

CYCLE USER GROUP
WEDNESTHURSDAY 17th 23rd SEPTNOVEMBER 2010
MINUTES

Attendees: Don Naylor, Cycling Officer SMBC (Chair)
Nik Matuszczak, Stockport MBC
Sue Stevenson, Stockport MBC Ernest Nama, Senior Rights of Way

Officer
Cllr. Stuart Bodsworth, Stockport Council
Merlin Evans, Cycle Stockport
Janet Bellingall, Cyclist
Kathy England, Cyclist
Norman Lowndes, Cyclist
Nathan Messer, Cyclist
Roy Bradshaw, CTC
Joanna Hulme, Cyclist
Charlie Hulme, Cyclist
Peter Hartt, Stockport Community Cycle Club
Rob Sawyer, Chair of Cycle Wilmslow
Keith Rogers, Cyclist
Tim Carlisle, Cycle Stockport
Janet Cuff, Cyclist
Edgar Erstbrunner, Cyclist

Apologies: Richard Clark, Road Safety Manager SMBC
Dave Swindells, Cycle Stockport Mike Dagley, Sustrans
Ernest Nama, Stockport Council
Merlin Evans, Cyclist
Lucy Sutcliffe, 'Bike-it' Officer Rob Sawyer, Cyclist

| Item | Issue | Action |
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| 4.0 | Greater Manchester 3rd LTP | |
| 4.1 | <p>Sue Stevenson, Transportation Policy and Programme Manager at Stockpot Council introduced this item at the start of the meeting due to time constraints. It was explained that the third version of the Local Transport Plan (LTP) was available for consultation from December 24th and that cycle investment would be dependent on the level of interest shown in the consultation period. The document is owned by the Greater Manchester Integrated Transport Authority but Stockport Council is a stakeholder in its production. It was expressed that there will be very limited funding available therefore Sue Stevenson requested that she be copied into individual responses so that the areas of prioritisation could be understood by the Council.</p> <p>The LTP3 document can be viewed online at the following address: http://www.tag-mcr.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2401%3Aagama-gmita-ltp3-consultation&catid=39%3Acurrent-consultations&Itemid=41&limitstart=1</p> | All |

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| 4.2 | Sue Stevenson's e-mail address: Sue.stevenson@stockport.gov.uk | |
| 5.01.0 | Connect2Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising | |
| 51.1 1.2 1.3 | Members were informed that the Connect2 planning application had been approved with 17 attachments which are currently being investigated and it was agreed that there will be a programme of work for the next Cycle User Group. | D.Naylor |
| 5.2 | The issue of funding for the project was raised due to local government spending restrictions but as this is a Lottery funded project this will not be an issue. Apologies were announced to the group. | |
| | Re 1.3 - Covered in Capital Updates. | |
| 1.4 | Re 1.5 - Cllr Stuart Bodsworth reported that he had attended a meeting with Janine Watson from ACE Communications and Alby Atkinson, Stockport Council's Online Communications Manager. The current RSS feeds for all the traffic consultation was explained to Cllr Bodsworth and it was agreed that all parties were satisfied with the current service, this issue has now been brought to a close. | D.Naylor |
| 1.5 | Re 3.2 – making a comparison with the Stockport Road Junction at the Farmers Arms in Cheadle Heath, it was noted that the positioning of cycle stands at Bridge St in the Town Centre was much less favourable. | |
| | Re 8.3 – It was reported that vegetation had been cut back at Gorse Bank Bridge as this was impeding access for cyclists. | |
| 1.0 | Apologies, minutes of previous meeting and matters arising | |
| 1.1 | Re 1.3 – Some parties expressed dissatisfaction at Stockport Councils policy on RSS feeds therefore a representative from IT at the Council will be invited to the next meeting. | D.Naylor |
| 1.2 | Re 1.4 – It was agreed that the cycle stands at Bridge Street in the town centre should be moved as there are monies available for the project. | D.Naylor |
| 1.3 | Re 3.2 – On minutes. | |
| 1.4 | Re 5.3 – On minutes. | |
| 2.0 | Rights of Way Issues | |
| 2.1 | Nelstrop Rd – proceeding with finalisation as definitive bridleway with Manchester City Council. | |
| 2.2 | Peak Forest – the Structures department are being consulted in relation to the Hyde Bank erosion. Structures have costed improvements of up to seven additional sections and are currently identifying available budgets to meet the cost of the project. | |
| 2.3 | TPT – dealing with potholes in Tiviot Dale and the reported drainage issues West of Station Road are being investigated. Ernest Nama reported back on the bridleway claims made for the path between Lambeth Grove and Turner Lane in Woodley, the footpath off Healdwood Rd in Romiley and Nab Lane off Dale Rd in Marple. | |

