

Wheelrights Routes Group

Notes of meeting on 10th April 2021

by Zoom

Present: Allyson Evans (AE), Nick Guy (NG), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), Mike Lewis (ML), John Sayce (JS).

Apologies: Victoria Williams (VW), Chris Walsh (CW).

DN chaired the meeting.

1. **Matters arising** from meeting on 6 March.

- (a) 2021-22 Routes. (Item 1a.) We have recently received information about the routes for which the Council have bid for funding. (JS explained that a Cabinet meeting planned for 15 April to approve it is a 'rubber stamping' exercise as it has already been submitted.)
- (b) Gowerton Station bypass. (Item 3.) DN suggested that Wheelrights promote this scheme (Detailed in the appendix to the 6 March meeting notes.) as it would meet the requirements of those who want to use the new Gowerton-Kingsbridge path but do not need to visit the station. There was unanimous agreement that we should. NG explained that because it involves the construction of a bridge across a live railway line getting the necessary agreement and support of Network Rail could be difficult.

2. **Commonplace Routes.**

DN noted that the main purpose of this meeting was to come up with a list of routes to submit to the Council for inclusion on the ATNM (Active Travel Network Map). This incorporates both the INM and ERM. To facilitate this DR, JS, BG (Bill Gannon) and himself had made an effort to make sense of the pins (over 3000 at the latest count) on the Commonplace Swansea map. Their respective reports had been circulated prior to this meeting.

In an exchange of views we noted that the pins did not give a clear indication of new routes needed, a large number being local issues – difficulty in crossing a road, speeding traffic, a general request for safer routes, etc. JS noted a middle class bias: pins clustered in better off areas with a deficit in the north and east where routes are needed. DN had requested that we each come up with a few routes which we think should be on the ATNM. He thought that tourist routes, especially on the Gower Peninsula, should be included as well as purely active travel routes, but not mountain biking tracks. We came up with the following preliminary list. With a formal consultation on the ATNM scheduled for July/August and the Council's submission of it to the WG in December we have time to refine this list before submitting it to the Council. Additions or amendments to it are therefore invited. **[Action: all.]**

It is roughly from west to east. The proposer is identified in () and, if the route is one of those marked on the four Swansea maps, it is identified in []; * if it is also on our 9 January list.

Gower Peninsula. Clockwise from SE. Most involve upgrading various existing paths.

- Gower Access Path. [GAP] * (DN).
- Parkmill-Penmaen. Old road thereby bypassing hill to south. (DN)
- Scurlage Bypass. Farm track from A4118 south of Scurlage to B4247. (DN)
- Oxwich-Llangennith-Llanmadoc. Along coast: bridleways; short road sections. (DN)
- Llanmadoc (Britannia Inn)-Llanrhidian. Bridleways along coast. (DN)
- Penclawdd-Gowerton. (Complete 'missing link'.) [NG] (NG, DN)
- N. Gower Circuit: Duvant, Welshmoor, Llanrhidian, N. Gower coast. (NG)
- Llethrid. Public footpath between Park Woods and Llethrid. (DN)

SW Swansea.

- A4118 (Railway Inn)-Singleton Park. [CS] * (DN)

NW Swansea.

- Culfor Rd (NCR 4)-Gowerton via Elba Playing Fields [CE] * (DN, JS)
- Gowerton Station Bypass. See 1(b) above. [GS] (DN)
- Grovesend-Pontarddulais (incl. SUP over Pentre Br). See also 3(a) below. [GP3] (NG)
- Penllergaer-Gorseinon. [GP] * (AE)
- Penllergaer-Pontlliw. [-] (AE)
- Gowerton-Llewitha/Fforestfach. [-] (AE, JS)

SE Swansea.

- Manselton-Penlan. [MP] * (JS)
- City Centre to Bay Campus, S. of Fabian way. (Langdon Rd) [SB] * (DN)

NE Swansea.

- Carmarthen Road [-] (JS)
- North from [MP] via Penlan Sch.- S. end Penplas Rd [PL] * (JS)
- Park Llewellyn-Caemawr Rd (Bishop V. Sch.)-DVLA. [CD] (JS)
- Tirpenry (incl. link to NCR 43 at Beaufort Br. via Wychtree lane). [TI] * (NG, DN)

3. AOB.

- (a) A Pentre Bridge amenity. NG had discovered lots of sleepers which he suggested could be used as benches. He would liaise with Pontarddulais Town Council. **[Action: NG]**
- (b) E-bikes. JS advised that an additional Swansea e-bike hire scheme to Santander's was proposed but there was lack of agreement about interchangeability between the two schemes. He suggested that we lobby for more cargo E-bikes. (BikeAbility currently use one to re-locate the Santander hire bikes.)
- (c) Bike storage. NG advised that new covered bike stands have been provided at High St station. He suggested that with the increase in e-bikes there was a need for more secure parking, eg outside the new central library on Princess Way.
- (d) Ramblers involvement. NG suggested that Rambler's vice chair, Bob Denley, be invited to attend a Routes Group meeting. DN will invite him. **[Action DN]**

4. Next meeting.

10.00 am on Saturday, 8 May in Ripple's Café (If restrictions allow.)

Notes prepared by
David Naylor