

WheelRights Routes Group

Notes of meeting on 21 June 2025

Present: John Britton (JB), Stefan Farcas (SF), Jai Fear (JF), David Judd (DJ),
Brenda Lillicrap (BL), Joe Muldoon (JM), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR).
John Sayce (JS),

1. JB chaired the meeting, welcoming SF and JF, attending for the first time.
Apologies: Caroline Carter, Allyson Evans, Nick Guy (NG)
2. **Matters arising** from 17 May meeting not on the agenda.
 - (a) Facebook and member engagement (Item 1a). Group not yet met. Facebook note promoting member engagement to be posted **[Action: NG]**
 - (b) Regional Transport Plan consultation (Item 1c). JS has arranged an informal meeting on Friday 4 July with Ben George (Head of Regional Transport, TfW, previously Strategic Development Programme Manager Swansea Bay and West Wales at TfW) primarily on the inadequate consultation with AT stakeholders **[Action: JS]**
 - (c) Cycling UK representative (Item 1d). Patrick Tribe (PT) has taken this over from DN, CUK Cardiff have been informed.
 - (d) Llethrid path (Item 1f). DJ reported that the Parkwood NRW people are not engaging with his efforts to enlist help with opening the northern 250 m of the path to Llethrid for people cycling (or with wheelchairs/pushchairs). DN suggested contacting Hamish Osborn (NRW), JB suggested Rebecca Evans, MS for Gower. **[Action: DJ]**
DN has provided a detailed summary of the history of this route in the Summer Newsletter.
 - (e) Barriers (Item 3). JS has requested a meeting with Stephen Williams (Active Travel Officer) about barrier removal, especially those near schools/colleges. (See also Item 4 below) **[Action: JS]**
DN will add a note on the Barriers website page on how to notify additions. **[Action: DN]**
[Post meeting note: DN has modified the Barriers section on the Routes page accordingly.]
 - (f) Newgale and Eurovelo 1 (Item 4). DJ to contact John Mather (member of Welsh Cross Party Active Travel Group) and/or any other person who could help press for cycling provision along the proposed new by-pass road. **[Action: DJ]**
 - (g) Connection to Gowerton Station (Item 6). NG has arrangements for celebrating the opening in hand, including participation by BikeAbility. **[Action: NG]**
 - (h) WheelRights public meeting (Item 7) was held successfully with good attendance in person and online, with an engaging presentation (on organising a Kidical Mass ride) by Sophie Gordon of CyclingUK. There is a summary of her presentation on Wheelrights website Notes page (General meeting, 10 June 2025).
DR is organising the next public meeting, to be a panel discussion. Ian Walker (of 'bicycle overtaking studies') is a potential participant. **[Action: DR]**
3. **Cross Party Group on Active Travel (Senedd)**
JS attended and reported that the meeting had an 'end of season' feel with few Members in attendance. Feels as though Active Travel has slipped off the agenda and seems that funding will be going to regional groups with no ring-fencing.
4. **Active Travel Stakeholders' meeting**
NG attended and provided written notes, appended. Discussion points from the notes:
 - Major review of AT routes end of 2025; WR needs to be ready with coherent response.
 - Some of the problem barriers were wanted and funded by councillors; BL proposed Wheelrights ask that where barriers are deemed essential they should be modified to conform to the Welsh Active Travel guidance.

5. Clyne Common (Gower Access Path)

WR has been notified that Swansea Council is applying to the Welsh ministers for consent to construct works on Clyne Common. DJ will work with PT to draft very supportive response.

[Action: DJ, PT]

6. Making Swansea More Bike Friendly' workshop report

Workshop held at the Pier Street Party (14 June) attracted new participants and useful constructive discussion. It is summarised in a new "Routes Workshop" section in the Routes page on Wheelrights website. JB welcoming the input said a number of campaign priorities were reinforced in the workshop, including safe routes to schools and colleges and improved access in areas of deprivation, to the Swansea cycle network.

An open-ended discussion on priorities put the following on the table:

- There could be a pyramid of needed routes.
- An ordered priority list risks offending anyone whose key route ends up low down.
- Priorities could be specific (A to B), by type (deprived areas / arterial roads / to schools and colleges), other?
- Requirement for any infrastructure to adhere to Welsh Active Guidance could be emphasised.

7. Brynmill Lane (Sketty councillors' proposed ban on right turns in and out)

Part of a proposal which includes making Frogmore Avenue and the western end of Eversley Road one-way. Agreed that the Brynmill Lane proposal is not a key issue for WR. Creation of one-way streets with no provision for cycling would be. When the TRO is published BL will draft a response, and a note to Uplands councillors that the Brynmill Lane turning ban will increase rat-running traffic through residential streets next to Brynmill Park. **[Action: BL]**

8. Kidical Mass Bike Ride

JS will convene a small group identified at the public meeting, aiming for an event in September. JF also keen to contribute. **[Action: JS, JF]**

9. Yearly Achievement Document

Agreed a record of achievements can support campaigning/engagement. JB will trawl Routes Group notes, WR newsletters and the Secretary's report to draft a document. **[Action: JB]**

10. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

11. Next Routes Group Meeting

Saturday 2 August 2025, 10am, Ripples Café

Notes prepared by
Brenda Lillicrap

APPENDIX

Active Travel Stakeholders Meeting at 14 June Pier Street Party Feedback from Nick Guy

I attended this, and as John S. warned me it was mostly a PR report back meeting. However there was some discussion:

1. Walter Road. Leonie Ramondt made a passionate speech about its importance esp for women cyclists and to connect to city centre. I suggested WR proposes starting with first section from Page St to St James, as would challenge CCS argument about three years disruption?
2. Barriers. CCS willing to remove more, but highlighted problems, eg where local councillors had problems and paid for some barriers. I proposed a separate meeting to discuss priorities, eg near schools.
3. New routes. eg Along West Cross Road where there are three junior schools.
4. Major Review of all AT routes by end of 2025 seems a golden opportunity for WR feedback.
5. Opening of Gowerton – Pontarddulais route. Councillors seemed keen on my suggestions for joint bike ride from BikeAbility, who are willing to lend bikes to councillors etc. I volunteered to lead on this.

I also mentioned our priority list of short [traffic free] sections to four schools, but didn't gain support.