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| 3.0 | Capital Programme updates | |
| 3.1 | <p>Ernest Nama updated members on discussions with British Waterways who have been made aware of their maintenance responsibilities particularly in relation to Hyde Bank Tunnel which requires surface improvements and the replacement of a collapsing stone wall. Surfacing improvements are also required at Brabyns Brow and sections within Woodley.</p> <p>Don Naylor updated the group on a number of schemes relating to cyclists in Stockport:</p> <p>3.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·£50,000 has been assigned to invest for sites on the Heaton Cycle Link. ·Engineers are to investigate ‘snagging’ at sites on the Airport Cycle Link. ·A congestion performance grant has been awarded by the DfT to address congestion on the A6 by developing cycle routes parallel to it in Hazel Grove. ·Traffic engineers expect to receive a response from the DfT next month in relation to the proposed contra-flow system at St Petersgate in Stockport Town Centre. ·St Thomas’ Recreation Ground had been fully resurfaced and the ‘Friends of St Thomas’ group are currently being consulted regarding which of the paths are to be lit. ·Consultation is currently being carried out regarding a scheme to introduce a 20mph zone on Turncroft Lane. <p>A traffic scheme is being developed in relation to Dialstone Lane with a report pending to be taken to Stepping Hill Area Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ·A request was submitted to Traffic Services Engineers to install Toucan crossings at some sites where pedestrian crossings are being updated in Cheadle and Cheadle Hulme. This request has been denied due to funding restrictions; however the request to build wider [in terms of the number of dropped kerbs] ‘futureproof’ crossings has been accepted. ·Pedestrian and Toucan crossings have been installed as part of improvements to the Greek Street/A6 Junction although the project is still under construction. ·A safety audit has been conducted on the Didsbury Road ‘Integrated Route Treatment’ scheme to address possible omissions from original proposals which have resulted in snagging. ·Stabilisation work on Dan Bank was completed on September 6th and members were invited to register on the Dan Bank website for further details. | |
| 4.0 | Highways on-line consultations and website issues | |
| 4.1 | <p>Nik Matuszczak introduced a scheme that is being investigated within Traffic Services to devolve responsibilities for department web pages to the individual teams within the department. Once there has been further progression on the issue the group will be updated.</p> | |
| 5.0 | Connect2, Routes to Schools and Trans Pennine Trail | |
| 5.1 | <p>The improved elements to the Heaton Cycle Link have been approved and work is due to start this in late November at Nelstrop Rd regarding the allotments path.</p> <p>The A6 parallel links at Hazel Grove has been approved and Don Naylor has met with colleagues at Southport Council regarding cycle time signs which</p> | |

