

Wheelrights Routes Group

Notes of meeting on 12th November 2022

in the Environment Centre, Pier Street, Swansea SA1 1RY.

Present: Nick Guy (NG), David Judd (DJ), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR).

Apologies: John Britton (JB), Allyson Evans (AE), Bill Gannon (BG), Mike Lewis (ML), Barry Norris (BN), John Sayce (JS), Patrick Tribe (PT), Chris Walsh (CW).

DN chaired the meeting.

1. **Matters arising** from 8 October meeting.

- (a) National Transport Delivery Plan (Item 1c). JS's consultation response is now on the Campaigns page of the website.
- (b) Gower Cycle Network (Item 1d). DN had sent notes of a 14 October meeting attended by Paul Meller, Chris Lindley, Jack Palmer, NG, DN & DR to those three Council officers for their approval but has not had a reply. He will follow this up. **[Action DN]**
- (c) Blackpill Bridge (Item 3). Views about the pros and cons of a new bridge were aired. (See 8 Oct meeting notes for summary of these.) While DN felt that Wheelrights should make it clear that they didn't want it, DJ, supported by NG and DR, felt that we should keep an open mind. What was agreed was that it should not be at the expense of the Blackpill Toucan, as this is needed by cyclists and pedestrians wanting to cross the road, in particular cyclists from Mayals and further west. DN's objection to the bridge was mainly because his understanding was that it would *replace* the Toucan.
- (d) Gowerton Station (Item 3). NG suggested that there should be a formal opening of the Gowerton to Kingsbridge SUP when the final section between Fairwood Terrace and the station is complete. This would be an opportunity to raise with the Council the need for a station bypass involving a new bridge using the old bridge abutments. (Our Route GS.) DN noted that the present plan only caters for those who want to catch a train.

2. **Ynysallan Road.**

DN noted that vegetation had been cleared on the south side of the road. It appeared that the SUP would go there but it was not clear if it extended the full length of the road.

3. **North Gower.**

DJ felt that it is now time to 'rev up support' to get the missing half mile between Penclawdd and Gowerton completed. He summarised the history of the negotiations and NG noted that plans prepared when Ben George was involved had been agreed with land owners. DJ has met with Joe Muldoon who lives in Gowerton and is keen to help. They will endeavour to progress this. **[Action DJ]**

4. **Wheelrights meeting.**

We supported the suggestion that Ian Walker, the author of the research on how a rider's sex and whether or not they are wearing a helmet affects how close they are passed, should give a talk. Ian is coming to Swansea to work at the University. He will be a colleague of Phil Brophy who can help with arrangements. DR would liaise with him to arrange a public meeting, tentatively in the New Year. **[Action DR]**

5. **AOB.**

A Welsh CAN. Gwenda Owen emailed (on 8 nov.) DN and JS with information about a new initiative to give Welsh cycle campaigners a 'stronger voice'. A Cycle Advocacy Network (CAN) Wales page has been set up, the link is: <https://www.cyclinguk.org/can-wales>. This includes a map which shows our location. We are asked to let her know if we are happy with the map and whether we would like to become a (free) CAN Wales Partner. We agreed that our response should be 'yes' to both. (The map however needs correcting: we are labelled "Wheel-Rights".) JS is asked to respond if he has not done so already. **[Action JS]**

6. **Next meeting.**

10.00 am on Saturday 10 December in Ripples Café.

Notes prepared by
David Naylor