



www.cyclewight.org.uk
Contact us through the web site

Go Wider of the Rider

CycleWight, Dizz Dyer and David Walter have been working together to raise awareness of some of the issues faced by vulnerable road users. With the assistance of Southern Vectis and LSTF funds it has been possible to put a message on the back of two buses. "Go wider of the rider".

Please, if you see either bus, take a picture (safely) and send it to CycleWight through our web site. It would be great to create a gallery. It will also be an opportunity to discuss this issue with your non-cycling friends. What does it say in the highway code about overtaking cyclists and horse riders?"

Thanks to everyone who has been involved in this project.



Transition Fund

We are very used to term LSTF (Local Sustainable Transport Fund). It has provided a large amount of money over the last few years for various improvements. On this page are several stories linked to the use of this funding. From 2017/18 there is to be over £500 million pounds spent on walking and cycling for the duration of the parliament. In the meantime to tide over the gap in revenue this year the government has announced a transition fund. It has been all very last minute but the Council with the assistance of the firm Green Traveller have sought monies to carry on the good work of the last few years. It is a fairly modest sum of £750,000 and is to be spent on enhancing the work carried out in 2015/16; linked to tourism, the work in schools and with employers. Well done to the Council for wanting to be involved in this initiative. We await the outcome, which will be soon, as the projects have to be up and running by May

Access Funds

As mentioned earlier the government is to spend over £500 million pounds on cycling and walking. This is not as generous as it would seem as it is spread over 3 years and such things as Bikeability Training are included in this figure. The good news is that it is for capital projects ie build things.

CycleWight believe that we must prepare for this. As has been the case in recent times the government issues very tight deadlines and so any projects we have must be 'shovel ready'. If you have any ideas of physical improvements would you like to see please do contact us. Needless to say we have a list but fresh ideas are always good.

CycleWight have already written to various bodies on the Island and the mainland to clearly understand the criteria for accessing the funds.

Cyclists' Breakfast

Two in less than one year! St Mary's Hospital held a breakfast to encourage people to travel to work in a sustainable way. People who arrived by bike, bus or walked were given a free breakfast. As it was winter hot food was on offer. None of those croissant type things - this was bacon rolls - a proper job. CW helped to publicise the event. It was open to all people who worked in the area and several people dropped in on their way to work. Or was it just the smell of cooking bacon. Of course as it was at the hospital it was very healthy bacon! This event was partly funded by the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, which was administered by the Chamber of Commerce.

Newsletter – Please read.

It was decided to email the newsletter to as many people as possible to save on costs. If you are willing to do this please could you inform us through the 'Contact' Section on the web site. If you are renewing your membership you can put your email address on the back of your cheque

Membership

In the square by this item there is a box, which if ticked highlights that your membership is now due. £5.00 Per. Household. £3.00
Unwaged. Make cheques payable to "CycleWight" and sent to: Mr D Jackson, Riffles, Sloop Lane, Wootton, PO33 4HR

Quarr Hill (And others)

One of the real bug bear for many cyclists is this spot. It is narrow and being a busy road, cars do try to squeeze past. Even the fit struggle up the steep incline. Many of us can see an easy solution to this; a joint use path. The pavement is already there and pedestrians rarely use it. A dropped kerb at the bottom would allow ease of access. CycleWight has raised this before. It is now time to have another try. The Council is as we know strapped for cash but this is a very cheap and easy solution.

How to achieve it? The issue needs to be raised again. Can you write to the following 3 councillors whose ward are in or close to Quarr Hill? A short e-mail will do the trick. Highlight the danger to the cyclist, the fact it will help motorists and this is an easy solution to the problem. ivor.warlow@iow.gov.uk, ian.stephens@iow.gov.uk, phil.jordan@iow.gov.uk If you do not hear from them after a couple of weeks do write again to check up on the progress of your email.

CycleWight have submitted to the Council and Island Roads a list of other places on the Island where small and relatively cheap solutions could be introduced to make cycling easier and safer. We are waiting for a reply.

As can be seen from the Shalfleet traffic lights issue it may not be sorted over night but you have to begin somewhere.

AGM

This took place on the 27th of November and was attended by 35 people. The Carisbrooke Village Hall proved to be the perfect venue with plenty of room.

Tim Thorne the Chairman, gave a summary of the groups activities over the year. He talked about the work they had done with Island Roads, the Council and its various groups; Quality Transport Partnership, Sustainability Committee and Local Access Forum. Tim highlighted the various projects carried out by the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, which ended in March. The group had hoped to obtain some funds for cycling maps, but this was proving to be problematic as they were finding it difficult to meet the criteria on mainland distribution. (See later article) He highlighted how important social media was for keeping in contact with what is happening locally and on the mainland. With funding being even more difficult in the years to come Tim urged members to look actively for funding for the group's activities.

Tom Ransom did a presentation on his work for Visit Isle of Wight and the Sustrans School's Project with. Tom having spent nearly 3 years on promoting cycling, had some good insights on where the group may want to direct its campaigning in the future.

Will Ainsley, who was the LSTF manager until his contract ended, talked about his new job

with Traffic Technology. His presentation included a demonstration on how the traffic counters work, which are used on some of the Island's cycle paths. An example of the data collected can be found elsewhere on the front page of the web site. There was a question and answer session to finish the evening.

The CycleWight committee would like to thank all of those who attended and donations to the raffles

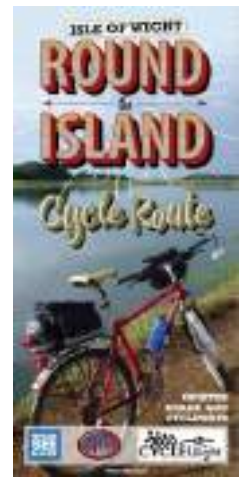
LSTF 2

CycleWight, after much effort made a successful bid under the Local Sustainable Transport Fund 2 to update the Round the Island map. There will now be 10,000 distributed around tourism venues across the South of England and places such as motorway service stations. If you see one please take a picture of it in situ and send it to us through the website contact page.

There will be some maps for the Island too, which we will be distributing to a wide range of places over the coming months. The map can be viewed and downloaded from our web site under the drop down menu the IW Cycling 'Routes and maps'.

The new map has been revamped and contains more listings including bike shops, hire centres as well as information on electric bike charging points. As can be seen below we obtained some extra funding for some A0 maps, which can be used for external display. This one is at Pedallers.

We would like to thank all the people who supported us in this venture especially, Action Isle of Wight, Pinkeye Graphics and Mike Hoath.



Forestry Commission

The Forestry Commission have informed CycleWight that harvesting work is currently going on in Brighstone. This will run Monday to Friday, with the extraction of the timber potentially taking place on Saturdays. There is also the likelihood that the operations may continue until September. They advise not to use the trails while the operations are going on as the work carried out can be hazardous. While they take every care to minimise risk, there are still hazards present within the harvesting of trees.

CycleWight hope that cyclists will respect these restrictions for the time being. The Forestry Commission are known to have a tolerant approach to mountain biking in Brighstone Forest, whenever possible, and it would be a shame to jeopardise this.

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