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| 5.2 | was previously discussed at the October Cycle sub-group. Cycle parking at primary schools in Cheadle Hulme and Mellor are being progressed. Petersgate contra-flow has been met with major reservations at Area Committee last week, a further site meeting has been proposed. | Traffic Services rep |
| 5.3 | The issue of lighting at St Thomas' is still being investigated and the Friends of Group are still discussing which paths need to be addressed. | |
| 5.4 | There has been an agreement that the crossing at Mauldeth Rd, off Didbury Road will be toucanised. Sustrans expressed their disappointment on the lack of progress in relation to signing, lighting and shared path usage in relation to the project. | |
| 5.5 | Improvements to the A6 junction outside Town Hall are still being finalised. Works on improvements to the Bramhall Lane round about are expected to commence in late November. | |
| 5.6 | In the context of Metrolink expansion proposals, Members discussed the topic of the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT) just over the border in Manchester - it appears that all modes cannot be accommodated within the available space along the current alignment . Alternatives continue to be investigated. | |
| 5.7 | Ernest Nama reported that he is to conduct an annual condition survey for the TPT in November investigating areas that may need the attention of TPT headquarters in Barnsley. TPT volunteers within the Cycle User Group offered their services for investigative work. | |
| 5.8 | Ernest Nama informed the group that the Connect2 Bridge had received planning consent and that the period of judicial review had passed on September 10 th . Sustrans have requested for a bound surface along the bridge and Stockport Council's Equestrian User Group is currently being consulted on preferred surfacing. An update on the scheme was requested for the next meeting. | |
| 6.0 | Bike It in Stockport Schools 2010 - 11 | |
| 6.1 | Don Naylor informed the group that he undertook cycle instructor training undertaken with members of the Road Safety last week. To become fully approved the team will be required to be observed delivering training but the aim is to have three national standard trainers within the Council in the New Year. The balance of future child and adult cycle training is to be determined, although there remains the over-arching issue of the level of Government funding for cycle training. | D.Naylor |
| 6.2 | Bike-It Officer Lucy Sutcliffe has been asked to attend the January CUG but members were informed she has a profile online available through the Bike-It website which gives some background to herself and Stockport / Rochdale schools. Don Naylor informed the group that Lucy Sutcliffe has taken over from Nes Brierley as 'Bike It Officer' for Stockport and Rochdale. Lucy Sutcliffe has been invited to attend the Cycle User Group in November to give a presentation on forthcoming 'Bike It' events which will involve at least six schools across Stockport. | |
| 7.0 | Sub - Group mapping exercises | |

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| 7.1 | The group was informed that a University student has requested placement and that a suggested project is to map sample areas of two Boroughs in terms of 'cycleability'. There are similar examples in existence which either grade a network using 'Bikeability' levels, or attempt to score routes in terms of convenience, accessibility, safety, comfort and attractiveness. Whatever the exact nature of the Wigan / Stockport study, it will rely on direct input from local cyclists and members were requested for their assistance in the scheme. Lists of aspirations for the updated Cycle GM map for the Stockport district have been compiled and will be discussed with the Rights of Way department before being forwarded to GMTU. | All |
| 8.0 | Any Other Business Cycling Strategies: Greater Manchester and Stockport | |
| 8.1 | Roy Bradshaw has requested a report on Chester Road in relation to the space for cyclists. Don Naylor has suggested in an e-mail to Roy Bradshaw that holding this back to January may be more useful as Richard Clark, Road Safety Manager will be in attendance. | All |
| 8.2 | Stockport Cycle Strategy has been re-drafted with consultation comments incorporated, and is currently being viewed by senior management before sign off for submission to Executive. The next meeting will take place on the next full meeting on Thursday January 13 th , 2011. Don Naylor informed the group that GMLTP3 consultation documents are expected to be available on-line between October and December. Cycling will be included under 'active travel' and 'smarter choices' with all stakeholders invited to comment. | |
| 8.3 | Don Naylor informed the group that all Local Authorities across Manchester were invited to attend an event hosted by British Cycling. The event was held at the Velodrome and the potential for joint approaches to transport, sport and health were discussed with further work planned for the near future. | |
| | Any Other Business | |
| 9.1 | A request was made to identify ownership of the land on the North Bank of the Mersey and the possibility of investigating a concessionary route with them. Don Naylor will investigate further. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 17 th November between 18:00 and 19:45 at Stockport Town Hall. | D.Naylor |
| 9.2 | | |

Post Meeting Note: An item that has been raised at a number of CUG meetings is the availability of 'claim forms' for cycle access on paths around Stockport. Rights of Way have agreed for the forms to be distributed by contacting Stephen Slater by e-mail (Stephen.slater@stockport.gov.uk) or on 0161 474 4540.