Rescue HQ at Newport. TT has invited Chris Gregory of Green Travel Ltd who have been contracted to deliver part of the LSTF2 project. Also he has invited Zoe Stroud of Visit Wight, who can update about the Pearl Izumi event. Island Roads have been invited. Circulate agenda & general invitation: ******AL*****

7. QTP

VGL reported on the Quality Transport Partnership meeting on 15 September.

The new Red Funnel high speed ferry is under construction. It had been reported that it will take bikes, but it seems that this will be restricted to folding bikes. Competing ferries including the Hovercraft all take bikes. VGL will contact Red Funnel regarding cycle parking at the West Cowes terminal, which has previously been planned but not provided. It was agreed that she would make this a Cyclewight approach. *****VGL*****

VGL will attend a meeting of the Alternative Transport Advisory Group. This is associated with Age Concern, and is reviewing transport for the over 50's including to St Mary's Hospital.

The future of Island Line also was discussed at the QTP.

8. LAF

AL reported on the Local Access Forum held by IWC RoW on 3 September, and attended by landowners, and countryside users. Natural England were invited but failed to attend.

An incident at Headon Warren where a cyclist using the footpath was alleged to be abusive to walkers led to a complaint to the landowner, the National trust, and to the Police. This was flagged to Cyclewight at the time and a warning placed on our website.

The Ramblers have asked why rights of ways are closed for up to 3 weeks for pop festivals. They have also asked for assurances that the Medina Greenway, from Newport to Island Harbour, will be adequately re-instated following damage when used by golf buggies during the pop festival.

Higher Level Stewardship Permissive Access schemes are losing funding over the next few years. The LAF and its chairman Mark Earp along with RoW are reviewing the routes affected on the IW. Some routes could be saved by negotiation with landowners.

Open Spaces and Village Greens are also under review as a consequence of legislation in 2000 and in 2006 which requires updated registration by the local authority. There are a dozen or so such areas on the island, and landowners within these areas can appeal.

The IWC has a Rights of Way Improvement Plan which may benefit from the LSTF2. Green Travel is the company tasked with delivering the LSTF2 project. Its representative Chris Gregory will be invited to the next LAF by RoW officer Jennine Gardiner, and has also been invited to the Cycle Forum.

9. AOB

MP asked about a badly needed West Wight route & this was discussed.

POST-MEETING NOTE: We could suggest to Island Roads that emergency closures which take place (section 2 above) are notified to IWC RoW (section 8 above) with the request for Jennine Gardiner to pass on to her contacts. These include TT who can post to our Facebook.