

CYCLE USER GROUP
THURSDAY 13th JANUARY 2011
MINUTES

Attendees: Richard Clark, Road Safety Manager, SMBC (Chair)
Don Naylor, Cycling Officer, SMBC
Ernest Nama, Senior Rights of Way Officer, SMBC
Anthony Geraghty, Crash Investigation Officer, SMBC
Merlin Evans, Cycle Stockport
Tim Carlisle, Cycle Stockport
Sandy Broadhurst, Friends of Fallowfield Loop
Janet Bellingall, Cyclist
Kathy England, Cyclist [Sustrans Ranger]
Edgar Ernstbrunner
Janet Cuff
Pete Abel, Manchester Love Your Bike Campaign
Mary Brooks
Keith Rogers
Norman Lowndes, Cyclist
Nathan Messer, Cyclist [Sustrans Ranger]
Joanna Hulme, Cyclist
Charlie Hulme, Cyclist
Peter Hartt, Stockport Community Cycle Club

Apologies: Nik Matuszczak, SMBC
Lucy Sutcliffe, Bike It Officer
Roy Bradshaw, CTC
Hilary Fisher
Frank Brown

Item	Issue	Action
1.0	Apologies, minutes of previous meeting, matters arising	
1.1	Re previous minutes, item 4.1. Typo on minutes re Local Transport Plan, consultation from December 24 th should read consultation until December 24 th .	
1.2	Re previous item 5.7 – Charlie Hulme questioned why the improvements at the A6 junction outside the Town Hall are still incomplete, that without signing in place it is unclear as to where cyclists can cycle and would the scheme be finished before the end of the financial year. DN informed the group that the exit next to the newsagents still incomplete and signing to show routes still not in place. DN to progress, the Road Safety Team have not yet received a request for a Stage 3 RSA.	DN
1.3	DN to provide Charlie Hulme with Albi Atkinson contact details re RSS feeds.	DN
1.4	Re previous item 1.4 – Funds are available to relocate the cycle stands at Bridge Street in the town centre, this item can be progressed.	DN
2.0	Rights of Way Issues	
2.1	Discussion re restricted byway (footpath into cycle path).	

	<p>Cyclists can apply for routes to be upgraded, identify and how suitable. New legislation, when you make a claim the road can be upgraded to restricted byway with only routes used by cycles (non motor) qualify for application. Previously looking at upgrades via bridleways etc. Potential for challenge so need to tread carefully, look at a case study. Based on evidence of use – 20 years (does not have to be most recent). Discussion whether or not upgraded paths count and if it is based on route versus path. Consideration to width (suitability). Forms issued after expression of interest, landowners, onus on person requesting information.</p>	
2.2	<p>Cow Lane – Dual status. Identify footpaths that can be changed to cycle route. Sites can be made safe for use. Status is determined by usage rather than safety consideration. Cow Lane is not currently shown on the cycle maps but it is the intention to have it on. Money being spent in these areas received from bids.</p>	
2.3	<p>Nelstrop Road (border with Manchester) – Report written and an order is being put together with an indication that it will be a bridle way. Agreement that there is enough evidence.</p>	
3.0	<p>Capital Programme updates</p>	
3.1	<p>DN presented a slideshow of photos with additional information.</p> <p>Heaton Cycle Link – The footpath has been widened at the Nelstrop Road allotment site and a new fence has been provided for the allotments.</p> <p>Tiviot Dale – Chancerygate, links to Trans Pennine Trail.</p> <p>Bike It – Newspaper article highlighting Reddish Library securing a bike lock donation for library users to make use of when they visit the library. Hazel Grove library requested some of the locks from reddish. Comment received that GMP give away locks, DN to check to see if any available.</p> <p>Fred Perry House – Cycle parking on Edward Street shown but with no cover in place. Additional staff cycle parking provision within Stopford House car park area.</p> <p>Moorfield Primary – Photo of cycle shelter shown.</p> <p>Middlewood Way – Photo highlighting new signing.</p> <p>Discussion re the closure of public toilets as part of the Community Toilet Scheme, establishments in areas taking part, Bramhall and Edgeley area amongst others already underway.</p> <p>Mary Brookes questioned what the Capital Programme budget would amount to for the next financial year. RC explained that this was not yet known. DN – Didsbury Road bid of £1/4 million pounds to augment existing scheme which is not yet finished.</p>	DN
4.0	<p>Greater Manchester 3rd LTP</p>	

