

Shropshire Local Access Forum	<u>Item</u>	<u>Paper</u>
24 January 2011	20	G
10.00 a.m.		

MINUTES OF THE SHROPSHIRE CYCLE FORUM

Tuesday 7th December 2010, Shirehall, Shrewsbury

1. Present

Miles Kenny (Chair)	Brett Kibble	Mary Diggory
Samantha Tharme (Shropshire Council)	Bill Dorrell	Mike Arthur
Ruth Stafford (Shropshire Council)	Geoff Shinner	Paul Wagner
Beth Holgate	John Petty	Peter Holgate
	Keith Mason	Peter Mathison
	Martin Beardwell	Philip Pool

2. Apologies

Alison Kennedy	Emma Bullard	Peta Sams
Andy Goldsmith	Jim Leach	Peter Bird
Chris Dartnell	John Short	Peter Carty
Chris Pennington	John Smyth	Reg Potter
Dave Rolfe	Kay Dartnell	Terry Egglestone
Derek Owen	Keith Harris	

3. Previous minutes (7th September) and matters arising

Minutes accepted. Matters arising:

- Shrewsbury – slippery cobbles under railway bridge, worsened by pigeon droppings. Suggestion for improvement from Paul Wagner. Appreciation expressed for remainder of relevant work carried out (especially from the the weir to Greyfriar's bridge).

4. Local Transport Plans (LTPs)

Telford & Wrekin (T&W) Council:

- Keith Harris sent apologies. Summary of T&W's LTP3 was distributed. **ACTION:** **Questionnaires on T&W's LTP3 to be completed by Friday 17th December 2010.**
http://www.telford.gov.uk/site/scripts/documents_info.aspx?documentID=516&pageNumber=2

Shropshire Council (SC):

- LTP2 covers 2006–2011.
- LTP3 will cover 2011-2026. It will be drafted in Jan-Feb 2011, completed Mar-Apr 2011
- Other funding can also be applied from central government's Sustainable Transport Fund (to be announced in Jan-Feb 2011).
- To tie in with LDF (Local Development Framework) which covers all land use decision making
- To fit in with the framework of the Community Strategy, the priority for which was carbon reduction 2 years ago, but is now economy and growth. SC still has carbon reduction targets.
- To include: Strategy section (walking, cycling, bus strategies) and 3 year implementation plan

- Integrated Transport funding will reduce by half in 2011-12 (from £4,000,000 in 2010-11 to £2,000,000 in 2011-12).

<http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/traveltransport.nsf/open/2A79133CD32676E98025709E002EEF2B>

ACTION: Please complete survey at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GXPYZ3L>

Comments:

- PCT still exists and shares objectives of promoting cycling for health. Could funding be gained from them? Response: closer partnership working will be necessary as all funding is reduced.
- The Enterprise Partnership has asked the Shropshire Partnership for funding.
- Connect 2 funding for 2011-12 requires match funding and should not be lost.
- Councillors not present at cycle forum meetings. Need to lobby them. They pay attention to letters to local papers.

ACTION: Cycle forum members to write regarding:

- the need for more, safer cycling (and its contribution to 'Healthy, Safe, Confident Communities')
- specific improvements, e.g. chicanes on entrances to Greyfriar's bridge (to slow cyclists)
- winter maintenance (see below)
- support for contraflow proposals for cycling in Shrewsbury town centre (see below)
- providing better cycle storage in the square

To:

- Shropshire Partnership; shropshirepartnership@shropshire.gov.uk
- Martin Taylor-Smith, Portfolio holder for Transport
- Keith Barrow, Leader of the Council
- Local councillors. You can find their names at your local library, by calling 01743 252729, or via <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/democracy.nsf/open/73FA5859DEA90F2E802575000032C42A>

Please copy in transport@shropshire.gov.uk if emailing, and/or post a copy to Transport Planning if sending a paper letter (Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND)

5. Open Forum

Winter Maintenance

- Discussion of need for footways and cycleways to be treated to prevent accidents.
- All main footways into town centre said to have been treated.
- Severnside Housing has treated some of their residential areas
- Stated that funding should be focused on increasing cycling in better weather
- General agreement that winter maintenance of footways and cycleways is lacking and important to avoid accidents.

