

Wheelrights

Notes of meeting on 26th March 2012 in the Environment Centre, Swansea

Present: Chris Connick (ChC), Claudine Conway (CC), Paul Elliott (PE), Eifion Frances (EF), David Judd (DJ), Mike Lewis (ML), David Naylor (DN), Kerry Rogers (KR), Rob Wachowski (RW)

Apologies: Don Ashman (DA), Martin Brain (MB), John Cardy (JC), Mike Cherry (MC), Allyson Evans (AE), Colin Fielder (CF), Gordon Gibson (GG), Peter Greenwood (PG), Nick Guy (NG), Phil Jones (PJ), John Sayce (JS), Geoff Wood (GW), Vee Wood (VW)

The meeting was chaired by CC.

1. Matters arising (from 27 Feb.2012 meeting and not on agenda).

Item 1 (ASLs). DN again circulated the document showing ASL locations. It was suggested he make this available to all. (I'll put it on the Infrastructure page of the website. DN.).

Item 2c (Gower Cycling Festival) The 500 GCF postcards (which now include the CCS logo) have been printed. DN holds them. A number have been stacked in the Civic Centre. A commitment of £300 towards the flyer has been made so that CF and NG can now go ahead with its production. DN had provided NG with the map and booking form.

Item 7b (Watersports Centre). RW would raise the access issue with the appropriate CCS department. **[Action: RW]**

Item 7c (Events on 6, 7 and 14 March). Stalls at all these events had been manned. EF reported that there was considerable interest at the DVLA event on 14 March.

2. Infrastructure priorities and the CAP

Infrastructure. DN had had feedback from the document (Appendix A) he had circulated. Generally there appeared to be support for the agenda. There was not however a clear indication of priorities. The following summarises individuals' contributions.

MB: 20 mph zones: high priority.

GG: Secure cycle storage; better cycle routes through town incl. contra-flow lanes.

NG: Sandfields route; destination signs; new off-road routes incl. completion of N. Gower; Coed Darcy links & Tennant Canal.

KR: Items for prioritisation in Appx A: 1(b,c), 2(a,b), 3(a), 4(a), 5, 7 & 8. His personal preferences: Fabian Way/Coed Darcy links: 20 mph zones; cycle parking at station.

At the meeting we felt that West Tawe cycle routes should be given higher priority. RW explained that there were plans for a route close to the Tawe through new developments and that this was separate from the impending new distributor road. DJ asked that we see the plans for this road. RW would try and get them. **[Action: RW]**

20 mph zones were strongly supported. DN suggested that we should identify specific areas such as the Sandfields. CC agreed to write to Jeff Green, CCS's Road Safety Officer, to enquire about plans. **[Action: CC]**

CAP. DN summarised the 20 March Cycle Action Plan meeting with Chris Vinestock attended by Ben George, RW, Fraser Arnot, NG and himself as follows

Tawe Bridges. The E-W NCR 43 link across the N. Tawe Bridge should be constructed soon. Measures were agreed to mitigate a safety problem due to misleading signals on the Toucan crossing of Fabian Way by the S. bridge.

Boulevard. The shared use path west from the LC to the foreshore (W. of the Civic Centre) should be constructed later this year. Consultation on the work east of the LC should take place in May with work planned for 2013.

Clydach. Work on the £k265 Connect2 Stage 2 has started. This will include use of the old railway bridge 100m east of the pipe bridge. There is however a hold up on taking NCR 43 through the depot due to legal issues about mitigation of ground contamination. EF explained that the work would not expose the pollution and he expected the route to be taken through it soon.

Gowerton – Kingsbridge link. DN said that a site meeting with Knight Frank, the agents for the Stafford Commoners, was to be arranged soon. Cllr Will Evans will attend if free.

North Gower. DJ expressed concern at the lack of progress. Quarterly reports on this from CCS had not been forthcoming. RW has now taken over negotiations with the landowner from Ben George and will try to get the necessary agreement [Action: RW]

Seminar. DN explained that due to personal problems Alasdair Massie will not now give this. (He had cancelled the seminar scheduled for 10 Oct. 2011 at short notice.) Fraser Arnot would find a Sustrans replacement to give a seminar, hopefully early this summer.

DN and NG had a draft of CCS's *Swansea Cycling Action Plan* for comment. DN suggested that he make this available electronically to anybody interested. As DN only has a paper copy RW agreed to email it to him. [Action: NG, DN, RW]

3. Manifesto

A launch had been held at the Civic Centre on 15 March. This had been attended by councillors and candidates representing the five political parties. All had expressed their support. DJ commented that the Evening Post report on 20 March had only mentioned David Phillips' contribution. It was noted that while this was regrettable, were Labour to gain control in the May elections it would be useful to have this commitment from their leader.

DN circulated a list of candidates who had been contacted and by whom (Appendix B). No change was suggested.

