

Wheelrights Officers' Meeting

4 July 2022 in the Secret Café, Swansea Foreshore.

Present: Allyson Evans (AE), Nick Guy (NG), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), John Sayce (JS), Chris Walsh (CW).

Apologies: Caroline Carter (CC), David Judd (DJ).

1. Website and “Safer Cycling” Leaflet

NG noted that the first two web designers had not come up with an acceptable proposal, but CW and he now had a structure for a new website and NG would continue to seek a solution. He would make fresh attempts to contact web designers. He would also put out a plea for help from members via Facebook and e-mail. **[Action: NG]**

NG had feedback on the “Safer Cycling” leaflet. He noted that it promoted BikeAbility Wales (BAW) more than WR. It was agreed to put it on hold for a future launch with the new website. **[Action: NG, CW]**

2. Walter Rd and Transport Workshop

DR and JS provided feedback on Stakeholders' meetings with Arcadis and CCS re Walter Road. JS reported very slow progress, DR noted that the focus had been on the impact on pedestrians. DN had spoken to Simon Jones at a drop-in meeting last year and learnt that CCS were considering a 3m wide segregated cycle track on the south side of Walter Road. WR supported this and also took the position that cycle crossings of minor roads should be on raised platforms and that traffic controlled pedestrian crossings should be single stage.

DR/JS/AE reported that the *Transport Workshop* was useful, with Jack Palmer making a good facilitator. They thought the new crossing of Carmel Road was good – did it set a precedent? This could be a regular meeting, and develop into a dialogue. **[Action: monitor this.]**

3. Next Public Meeting – future speakers

DN reported that DJ was trying to arrange for Lee Waters or a deputy to give a presentation (with John Grimshaw as another possibility). **[Action: DJ]**

4. Campaigning over next 3 – 6 months. The following ideas were discussed:

- (a) Removing Barriers: link with walkers and disability groups. AE to lead. **[Action: AE]**
- (b) Stall at Blackpill. (Distributing bike maps and consulting path users about improvements/new routes). NG/DR to arrange this summer. **[Action: NG, DR]**
- (c) Work with Lib Dems: esp. Sketty/Manselton where routes need improvement and completion. JS to lead with DR (Sketty) and NG (Eaton Rd). **[Action: JS, DR, NG]**
- (d) Foreshore Lighting. AE to follow up. **[Action: AE]**

5. New AT Stakeholder group

JS reported that Living Streets (a pedestrian organization), had not been included in the AT Stakeholder groups. They should be to make common cause with University and disability groups, etc. JS to liaise with University, Living Streets and other partners. JS offered to make a presentation on the recent review of the Active Travel Act. **[Action: JS]**

6. AOB

- (a) Signage. NG had met with Steve Yeo (Highways) who said CCS now counted cycling as “traffic” which unlocked maintenance money for repairs, signage and maintenance of bike routes. He was open to WR reporting signage problems (to save staff time/money). AE, CW & NG to form signage subgroup, and liaise re signage issues. **[Action: AE, NG, CW]**
- (b) Parapets. NG also met Griff, clerk of works (Highways, Mob: 07980 684433) who outlined problems in heightening parapets (esp. on M4 bridge – CCS looking at “Cyclists Dismount” signs). Griff welcomed contact re minor design problems. (He's a keen cyclist.)
- (c) Recruitment. NG volunteered to become Recruitment officer.
- (d) Communication. DR raised issue of how we improve communication of WR positions, and speak with one voice. He acknowledged we can have personal views, which can be communicated as such. **[Action: All to be careful when communicating with CCS on behalf of WR and clear actions with the committee first.]**

7. Future meetings

We agreed to hold Committee meetings quarterly, so next: Monday 3rd October 2022 (tbc).

Nick Guy