



CYCLING ACTION PROGRESS MEETING

20TH AUGUST 2015

Present: Cllr Mark Child (CCS – Cabinet Member for Wellbeing & Healthy City), Chair
Ben George (CCS – Transport Strategy)
Lindsey Curtis (Sustrans)
Nick Guy (Wheelrights)
David Naylor (Wheelrights)
Chris Walsh (Wheelrights)
Mike Cherry (Bikeability)

Apologies: Cllr Nick Davies (CCS – Cycle Forum Designate)
Cllr Mark Thomas (CCS – Cabinet Member for Environment and Transportation)
Stuart Davies (CCS – Head of Service, Highways & Transportation)

1. Matters Arising	
1.1 BG apologised that he had not made the necessary enquiries with regards to the provision of an Advanced Stop Line on Gwydr Square, but agreed to do so.	BG
1.2 BG had also not made progress in respect of the enquiries into the North Gower Trail and the potential for Compulsory Purchase Order, but agreed to do so before the next meeting. NG noted that a number of the riders at the Gower Cycling Festival 2015 had noted that this route would be beneficial.	BG
1.3 BG reported that a feasibility report had been completed in respect of a shared use path to cross Mayals Common. This proposal is now with the Education department for consideration as a 'safe route to school'. Cllr MC agreed to make enquiries and bring back more information to the next meeting.	MC
1.4 NG advised that preparations for the Cycling Conference in 2016 were continuing to take shape. Having held two planning meetings in Swansea it was determined that the conference would focus upon the Active Travel Act and how voluntary groups can aid in its delivery. This proposed approach was welcomed.	
2. Fabian Way & Bay Campus	
2.1 BG reported that the works to install the 1.8 km cycle route on the north side of Fabian Way are now complete, having been surfaced during the w/c 10 th September 2015. The route is now opened and already being used by staff who are in the process of moving into the Bay Campus. Students will be arriving at the campus in early September and the use of the path will then greatly increase.	
2.2 The construction of the link into the Bay Campus from Baldwins Crescent is running slightly behind schedule and will be open in mid-September. Cyclists will therefore access the site via Elba Crescent until then.	
3. Kingsbridge & Pontarddulais Cycle Link	
3.1 BG reported that he had recently met with the two Ward Members for Kingsbridge	

<p>and Gowerton to discuss progress with the Kingsbridge Cycle Link. BG reported that preliminary land negotiations were proceeding well and an amicable solution seemed likely. Council Officers will continue these discussions with a view to effecting a land swap in order to allow the construction of the route.</p>	
<p>3.2 In respect of the registration/deregistration of the Common Land, the notification period had now expired and one objection had been received. The Council's Legal department had liaised with the complainant to understand the reasoning for the objection, which was largely a protest at how long it was taking to realise the construction of the route. The Council had therefore and had requested that it be withdrawn as it will serve to further delay the process. The complainant is a Wheelrights member and it was therefore suggested that NG and DN may be able to speak with the complainant.</p>	<p>NG & DN</p>
<p>3.3 BG reported that the legal and land processes would continue and a further meeting with the Ward Members is planned for November 2015.</p>	<p>BG</p>
<p>3.4 NG reported that work with community groups in Pontarddulais to consider potential route options and generate local support was continuing. It was hoped that a formal promotion might be held in the summer of 2016 which would be supported by promotional materials.</p>	
<p>3.5 NG also commented that the Rural Development Fund could be a potential funding source for the route and Wheelrights would begin the process of submitting an Expression of Interest.</p>	<p>NG</p>
<p>4. Upper Bank & Bascule Bridge</p> <p>4.1 BG reported that the design and survey work in support of the Upper Bank Cycle Route was now underway and it was hoped that construction may be able to commence by early October 2015.</p> <p>4.2 LC queried how this would link into the existing NCN43 route and BG responded that the Council were looking to establish a link adjacent to Nantong Way to remedy this.</p> <p>4.3 BG reported that the work to realise the Bascule Bridge was not proceeding as quickly as had originally been hoped and to this end, enabling works would be delivered in 2015/16 and the necessary consents secured, but that refurbishment would not begin until 2016/17. The Council would therefore be writing to the Welsh Government shortly to seek a change in its funding arrangements for this scheme.</p>	
<p>5. Kingsway</p> <p>5.1 BG presented the proposed short term options for the Kingsway to the CAP. Plans for the redesign of the Kingsway are proceeding rapidly, with a short term change planned for the coming months, whilst long term changes are being planned as part of the next round of European funding.</p> <p>5.2 The comments that arose from this discussion were recorded and were used to form the basis of a consultation report which is appended to these notes.</p> <p>5.3 <i>[Post meeting note: further comments were received via email from a number of those present and these comments were also included in the report].</i></p> <p>5.4 It was agreed that BG would ensure these comments and queries were considered by the engineers and that formal feedback would be provided to Sustrans and</p>	<p>BG</p>

<p>Wheelrights.</p> <p>5.5 NG asked whether a meeting could be arranged with Stuart Davies (Head of Service, Highways & Transportation) and Cllr Nick Davies to discuss these matters further. BG agreed to try and arrange this.</p>	BG
<p>6. Gower Cycling Festival Feedback</p> <p>6.1 NG and DN provided some brief feedback with regards to the Gower Cycling Festival 2015. Whilst the returns had not yet been received for all of the rides, it was felt that the festival had been successful and had attracted riders from far afield.</p> <p>6.2 The additional provision for camping at Dunvant Rugby Club seems to be something which should be maintained and developed for future years and its location adjacent to NCN 4 – Clyne Valley was ideal.</p> <p>6.3 NG suggested that the City & County of Swansea should consider whether it could better provide for touring cyclists as it was known that tourists regularly travel through Swansea as part of long excursions on the NCN4. This improved provision should include information and facilities. BG agreed to seek views from the appropriate officers.</p>	BG
<p>7. Any Other Business</p> <p>7.1. NG reiterated concern on behalf of Wheelrights members that the City & County of Swansea had elected not to audit all shared use path infrastructure as part of the Active Travel (Wales) Act. NG asked whether it would be possible to meet with Stuart Davies (Head of Service, Highways & Transportation) & Cllr Nick Davies to discuss these matters further. BG agreed to investigate whether this could be arranged.</p> <p>7.2. LC asked whether BG could send the contact details for the Head of Planning to her, so that Sustrans and Wheelrights might begin the process of monitoring planning applications. BG agreed to do this.</p> <p>7.3. NG brought to the attention of the group the national “Ride to Work Day” which is planned for Thursday 3rd September 2015. BG agreed to try and promote this within the Council.</p> <p>7.4. NG also brought to the attention of the Group the work of the Rhondda Tunnel Society, which is seeking to bring an abandoned railway tunnel back into use to link the Rhondda and Afan Valleys for the benefit of pedestrians and cyclists.</p>	BG BG BG
<p>11. Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>11.1 The next Cycle Action Progress Meeting will be held on: 1 December - 14:00 – 15:30 p.m. Chamber Meeting Room, Civic Centre, County Hall, Swansea</p>	