



**CITY & COUNTY OF SWANSEA  
DINAS A SIR ABERTAWE**

**SWANSEA CYCLE FORUM**

**Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday 27 July 2011 at 10:00  
Meeting Room 2 (2.2.6), Civic Centre**

**Present:**

|                       |    |                                      |
|-----------------------|----|--------------------------------------|
| Rob Wachowski (Chair) | RW | CCS Environment Transportation Group |
| Ben George            | BG | CCS Environment Transportation Group |
| Colin Fielder         | CF | Wheelrights (WR)                     |
| David Naylor          | DN | UK Cyclists Organisation (CTC)       |

**Apologies:**

|                |                            |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Fraser Arnot   | Sustrans (Sust)            |
| Eifion Francis | Wheelrights (WR)           |
| Mike Cherry    | BikeAbility Wales (BAW)    |
| Roy Jones      | Friends of the Earth (FoE) |
| Tonia Thomas   | CCS Culture & Tourism      |

| Item       |  | Action |
|------------|--|--------|
| <b>1.0</b> | <b>Apologies</b>   |        |
| 1.1        | Apologies as above.  |        |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Declarations of Interest</b>  |        |
| 2.1        | None.  |        |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b>   |        |
| 3.1        | Agreed.  |        |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Matters Arising</b>   |        |
| 4.1        | DN 4.1 Gowerton / Kingsbridge Link – DN had drafted a letter on behalf of WR to Knight Frank, the agents for the Somerset Trust and the Stafford Commoners, asking them to progress the legal procedures to enable this link to be constructed. He had sent a copy to BG and will await his comments before sending it.  | BG     |
| 4.2        | DN 11.1 Loughor Link – There are still outstanding works including signing and barriers. RW said he had received costs for these works and has instructed to go ahead but will check on progress. He is also proposing to put road markings along the marsh road in the form of a white line about 750mm from the verge with bike symbols every 200 metres.  | RW     |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>Boulevard</b>   |        |
| 5.1        | BG – The Tawe Bridges road scheme will be changing to a gyratory system over the coming weekend. This is 6 weeks ahead of schedule to take advantage of longer daylight hours to help users get used to the new layout. This will mean that works will transfer from the inner circle to the outer circle and therefore pedestrian and cycle diversions will change. RW will circulate information about the diversions. | RW     |

| Item       |   | Action |
|------------|---|--------|
| 5.2        | <p>BG – The next phase of these works will see the construction of the pedestrian and cycle infrastructure. A drawing is being produced to show only the pedestrian and cycle elements of the project and will be circulated as part of the consultation process.</p> <p>The design of links from Pentreguinea to Route 43 is being looked into.</p>  |        |
| 5.3        | <p>The design remit for the phase from the bridges to Wind Street is to look at the feasibility of a 5 metre shared use path along the north side of Quay Parade with Toucan crossings and this should be available by November.</p>  |        |
| 5.4        | <p>BG – The following phase will be Waterfront 4 from the LC to West Way and will see the construction of the shared use paths. Within the £800k budget will be a link from West Way to the promenade via Bathurst Street and the east side of the Civic Centre car park. The aim is for completion in the current financial year.</p> <p>A West Way link to the promenade along the south side of Oystermouth Road that has been a long time aspiration is now in the design brief.</p>  |        |
| 5.5        | <p>BG – It is hoped that the tunnel link to Victoria Quay will opened up and used primarily as a pedestrian link to Meridian Quay.</p> <p>It was noted that the West Way / Oystermouth Road junction crossing point has now been completed with a much improved shared use width.</p>   |        |
| 5.6        | <p>DN – Raised the issue of the restricted width around the bus stop alongside the LC and what was envisaged to happen here. BG said this would be covered as part of the consultation process and the upgrading of existing routes. Because of the possible need for retaining structures it will also have to be determined by budget.</p>  |        |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>Connect 2 – Clydach</b>  |        |
| 6.1        | <p>RW – Apologised that in the absence of HD there was little to report and he would seek an update from her.</p> <p>BG – The Phase 2 planning application has not yet been submitted.</p> <p>DN – Went to the last steering group meeting and it appears that the issue of contaminated ground in the CCS depot has been resolved and the land acquisition is able to proceed.</p>   | RW     |
| <b>7.0</b> | <b>Rural Development Plan – North Gower Trail</b>   |        |
| 7.1        | <p>BG – Had a recent meeting on site with the Evans family, the main land owners, to look at their concerns about the scheme. The existing retaining wall along one section provides shelter for the sheep during inclement weather and this will need to be considered when designing the boundary fencing for this part. They also require suitable arrangements for crossing sheep from the estuarine marsh to the farm.</p> <p>These issues will now be fed back to the design team to incorporate into the scheme and then a further meeting will take place with the land owners in order to reach a consensus.</p> | BG     |
| 7.2        | <p>BG – The route around Halfway House is also problematic in that neither the Evans family nor the property owner want the route on the estuary side. Therefore design options for this section along the footway are also to be looked into.</p>  | BG     |