Living Streets are also campaigning for safer winter walking routes: see

<http://www.livingstreets.org.uk/take-action/icefactor/#problem>

Encroachment on advance stop lines which give space for cyclists at traffic lights

- Alison has spoken to Police about some drivers going into the space allocated for cyclists
- They have said that if the lights are on red when drivers enter the area/box, they are committing an offence
- If the 'box' has solid white lines around it, it is mandatory that it is for cyclists only
- There appears to be a need for people to be more aware of the purpose of the box, and that it is an offence to enter it when lights are on red.

Renovation of Cycle paths - Choice of materials and standard of work

- Cycling between workplaces at Business Park and Hospital. Longden roundabout to Porthill roundabout bumpy. Told will not be resurfaced for 5 years.
- 'Slurry sealing' waterproofs surfaces and reduces need for reprofiling.
- Commuting to work on the Business Park. Reabrook (Old Potts railway line) to Business Park. People sometimes averse to sharing route with others on bikes.
- More people cycling in Shrewsbury has led to better responses to people cycling

6. NCN 45 Bridgnorth to Coalport

The route is now open from Coalport to Stanley Lane (which runs alongside the Severn and Bridgnorth golf club, in the north part of Bridgnorth). Richard Harman is working on extending the route into central Bridgnorth and further signage. Some parts will be closed for logging and shooting between November and January. Thanks were given for getting this work done.

A formal opening is planned on Sunday 27th March 2011, to coincide with daffodil ride in aid of Severn Hospice. Details to follow on <http://severnospice.org.uk/events/daffodil-ride-2-2/> and <http://thebicyclehub.co.uk/home/events>

7. Contraflow cycling

Samantha gave details of the proposed contra flows for Shrewsbury town centre. If successful, schemes in other Shropshire towns will be considered. Thanks were given for progressing this work. **ACTION: Write in to comment on the consultation by the end of Jan 2011.**

<http://www.cycleshrewsbury.co.uk/about/have-your-say/contra-flow-cycling-on-one-way-streets>

8. Any other business

Dangers on A442, Telford

A cyclist was hit by car from behind and died last year on A442. the cyclist was on a charity ride between Land's End to John O'Groats ride. A442 often part of route. Local cycle maps do show points of caution on leisure rides. Mary is doing the route by bike over 3 weeks in June 2011, and will be keeping west of the A442 (as this is likely to be safer).

ACTION: Cycle Forum members :

- to create a short article and map showing dangers of A442 and alternative routes, then add it to Shropshire Council/ Telford and Wrekin Council websites
- to ask www.lejog.com if the article and map showing dangers of A442 and alternative routes can go on their website.

ACTION: Telford and Wrekin Council officers to be asked to consider erecting signs along A442 stating 'cyclists beware' and/or the number of cyclist fatalities/incidents there.

Men on Wheels

- Could there be a men on wheels/ rides for men and women?
- Stated that the Women on Wheels rides were in response to demand
- Is the council insured for any incidents on the rides? Answer not known
- Dave Rolfe is willing to run rides for men if enough demand

ACTION: Cycle Shrewsbury to consider rides for men and women, and to respond re. insurance. Men to contact Dave.Rolfe@shropshire.gov.uk if they would like men only rides

Oswestry

Oswestry Friends of the Earth group is currently making improving cycling in the town their focus

ACTION: Would anyone willing and able to help promote cycling/monitor routes in Oswestry please email Ruth.Stafford@shropshire.gov.uk or call Ruth on 01743 253 063

Cycle Parking in the Square in Shrewsbury

- Current provision under the Old Market Hall to be removed in time for Christmas stalls
- Need for ongoing provision (especially when the Square is busier at Christmas!) emphasised

ACTION: Write letters in support of cycle storage provision

9. Content, dates and venues of 2011 meetings

Wednesday 2 March, Shirehall – presentation: Telford Town Park?

Tuesday 7 June, Carding Mill Valley

Wednesday 14 September, Shirehall – BMX tryout before meeting?

Tuesday 6 December, Shirehall