

Minutes of the Meeting of Worthing Cycle Forum (WCF)

Held on Thursday 12th 2014 at Beechwood Hall Hotel Worthing at 7.30pm

In attendance : Paula & Colin Attle, Louise Campbell, John Coote, Stuart Elms, William Morris, Gavin Ross, Jeremy Strutt,

Apologies : Steve Carleysmith, Anthony Cartmell, Geoff Farrell (WSCF) , Nigel Gardner, Duncan & Kathryn Kay, John Rogers, Peter Vos

Item 1 - WCF Appointment of Chair for this meeting : William Morris

Item 2 - Minutes of previous meeting Held on Tuesday 13th May 2014 : agreed

Item 3 – Matters arising not already covered below : none

Item 4 – Bike Try-out Events with Get Cycling : In JR's absence SE gave a brief report on the recent events held over two days and behalf of JR thanked all of those who had distributed the publicity and / or volunteered to help on the day to ensure its success. JR is seeking a reduction in the invoice from Get Cycling as the 'e-bikes' ordered for the 2nd day did not arrive (LC offered to write on behalf of her employers to Get Cycling if required). Also, WCF have come to an arrangement with Worthing / Adur DC to avoid us incurring the vat element on the invoice. It is hoped that, out of any surplus arising, WCF will then be in a position to invest in a tent for use in future campaigning events. As a group we have learned much from this event, it being mentioned that, were we to organise an event of this type in future, one area we might need to look more closely at was publicity. SE to check with JR that he will shortly be writing to Thomas Eggar (and other sponsors too) post event to thank them for their support if he has not already done so.

Item 5 – Seafront Cycle Path / NCN2 : JC updated us on the current position and delays in implementing the project to extend the shared use seafront footpath from George V Avenue to Sea Place and agreed to continue to take the lead for WCF in liaising with WBC. The meeting agreed that JC will contact Bryan Curtis at WBC and Brian Morgan / Richard Wells at WSCC to ask that a costed design to take the cycle path to Sea Place is done for public consultation, including Sustrans and WCF.

The extension of the off-road seafront route to Sea Lane, Goring, is still one of WCF's top three priorities. We need to gain political support and some prospect of it being funded.

If and when the extension to Sea Place is completed, JC will continue to resist any pressure from Sustrans managers to sign an on-road NCN2 route because it would undermine the case for an off-road seafront route.

WCF needs to keep on it's agenda the use of the £166,000 S106 money from the Eirene Road development to ensure that it all gets spent on cycle schemes as promised in WSCC's letter in response to the motion from WBC sponsored by John Rogers.

Agreed that we will 'hold fire' on a suggestion to write to the Worthing Herald deploring the delays in this project. For clarity JC also confirmed that this scheme is only the first part of three that may later – subject to funding - include a further extension to Sea Lane Café and the next phase of NCN2` to Goring Crossways, the border with Arun DC. It was felt that – post the recent WBC elections - we need to identify and seek to work with other 'cycle friendly' councillors. On a personal level, LC kindly agreed to contact her divisional member to express her concerns as a local cyclist over the delays in this scheme

Item 6 – 20mph Consultation : WM read out a statement received from DK that *This week we heard that 20 mph limits are one of six key strategies being recommended by the West Sussex Environment & Climate Change Board to help reduce carbon emissions and environmental impacts. Their action plan calls for 20 mph limits for every urban street by 2015. Given the importance they place on this we can only hope the current consultation result will be positive.* In the meantime we encourage everyone to get as many people as possible to return their consultation forms.

Item 7 – Worthing CLC Meeting 10th June : SE & GR attended this meeting where an update was presented on the proposed Montague Street *enhancements*. This scheme would appear to be growing 'like topsy' – with a 1st construction phase, funded by WSCC and costing £220k, starting this autumn and a 2nd. phase, for which S.106 monies of some £456k are earmarked, if not required for the implementation of a 20mph scheme - although the CLC have little idea of the full extent of the likely costs and where funding might come from ! SE then asked the chair if Tony Kershaw (WSCC Head of Legal) had 'signed off' the use of S.106 monies intended for sustainable transport benefits – to which cue blank faces from the members and the newly appointed project manager saying that they were 'still working around this issue'.

Item 8 – Progress updates :-

i. Harrison Road Restricted Byway : Subject to hearing that the WSCC Rangers will be making a start on the clearance, it was agreed that a group comprising C & PA, LC, SE, WM & GR will meet onsite from 4pm onwards on Monday 7th July to spend a couple of hours making a start on clearing the eastern Dominion Way end of the byway to 'show willing'.

ii. Worthing Cycle Stands : no further progress

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iii. East Worthing to Brooklands proposed cycle path : SE to write to RO – divisional member for Broadwater – formally requesting that he seek to get the WCF proposal to add the Harrison Way byway included in the scheme.

Item 9 – Possible Future Projects :

i. Safer Cycling : GR outlined the proposal he has had agreed by WSx Fire & Rescue for him to facilitate & work with year 10 & 11 pupils of local secondary schools :-

- slide show of unusual bikes crazy things people carry on bikes some video of trick bikes in extreme situations with music at the beginning to catch their attention.
- the presentation I would like to be formulated with the forum.
- ten questions on road positioning in a run around game format.
- focus vision and peripheral vision. How we think we see but do not. Flashing lights * attract attention (*Funding to issue free 'wrap – on lights' would need to be sourced)
- benefits of cycling. Health and cost saving.
- simple accessories quiet road maps.
- explanation of cycling on pavement not being legal but Sussex Police common sense policy and courtesy to pedestrians :-

ii. Assertive & Confident cycling advice : arising from a request made by a visitor to the Bike Try-Out events wanting to return to cycling after many years but who was nervous about being confident enough to cycle with her children on local roads, we agreed to consider in the autumn how best WCF could address this issue.

Item 9.iii : WM kindly agreed to put together an application for Community Initiative Funding (CIF) grant to either the September or December meeting of Worthing CLC

Item 10 - WSCC Environmental & Community Select Committee : re the Strategic Transport Investment Programme (STIP). JR has undertaken to report back to WCF after first updating Geoff Farrell (WSCF)

Item 11 – WSCF Feedback :

i. WSCF : nothing further from GF but it was suggested that, as several WCF members have already joined this this Yahoo newsgroup, it would not then be necessary for SE to circulate postings if those interested also subscribed at :-

<https://uk.groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/Westsussexcycleforum/info>

ii. Four Villages Cycle Forum :- as East Preston based Peter Voss was, at the last moment, unable to attend SE will circulate further details of this new group

Item 12 – AOB :-

i. WCF Facebook page : this newsgroup was created to help publicise the Bike Try-Out events but is has now been renamed Worthing Cycle Forum (WCF) and is proving to be a useful resource with regular postings on cycling related issues. To participate you will need to create your own Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com> which can be easily done giving only the bare minimum personal details (or even a pseudonym).

ii. Grove Lodge Traffic Lights petition : recently the lights were out of action for several days and as a result traffic appeared to flow much more easily, so this petition started by local MP Tim Loughton to 'switch off the lights (apart from the pedestrian crossings) and ease congestion' can be found at : <http://www.change.org/en-GB/petitions/tim-loughton-turn-the-traffic-lights-off-on-grove-lodge-roundabout-to-ease-congestion>

iii. South Coast Alliance on Transport and the Environment (SCATE) : DK has passed on an invitation for WCF to join this organisation see www.bricycles.org.uk. As there was some uncertainty about whether or not WCF should join, SE to seek further information around their objectives.

Item 13 – DVNM : Thursday 17th. July at 7.30 pm at the Beechwood Hall Hotel BN11 4JD