| Item        |  | Action |
|-------------|--|--------|
| <b>8.0</b>  | <b>Wheelrights Update</b>  |        |
| 8.1         | DN – Pleased to report on a successful Bike Week. The mass bike ride from Blackpill to the city centre had a good turn out and utilised the nearside lane of Mumbles Road to get the cycling message across. Riders wore placards with various cycling messages and had a generally amicable response from car drivers. Also joining the ride was Byron Davies, shadow Transport Minister, who gave an impromptu speech at the end of the ride in Castle Square.   |        |
| 8.2         | DN – The Commuter Challenge also turned out well with excellent coverage by the Evening Post (EP) in a large article in the newspaper. There were 3 cyclists, a kick biker, 2 runners, a train commuter, a bus commuter and car driver taking part to see how long it would take each of them to get from Gowerton to Castle Square without racing and obeying the Highway Code. Suffice to say a bicycle came first and the bus last with the car in sixth. Full details can be found on the WR website along with a copy of the EP article; <a href="http://www.wheelrights.org.uk/various">www.wheelrights.org.uk/various</a> |        |
| 8.3         | CF – Gower Cycling Festival publicity is going well with flyers printed, posters being printed and even a Facebook page.<br>DN – Consideration needs to be given to the distribution of the 4,000 flyers and RW could get them to every library if required but suggested that it was agreed by all as to what be the most effective locations. DN – There is also the need to get web links set up on as many sites as possible and RW would get this on the CCS site and look at getting publicity through the council internal communications.  | RW     |
| 8.4         | DN – Nick Guy has been working on the 1 in 10 initiative asking people to sign up to cycle to work at least 1 day in 10 (fortnight) but some WR members feel that it isn't ambitious enough. BG – Felt that the lower starting figure is more likely to attract newcomers to cycling. Promotion of this should feature should show commuters in "normal" clothing and not kitted up ready for the Tour de France.  |        |
| <b>9.0</b>  | <b>Sustrans Update</b>   |        |
| 9.1         | RW – Because Sustrans were not represented it was decided to postpone this item.<br>DN – Mentioned that there was a Walking & Cycling Festival in Margam Park on 31 July that would have a Sustrans presence.  |        |
| <b>10.0</b> | <b>Future of the Cycle Forum</b>   |        |
| 10.1        | RW – The Cycle Forum has seen decreasing attendance over the last year and there are concerns about its effectiveness. Because of advances in electronic communications there are fewer reasons for face to face meetings. Also many issues are now covered during the improving consultation processes. BG – The Forum members will be asked for their views on the subject and a review take place.  | BG/RW  |
| <b>11.0</b> | <b>A.O.B.</b>  |        |
| 11.1        | BG – High Street rail station will now have more cycle parking provision than originally planned. There will be 10 stands outside under the canopy, with 10 on Platform 4 and the existing 5 on Platform 1 will be repainted and a further 9 stands relocated from elsewhere will be added.  |        |
| <b>12.0</b> | <b>Date of Next Meeting</b>  |        |
| 12.1        | This will be dependent on the outcome of the review but at the moment stands as:<br>Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2011 – 10:00<br>Meeting Room 2 - 2.2.6,Civic Centre   |        |