	Peter Hartt questioned when the Local Implementation Plan will be made available, question needs to be put forward to Sue Stevenson. Trafford Council have already submitted their plan.	DN/SS
5.0	Connect 2, Routes to Schools and Trans Pennine Trail	
5.1	At a meeting on the 9 th December, Peter Green met with Senior Officers to discuss “Why we are, where we are”. Sustrans willing to extend funding for another year. Supportive of Chadkirk bridge, Stockport to come up with written status, upgrade from footpath to bridleway. Commitment within the next month, consultation with most of local residents, very supportive with proposed change of status. Marple Dale Hall meeting 4 th January 2011, firm commitment from them and they want a copy of the agreement to sign. Some questions raised from local residents which EN will respond to in order to get agreement. End of February deadline. A meeting on the 19 th January (invitation sent to Legal Services) to discuss questions raised by Lower Dale Farm and taking a look at various options.	EN
5.2	Sustrans bid already in to improve links to schools on Didsbury Road. Links to school bid hopefully available for 1 more year.	
5.3	Reddish Vale Country Park Manager engaging the community with links between Brinnington and the Trans Pennine Trail (improvement of the steps). Estimated that between 40 and 60% of Brinnington residents have not been to Reddish Vale. Low key cycle hire available at Reddish Vale, cycles obtained from Youth Offending Team.	
6.0	Bike It in Stockport Schools 2010 - 11	
6.1	Lucy Sutcliffe was not in attendance. Bike It currently in operation at 5 schools, a sixth school to follow but no details as of yet. Secondary – Reddish Vale College and Harrytown. Primary – Didsbury Primary, St Winifreds and Greave. Launch event held at Didsbury Primary with 180 children participating out of approx 400, biggest ever response from a school.	
6.2	Mary Brookes requested local cycle newsletter to that she can circulate, had previously contacted Ness but no information provided.	DN
7.0	Traffic Services Developments	
7.1	Out of 101 staff, there are 30 posts at risk with an additional 14 vacancies not being filled (total of 44 posts), with voluntary redundancies being sought first. Capital programme taking a hit but for this year a Safer Routes to School bid is being put	

	forward from Road Safety.	
7.2	Stockport has been set up to provide training in order to encourage cycling. 9 members of staff have received training towards being national standard instructors. The course is about training cyclists to be more assertive, not talking about dangers but about managing risks. A bid to train double the amount of children for the 2011/12 financial year has been put forward which hopefully will hear if we have been successful during the next few weeks. Currently trained 32 children at Moorfield to Level 1 and 2 standard. Question whether or not any cyclist who has received training has been injured – RC stated that this information is not yet available.	
7.3	Mary Brookes mentioned adult cycle training being a potential source of income. RCC, this is not yet available but may be something new to look at in the future when the new trainers have received accreditation.	
7.4	Discussion re safety with pedestrians stepping out into the path of cyclists, traffic signals near Debenhams in Stockport Town centre was highlighted as a particular area of concern for this type of incidence. RC stated that pedestrians aged 10-15 and 60+ have been identified as target groups. Winter months worst for incidents. End of year figures not yet available but when they are they will be checked for pedestrian/cycle incidents.	
7.5	Discussion re Chester Road, Hazel Grove pedestrian refuges and advisory cycle lanes. RC explained the Road Safety Audit process and how it is unbiased and in this case there were a total of 5 officers (various cycling experience) who attended the site in question and didn't perceive there to be any problem. It was noted in this instance the request for a Stage 2 RSA (detailed design) was missed from the RSA process. Suggestion that signing be used to highlight the presence of cyclists, RC said that this could be looked at in the next financial year. Trafford Council have been using small green box with cycle symbol to make drivers more aware of cyclists in the area.	
8.0	Sub - Group mapping exercises	
8.1	Discussion on what additional information should be shown on 2012 cycle map, removal of yellow routes discussed and group keen to see gradients on the map similar to what is on road maps for cars.	
9.0	Any Other Business	
9.1	No other items raised.	
9.2	The next CUG sub-group meeting will take place on Thursday,	

9.3	17 th February, 2011. The next CUG meeting will take place on Wednesday, 16 th March 2011.	
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