

CYCLEWIGHT Committee, 26 June 2019

Present: Steve Archer (SA), Martin Gibson (MG), Alex Lawson (AL), Tanja Rebel (TR), Malcolm Ross (MR), Tim Thorne (TT), Mick Watts (MWa), Matthew Whittaker(MWh),

Apologies: Steve Goodman, Jess Garbutt, Julie Jones-Evans.

Agenda Items

Merstone event?

Active Travel Conference - Kayleigh Richter Active Travel Officer

Facebook/ Social Media

Island Roads - Closure Notices etc.

Closing of Newport to Sandown 9(again)

Banking

1. MERSTONE EVENT.

Natural Enterprise have asked Cyclewight to run an event which will be held to open the Merstone Station improvements which have been carried out by a grant National Lottery Community Fund. The aims are to promote sustainable travel / transport / tourism, to introduce people to cycling & waking, and to promote using Merstone as a hub, for which route maps will be produced.

There is some funding available to cover costs of the opening, while John Allen has offered support and to make some bikes available. It was noted that the car park space will be needed so is not available for those who see fit to drive there. Ben Brown, the farmer who owns the adjacent field, has offered to make it available for car parking.

TT asked for agreement and support. SA said that we must make a big push to promote Cyclewight at the event. MG asked if IWC will cut the grass around the station. (Gift to Nature should do this). Also we should obtain crowd control barriers to make the event safe.

Invitations were to be issued as follows: Bike shops, Visit IoW, Island Roads, Isle Access/Wheels for All, Bikes for Africa, Bike Jumble, Footprint Trust, Island BikeWorks, Peter Fellows/East Wight Landscape Partnership, Hullabaloo, etc.

Publicity: Facebook Ads (is TT our expert?). On the Wight (will list events for free).

2. ACTIVE TRAVEL CONFERENCE

Kayleigh Richter IWC Active Travel Officer had intended to come to this meeting but was forced to withdraw & apologise at the last minute. However she planned to arrange an Active Travel Conference on a day to be determined but which could be the same day as our AGM.

Agreed that TT would book Carisbrooke Hall for Friday 29 November. ****TT****

3. FACEBOOK /SOCIAL MEDIA

A Social Media awareness & training day was held by the Access Fund. Facebook, Twitter, Linkedin and Instagram were explained as means of promoting good public relations and making people aware of what is going on. All agreed this is something we are not good at. MWh suggested we need an expert in social media to advise & to set us up properly. TT said there is an issue with our Facebook page which makes it look like a personal page. There is a difference between a personal page and a group page, and we need the latter.

4. ISLAND ROADS – CLOSURE NOTICES

There is a weekly email from Island Roads listing road and cycle track closures. TT lacks time to check this. Mick Watts volunteered to take this on.

5. CLOSING OF NEWPORT-SANDOWN CYCLETRACK AGAIN

TT will write to IWC about the closure scheduled in September for 10 weeks of Horringford-Alverstone cycle track, and will include the data about cycle track usage as collated by MWh .

6. BANKING

Having agreed at our last committee meeting held on 9 May that "Jessica Garbett is delegated by Cyclewight to act on her own for the purpose of Business Internet Banking transactions through HSBC UK, up to £250 per day and Cyclewight indemnifies HSBC UK against any misuse of this facility" we are

now good to go. The previous account will be closed by previous treasurer and funds transferred into the new account.

7. AOB

Isle Access are looking for funds for Wheels for All. Cyclewight will consider helping with expenses e.g. vehicle hire, storage etc.

As a speaker for the AGM TT will approach Mark Philpott who blogs on active travel and is knowledgeable on walking & cycling infrastructure.

TT said IWC has launched a consultation on the reinstatement of Undercliff Drive to vehicular traffic. It is proposed to produce a feasibility study at a cost of £200,000. It was noted that the route is available to walkers, cyclists, equestrians, and could be used by Wheels for All. The consultation runs from 14 June to 26 July. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/UndercliffDriveConsultation2019>

MWa said he had visited Medina Greenway. The path across the field beyond Seaclose is covered in woodchip and unsuitable for cycling. Also the central pillar is missing. TT will write to PROW to report this. He will also ask about the Newport C of E path and about re-instatement of the work at the SSE site on the Cowes-Newport cycle track. *Post-Meeting note: The IWC Recreation & Open Spaces manager Lee Matthews will oversee the reinstatement works in Seaclose Park and will attend to this*

MG talked about Project Northwood in Cowes at the recreation ground. They hope to provide a track round the circumference so that children can learn to cycle and to improve through access. Funding is sought for this.

AL said the Isle of Wight Mountain Bike centre have been in touch to apologise for not coming to the Cycle Forum on 19 June. They will come to the next one, and asked when it was. AL will contact them.

At the Cycle Forum Andy Newman made a report on the Randonnee, now organised by Cycleisland CIC. The large numbers of cyclists provoked issue with motorists unable to pass. However a lot of money was raised for charities by riders and by PTA's at checkpoints. Will Ainslie asked if any PR help was sought by Cycleisland eg. from Visit Isle of Wight. Perhaps more could be done to bring this to the public notice.

MR produced documents from 20 years ago. The first proposed pedestrianisation of the centre of Newport. The second was the programme for the Cycle Campaign Spring Conference of the Cycle Campaign Network, the CTC and Cyclewight, held on 5 May 2001 at Ryde High School.

TR said there is a showing of the film Down to Earth at the Quay Arts on Wednesday 3 July at 730 pm. It is "One family's journey in search of the keepers of the earth".