

# Wheelrights Routes Group

## Notes of meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022

in Ripples Café, West Cross

Present: David Judd (DJ), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), Bill Gannon (BG).

Apologies: John Britton (JB), Phil Brophy (PB), Allyson Evans (AE), Nick Guy (NG), Barry Norris (BN), John Sayce (JS), Chris Walsh (CW), David Wood (DW).

DN chaired the meeting.

### 1. **Matters arising** from 22 January meeting and 12 March Gower Routes Workshop.

(a) Mumbles Project (22 Jan. notes, Item 5). DJ had contacted both Amey and cllr Tim Bull but had not heard back from them.

(b) 12 March Workshop. JS has communicated the Workshop recommendations, specifically the Summary (Item 4a), to the Council (by email to Jack Palmer on 27 March).

### 2. **Priority Routes.**

We reviewed the routes which the Group had previously identified as active travel priorities and divided them into those on which the Council are already working (in pipeline), priority 1 (high) and priority 2. These, listed clockwise from SW to NE are as follows:

Notation: [ ] = route on map; ( ) = on which of the four maps the route appears.

#### In pipeline

- Gower Access Path [GAP] (sw).
- North Gower [NG] (nw).
- Grovesend - Pontarddulais [GP3] (nw).
- Gorseinon Road [PG] (nw).
- Clasement Road (Llangyfelach – DVLA) [LD] (ne).
- Townhill Northern Link, aka Ravine (Gors Ave. – Townhill) [GT] (se).
- Morryston South Link (Tirpenry) [TI] (ne).
- Jersey Road (Jersey Road) [JR] (ne).

#### Priority 1

- Clyne Valley – Singleton Park. [CS] (sw).
- Gowerton - Fforestfach [GF] (nw).
- Morryston Hosp. – DVLA [MD] (ne).
- Walter Road. [UP] (se).
- Swansea – Bay Campus [SB] (se).

#### Priority 2

- Gowerton Station Bypass [GS] (nw).
- Fforestfach [FF] (nw & se).
- Singleton Park to Uplands [SU] (se).
- Cwm Level Road to DVLA. [CD] (ne).
- Penplas [PP] (ne).
- Penlan [PL] (ne).

This classification does not alter our previous recommendations which identified the above 19 routes as our first choice from the 70 or so routes marked on the four maps

### 3. **5 May Local Elections.**

DR was considering sending a letter to all the candidates summarising what Wheelrights would like to see happen. We felt that this should be sent out before the election rather to the newly elected candidates after it.

DN suggested that it contain the three general points Cycling UK (Cymru) recommend in their manifesto for the election, namely:

- Deliver on the Active Travel Act.
- Prioritise safe routes to schools, bikeability training and separate\* cycle routes.
- Make cycling accessible to all.

\* Maybe replace “separate” by “safe” as cyclists also use on-road routes.

There is also the issue for parking on shared use paths and DN suggested that we might ask for free and frequent bus services. While the benefits of this would go well beyond the specific aims of Wheelrights it would result in more active travel and by reducing car use make the roads safer for cyclists and easier for them to use. He had read that around 100 towns and cities across the world have adopted free bus services, a recent example being Dunkirk which made the change in 2018. The result was a roughly doubling of bus use with half of new users switching from their cars. (Source: Chap. 13 in Ed Milliband's new book "Go Big".)

**4. AOB.**

(a) Link to Bishopston Schools.

DJ noted the need for the footpath between Murton and Bishopston along Providence Lane to be upgraded for cycle use. It goes past Bishopston Primary and Comprehensive Schools and is much used by pupils. This could be done as an extension to the GAP.

(b) Chris Boardman.

DJ offered to use family links to Chris Boardman to enquire if either Chris himself or failing that someone he could recommend would give a talk at a Wheelrights meeting.

**5. Next meeting.**

10.00am on Saturday, 14 May in the Environment Centre, Pier Street, Swansea SA1 1RY

Notes prepared by  
David Naylor