

Wheelrights Routes Group

Notes of meeting on 12th December 2020

Zoom virtual meeting

Present: Nick Guy (NG), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), John Sayce (JS)

Apologies: Bill Gannon (BG), Mike Lewis (ML), Patrick Tribe (PT), Chris Walsh (CW).

DN chaired the meeting. He opened it by 'singing' the poem BG had sent him by way of apology for his absence. (He was carol singing. His poem is in the box.)

1. **Matters arising** from last meeting on 14 November.

- (a) Mayals Road concerns. (Item 1.) JS had not passed these on to the Council as it would now serve no useful purpose.
- (b) INM. (Item 7.) JS advised that we should wait until after a proposed Tim John (Sustrans) Wheelrights meeting, possibly in February, before submitting a list of routes. Meanwhile, when the Swansea section on <https://wgactivetravel.commonplace.is/> is set up. Route suggestions from the group should then be sought. **[Action: DN]**

God rest ye merry cycle-ists
Let nothing you dismay
Despite the fact that hybrid paths
Shall come by Mayals way
And residents and motorists
Will join in the affray
Oh, how shall we counter this ploy?
Counter this ploy.
Oh, how shall we counter this ploy?

2. **Olchfa Route.**

By reference to Council website maps and a map DN had prepared showing the proposed route overlaid on an OS map we discussed the proposed new route up the Clyne Valley and links in the area north of Rhyd-y-Defaid Drive.

Clyne Valley. We noted that there were strong objections to this route from dog walkers and that had we been consulted we would probably not have supported it. ML had reported to DR that he felt the same. We would however like to see a link between Rhyd-y-Defaid Drive and NCR 4 near the Railway Inn (Route CS on our website SW Swansea map.), a short section of which is used by the Council's route. JS described part of the route, noting that the alignment could be improved at the south end and a link to Derwyn Fawr via the dump access road (Newydd Rd.) provided. See notes of ride below.

Area north of Rhyd-y-Defaid Drive. JS identified a proposed N-S route on the Council's map which would provide access to Parkland Primary and Olchfa Schools.

3. **Singleton Park – Swansea College link.**

The Routes Group had considered the Council's plans and JS's proposed amendments to them at their meeting on 7 Dec. 2019 and DN had visited the area on 10 Jan. 2020 (See the notes of this meeting and the site visit.) JS advised that the Council have now ruled out use of the bridge across Gower Road for cyclists and noted that Parc Wern Road is not suitable as a cycle route because of cars parked on both sides. He had further thoughts on this route. See the ride notes below.

4. **Mayals Road.**

It appears that we have done all that we can and that unless the local residents succeed in getting the work put on hold it will be carried out. DN, on behalf of Cycling UK, had followed up the rejection of Wheelrights proposals by emailing Alan Ferris (on 30 Nov.) by asking that the Council consider the simpler south side solution he has been promoting. He has received no reply. He has also emailed Cllr Mark Child requesting that the plan be reconsidered and to Ryland Jones to let him know the reasons for the unacceptability of the Hybrid tracks. Neither have replied.

As a future development DN noted that there is a significant cycle demand from residents on the north side of Mayals Road. He therefore supported the earlier suggestion that cycling on the road in Clyne Gardens near its south boundary should be made permissive. JS noted that this road could be linked to the lower SUP via the Council owned Depot.

NG asked DN to put the motion about Wheelrights position passed at the 14 Nov. meeting (Spelt out in the notes.) on the website. DN said that he would be happy to do this provided that the description of the reasons why the hybrid tracks was shortened. His concern is that it

mentions only two of the several reasons for rejecting the hybrids. To mention them all would make the motion too long so it would be better to shorten the reasons simply to: "Wheelrights opposes the planned hybrid tracks for various reasons." or words to that effect. Post meeting: This was accepted and DN has put the shortened motion on the website.

5. AOB.

Pontarddulais. NG advised that the Pentre Bridge on the B4296 is now closed. He did not know if it was open to cyclists. He also noted that a cycle link along Allt-y-Graban tp Pontlliw was not planned.

6. Next meeting.

10.00 am on Saturday, 9 January, 2021 by Zoom.

Notes prepared by
David Naylor

The ride

DN and JS met up after the meeting at the Derwyn Fawr dump and walked the part of the proposed Olcha route between there and its south end in Clyne Valley. They noted that a link to Derwyn Fawr could be made here and that the alignment of this section could be improved to even out the gradient.

They then cycled to Eversley Road and checked out the southern part of the proposed Singleton Park to Swansea College route. They noted that, assuming cyclists could not use the bridge across Gower Road, a preferred cycle route along Eversley Road would be an SUP on the north side between Frogmore St and Sketty Ave. (See photo in report on 10 Jan. 2020 ride.) and then an uphill only SUP on the south side from there to its junction with Gower Road. This length is free of driveways, only foot entrances to properties. From there the existing zebra crossing immediately west of Brynmill Lane would be made a parallel crossing and the route continued as an SUP on the south side of Gower Road to the Park entrance.