

Wheelrights Routes Group

Notes of meeting on 19th February 2024

On line by Teams.

Present: John Britton (JB), David Judd (DJ), Joe Muldoon (JM), David Naylor (DN)
Patrick Tribe (PT).

Apologies: Nick Guy (NG), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), John Sayce (JS).

JB chaired the meeting.

1. Matters arising from 8 January meeting and not on agenda:

Green Travel Choices (Item 6). The link provided by DJ is now on Wheelrights website.

2. GAP.

PT advised that CCS officers plan to meet on site this coming Thursday to recce' the proposed revised route south of the fence.

A new planning application will be needed, also for funding. Work on the path is not expected to restart until next year. In answer to a query from DJ, PT expected that there will be a opportunity to consult on the revised plan. DN wondered if it was worth pushing for our preference for the path to be on the road side of the path. The general feeling was that it was not; we should accept what is now proposed.

3. Walter Road

JB reported that it had 63% support from Uplands residents. No further action was proposed; we keep our fingers crossed that it has sufficient support.

4. Penclawdd-Gowerton Missing Link.

JM noted that at the second Weltag workshop on 2 February it was confirmed that the preferred location of the path was on the north side of the road. DJ expressed concern that a path width of 2.5m was being considered. The guidelines require 3m. DN noted that 2.5m would be acceptable but only to get past obstacles such as the half way house.

JM was concerned that he was not getting replies to his queries. We were pleased to learn that a land agent was to be employed to negotiate with the farmers involved.

5. Closure of Kingsbridge to Gowerton path.

DJ and JM noted that the issue with the diversion was inadequate drainage.

6. Countryside Access Plan (CAP).

DN, who is a member of the Swansea Local Access Forum (LAF) reported that comments from Forum members on a draft CAP had been invited. He, having seen the draft, felt that it didn't adequately address the access needs of cyclists, particularly on the Gower Peninsula. He had prepared a draft document for consideration at a forthcoming LAF meeting. [This meeting, scheduled for 21 February, has been postponed.] He had circulated it to prior to our meeting, was considered at it and was approved. He had also sent it to Gwenda Owen, Cycling UK's spokesperson, who also gave it her blessing. Following the LAF meeting DN plans to finalise the report and put it on Wheelrights website (under 'Rural Routes' on the 'Routes' page). **[Action DN]**

7. Ripples Café.

An information board is to be located at this café. It would include travel information for walkers and cyclists. This has our full support.

8. AOB.

Carmarthen Road. JS has contributed to the consultation on Sustainable Transport on Carmarthen Road in the form of a report. He has circulated it to Committee members for comment. Not having prior notice we did not comment on it at the meeting.

9. Next meeting.

10.00am on Saturday, 6 April, in Ripples Café and also on Teams.

Notes prepared by
David Naylor