

Wheelrights Routes Group

Notes of meeting on 10th September 2022

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

Present: Tracy Anstee (TA), Nick Guy (NG), Mike Lewis (ML), Philip McDonnell (PM), Joe Muldoon (JM), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), John Sayce (JS).

Apologies: John Britton (JB), Phil Brophy (PB), Allyson Evans (AE), Bill Gannon (BG), David Judd (DJ), Patrick Tribe (PT), Chris Walsh (CW), David Wood (DW).

DN chaired the meeting. He first welcomed TA and JM.

1. **Matters arising** from 13 August meeting.

- (a) Wheelrights 12 Oct. meeting (Item 1). Arrangements for a presentation by John Grimshaw titled "Building Routes for People" have now been confirmed, a poster prepared and details put on the Events page. DR with help from others would distribute the poster. **[Action DR]**
- (b) Gorseinon Road (Item 2). DN had recently again visited the site and considered that the reasons given to him by the Council for the off-road path (now a stepped cycle track) being on the south side up the hill did not stand up to scrutiny. He had subsequently been in touch with cllr Wendy Fitzgerald who is trying to get the work put on hold because of the concern of local residents. These relate mainly to parking and that they don't want cyclists passing driveways. She accepted DN's point about the hazard of speeding cyclists on downhill SUPs.
- (c) Parc Tawe (Item 3b). NG advised that signing would be deferred until work on the arena was complete.
- (d) Craig Cefn Park (Item 6). JS has written both to the Council and the local councillor to request the removal/replacement of the barriers or at least a meeting about this but he has had no response.

2. **Transport Delivery Plan.**

JS reported on the recent TDP on which consultation is invited. He noted that while the aspirations are to be commended it is weak on how they are to be achieved. For example the targets for increasing sustainable transport (from 32% to 45%) and cycling and walking (from 25% to 33%) by 2040 are fine. He noted that the TDP had been drafted by Transport for Wales (TfW). DN noted that the concerns about delivery are reflected in the Active Travel Cross Party Group's review of the 2013 Welsh Active Travel Act. (Summarised on p.6 in the Autumn Newsletter, just issued.) JS would draft a response to the consultation. **[Action JS]**

3. **Criteria for Routes.**

Item deferred.

4. **Impending Works.**

Tirpenry (Route TI on Wheelrights NE Swansea map.) The continuation of this route north from the A48 (Clase Road) is held up due to land ownership problems.

5. **Pennard.** (See Notes of 13 Aug. meeting, Item 5b.)

JS advised that Pennard qualifies for Active Travel funding as its population now exceeds 3,000. The Pennard Active Travel group (PAT) would promote the continuation of provision west from the GAP, work on which is scheduled to start on 3 October. **[Action PB, DN]**

6. **Gower Cycle Network.** (See Notes of 13 Aug. meeting, Item 5c.)

Three Wheelrights members (JM, DN & DR) had responded to Chris Lindley's request and had surveyed most of the routes identified. Their findings are reported on a document (tabled) which DN had sent to Chris who had responded suggesting a follow up meeting. This is scheduled for 14 October. We had asked for the Council's approval to put this report on our website but this has been declined because of the provisional nature of the plans.

7. Swansea Environment Forum.

PM updated us on the Forum's work, as follows:

- A key objective of SEF is to raise the profile of transport as a strategic priority for partners, including the Council.
- SEF is working with Public Health Wales on a Healthy Travel Charter to get large organisations working together to promote sustainable travel. The DVLA, health board, council, fire service, housing associations and Swansea universities are amongst those who have signed up to a two-year commitment to a list of actions.
- SEF is also collaborating on a project which focuses on those who have difficulty accessing transport and working with communities to find solutions. For example, a community mini-bus trial has been set up as a way forward.
- Measures are also being taken to help community groups get people on bikes, include a cycle pool for kids, cycle training, support for BikeAbility (Wales) and measures to make e-bikes available.

8. AOB.

(a) Gowerton diagonal crossing. Completion of this crossing, specifically the link to Woodlands at its south end, appears to have stalled. JS would follow this up. **[Action JS]**

(b) Junction Café (Blackpill) crossing. TA noted that this pedestrian crossing, being two stage with limited space in the central reservation, was difficult for the disabled in Wheelchairs or tricycles. JS would also follow this up. **[Action JS]**

9. Next meeting.

10.00 am on Saturday 8 October in Ripple's Café.

Notes prepared by
David Naylor