PE advised that a list of candidates should be published on 10 April. We agreed that a press release to appear shortly after that was needed. RW suggested that this be combined with the issue of the *Swansea Cycling Action Plan*. [Action: NG, DN, RW]

4. Swansea Cycle Challenge

DN advised that £k23.5 had been found towards the £k43 total sought but that raising the balance presented a problem. RW noted that this did not include the value of the time spent by WR and other volunteers and that *Challenge for Change* would not lightly allow the Swansea challenge to falter. It was agreed that we should put pressure on WG to provide more support and to achieve this we are asking NG to write to Julie James AM to ask if there are underspent funding streams which can be used. [Action: NG]

5. Coed Darcy

Work is underway on this development. DN and RW, aware of the need for respectively WR to be consulted on the detail of the cycle provision and CCS to be involved because of the cross-border links, have been trying to get in touch with NPT, so far without success. DN has not had a reply to an email sent to Geoff Marquis on 8 March and neither he nor RW have had a response from Laura Dowsett (who now has Glen Watkins role as de-facto cycling officer). Both would continue their efforts with a view to arranging a meeting. [Action: DN, RW]

DN had however received a map showing proposed cycle links from Rupert Joseland, SW Regional Director of St Modwen. DJ had sought via freedom-of-information, but without success so far, details of the work currently underway on the Tennant Canal footpath. Apparently both cyclists and the disabled are banned from it. RW is trying to make contact with the Tennant Canal authority. KR would pass a contact he has to RW. [Action: KR]

6. Adult Beginners Classes

DN confirmed that the dates were as on the website. The first is on 14 April.

7. Evening rides

DN obtained the agreement of CC and EF to lead rides thereby completing the list:
26 April: NG; 24 May: CC; 28 June: EF; 26 July: DN; 23 August: CF.

8. AOB

Sail Bridge Barrier. No action having been taken to replace the bike storage hoops by an appropriate barrier (See item 7c of 1 Dec. 2011 meeting notes.) we decided to arrange a photo shoot at the site featuring bikes locked to the hoops. DJ offered to contact Chris Peregrine of the EP to arrange this for, if possible, this Saturday, 31 March. [Action: DJ]

9. Date of next meeting

The next general meeting will be at 7.00 pm in the Environment Centre on Mon. 14 May.

APPENDIX A

Wheelrights infrastructure priorities

The purpose of item 2 on the agenda for the 26 March meeting is to get feedback on our priorities from the membership. Below is a list of projects divided into those currently in the pipeline and those on the 'back burner'. Your comments are invited, either at the meeting or – even better – by email to me before it.

This document only covers infrastructure. *Wheelrights* other important activities – broadly classed as promoting behaviour change, ie our adult classes, evening rides, Swansea Cycle Challenge, Bike Week, Gower Cycle Festival, etc. – are considered separately

In pipeline

1. New off-road routes:
 - a) Tawe Bridges: W-E link to NCR 43 across N. Bridge.
 - b) Boulevard. (S. of Oystermouth Rd and NW of Victoria Quay.)
 - c) Gowerton-Gorseinon path.
 - d) North Gower path (completion of E. end).
2. On road provision:
 - a) ASLs and other improvements at junctions.
 - b) 20mph zones in residential areas; especially links between them and schools.
 - c) Sandfields: signing and minor road works to identify a through cycle route.
 - d) Railway station: signing and links to routes S, W (Alexandra Rd) and N.
3. Cycle Parking
 - a) Railway Station (Should be 40 new stands.)
 - b) City Centre: Wellington St and St Davids. Secure sites have been identified.
4. NCN
 - a) NCR 4: Loughor to Blackpill. Detailed proposals are provided in the last four reports in the section 'NCN 4 signing' in www.wheelrights.org.uk/infrastr.htm.
 - b) NCR 4: Observatory to Fabian Way: This new section needs signing.
5. Fabian Way corridor: Development of E-W routes N. and S. of Fabian Way, the former with a link to the Coed Darcy 'Urban Village' and the latter to connect the proposed University campus to Swansea and the east. See the 'Fabian Way Corridor' section in www.wheelrights.org.uk/infrastr.htm.

On back-burner

6. West Tawe route: to follow the west bank of the Tawe from the Tawe Bridges to link with the existing path at the Liberty Stadium. This should be integrated with the proposed new road and other development in the Parc Tawe/Hafod areas
7. North Swansea route. To link Gowerton to Landore (Liberty Stadium) via Penlan.
8. Pennard link. New cycle path across Clyne Common between West Cross and Northway; also traffic calming measures (not humps) and speed restrictions between Kittle and Southgate.

David Naylor
March 2012

APPENDIX B

Council candidates supporting Manifesto – contacts

WR member	Candidate [C:] = exist' cllr	Cand. phone	Ward
Don Ashman	Richard Lewis [C: Cons]	01792 390368	Gower
Martin Brain	Nicola Holley [C: LibD] Jim Kelleher [C: LibD]	01792 419957 01792 518889	Cockett
Mike Cherry	Jane Woodman [C: LibD]	01792 429695	Uplands
Claudine Conway	Miles Thomas [C: Cons]	01792 367241	Newton
Steph. Cuff	Anthony Colburn [C: Cons]	01792 362457	Oystermouth
Paul Elliott			Sketty
Colin Fielder			Dunvant
Nick Guy	Stuart Rice [C: LibD] Janet Thomas [C: LibD]	01792 611015 01792 298468	Uplands
Phil Jones	Margaret Smith [C: Cons]		Pennard
David Judd	Keith Marsh [- Green]	01792 233735	Bishopston
Mike Lewis			Morrison
David Naylor	Lynda James [- Ind.]	01792 234316	Pennard
Kerry Rogers			Mumbles?
Rob Wachowski	Paxton Hood-Williams [C: Cons]	01792 872038	Fairwood
Geoff & Vee Wood	John Newbury [C: LibD] Nick Tregoning [C: LibD]	01792 201220 07973 672580	Dunvant

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