



CYCLING ACTION PROGRESS MEETING

20TH OCTOBER 2014

Present: Cllr Nick Davies (CCS – Cycle Forum Designate), Chair
Cllr Mark Thomas (CCS – Cabinet Member for Environment and Transportation)
Ben George (CCS – Transport Strategy)
Mike Cherry (Bikeability)
Lindsey Curtis (Sustrans)
Colin Fielder (Wheelrights)
Nick Guy (Wheelrights)
David Naylor (Wheelrights)

Apologies: Stuart Davies (CCS – Head of Service, Highways & Transportation)

1. Matters Arising

- 1.1 NG commented that the work to install the commuter route signs looked good and was a valuable addition to the networks.
- 1.2 LC commented that Sustrans had recently completed a new map for the National Cycle Network Route 43. The maps will be distributed in the coming weeks. LC intends to make enquiries with regard to whether these could be distributed to schools along the route.
- 1.3 NG proposed that thought be given to the formation of an 'Active Travel Group' to pick up all walking and cycling opportunities and issues within the City & County of Swansea.
- 1.4 ND raised the issue of the Pontarddulais Link and how it might be progressed further and will speak with the Ward Member, Jane Harris, with a view to beginning a concerted effort to realise its delivery. **ND**

2. City Centre Cycle Network

- 2.1 BG reported that the works to construct shared use paths from Pleasant Street to Kings Lane have now commenced. These works were being part funded by adjacent developments and would likely concluded in January 2015.
- 2.2 The works to construct a shared use path between Oystermouth Road and Kingsway Circle have now been fully designed and works will commence in January 2015.
- 2.3 BG reported that the timescales for any works to Orchard Street remain unclear because of the revision to City Centre regeneration strategies. MT commented that it was essential for the emerging plans to account for future year growth and be able to provide a step-change for the City Centre.
- 2.4 BG reported that the works at High Street Station had now been reduced in scope as a consequence of changes to the available budget. Whilst pedestrian guard rail will be removed, it is not now feasible to incorporate the proposals prepared by DN,

although they would be preserved for future reference. BG thanked DN for his contributions.

2.5 BG agreed to send the final designs to LC for information.

BG

3. Kingsbridge

3.1 BG reported that the registration/deregistration of the Common Land has now commenced. The previous fears that this could prove to be an inordinately lengthy process have been allayed, and it is expected that following advertisement and consultation in early 2015, it will be concluded in the summer of 2015.

3.2 Once registration/deregistration has been completed, the Council will be able to begin the process of formally seeking approvals to secure the land for construction of the route. This secondary process is expected to take at least 12 months, and the likely outcome is far from certain.

3.3 DN commented that Wheelrights would prefer to see a crossing of the railway line, at the southern end of the route, by means of a new railway crossing linking with Fairwood Terrace. BG commented that this would be expensive, that the land, which had been reserved for this link, had been sold off in previous years, and would be very difficult to deliver due to the crossing of a live railway line.

3.4 NG commented that Wheelrights and Sustrans intend to work closely with the growing action group being formed to campaign for the Pontarddulais Cycle Link. This was supported by those present.

4. Fabian Way

4.1 BG reported that regular meetings were being held between Officers from the City & County of Swansea, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and Swansea University to make arrangements for a new cycle link along Fabian Way to serve the Bay Campus.

4.2 The outline design has been approved by the University and work is now moving to consider detailed matters. It is expected that a 3 metre wide path will be delivered between Wern Fawr Road and Baldwins Bridge.

4.3 It is expected that work will commence in Spring 2015 in order that the route will be ready for the opening of the campus in September 2015.

5. Clydach Connect2 – B4603 Crossing

5.1 BG reported that he has instructed design works to reconsider the arrangement at this junction, but unfortunately this had not yet commenced due to design resources being tied up with other projects. BG will chase for this to be done.

BG

5.2 LC agreed to provide further advice from Sustrans.

6. Wheelrights Routes Group

6.1 DN reported that Wheelrights had recently formed a 'Routes Group' to consider the areas which were considered to be priorities for improvement. The group has consequently determined three priorities for delivery over the coming years:

- *City Centre to Liberty Stadium:* A route which would either utilising the existing route adjacent to Landore Express Bus Route to Maliphant Street and then on road through the Hafod, or by means of the planned off-road cycle route adjacent to Morfa Distributor Road and/or the Tawe

Riverside Route.

- *Liberty Stadium to Bonynmaen:* This could incorporate a number of routes. Primary connectivity could be achieved by the existing off-road link between Atlantic Close and Jersey Road. The Group would however like to see the consolidation and improvement of a route which would run southwards to Pluck Lake and the Morfa Retail Park. A series of established trails run through this area and the land is owned by the Council.
- *Pontarddulais Link:* A route which would continue north from the link which terminates in Grovesend to serve the community of Pontarddulais. This would link them to Grovesend, Gorseinon and Kingsbridge; although the completion of the Kingsbridge Cycle Link would provide connectivity into NCN4 consequently many other destinations.

6.2 BG welcomed these suggestions and commented that they align very well with the Council's own strategy and plans.

7. AOB

7.1. DN raised the issue of whether bicycles could be ridden through land at Llethryd Cwm. Objections had been raised by a local resident opposed to this land being used as part of a popular ride in the Gower Cycle Festival. As the Council had provided a small contribution to the running of the festival a complaint had been formally issued to the Council for condoning this ride. Having investigated the matter, BG, had written to both Wheelrights and the complainant to state that unless the express permission of the landowner could be secured, this ride would not be supported by the Council. Advice had been sought from the Council's Public Rights of Way (PRoW) team and they had supported this approach.

7.2. BG advised that any further information or discussion that was required was best directed to the PRoW team.

11. Date of Next Meeting

11.1 The next Cycle Action Progress Meeting will be held on 20th January 2015 at 2pm in Civic Centre, Swansea.