



MINUTES OF THE SHROPSHIRE CYCLE FORUM

Tuesday 17 June 2014, Ludlow Brewery

1. Present

Cllr Miles Kenny (Chair)
Helen Gilmour
Carolyn Rowntree
Eliz-Anne Williams

Ashley Green
Louise Reynolds
Kay Dartnell
Keith Mason

Ray Hughes
Phil Pool
Emma Bullard

Apologies

Geoff Shinner
Jill Henderson
John Morris

Jean Breakell
Derek Owen

2. Previous minutes and matters arising

The minutes of the February meeting were accepted. Matters arising are dealt with in the agenda.

3. LSTF 2015/16 bid – Ray Hughes

Local authorities had been invited to bid for additional revenue funding from the Local Sustainable Transport Fund, for the financial year 2015-6. RH outlined Shropshire's bid. **Post-meeting** note: the successful authorities were announced in July but Shropshire was not successful. Full details are here

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-sustainable-transport-fund-funding-decisions-2015-to-2016>

4. Bikeability and cycle training

Shropshire now has a full programme of Bikeability in schools again. It's being delivered by Cycle Experience who are based in Telford and employing many of the trainers who were employed by Shropshire Council.

<http://www.cycleexperience.com/index.php>

Feedback so far has been good – the Level 2 course is now free (subject to minimum group size) which should encourage greater takeup; and the trainers like the course format which has been developed by Cycle Experience. The contract between Shropshire Council and Cycle Experience lasts until 2016, assuming government funding continues.

5. Inclusive cycling in Shropshire

- **Wheels for All** – this Warrington-based charity has funding to deliver inclusive cycling sessions across Shropshire, principally for children who are registered with the Short Breaks service.

<http://www.travelshropshire.co.uk/cycle/wheels-for-all-summer-holiday-sessions.aspx>

Ian Tierney from Wheels for All is also working with the local group which is trying to set up inclusive cycling sessions for all ages, supported by Jayne Rodgers of CTC.

- **Pedal for Health** – these sessions were started by Ray Hughes and colleagues, in response to Rod Thomson's (Director of Public Health) talk to the Cycle Forum in June 2013. They were aimed at members of the general public who want to start taking more exercise and needed advice and information about cycling. The hope was that GP practices would promote these sessions to patients. This has not happened and instead most of the demand has been from people with special needs such as day centre users. This highlights the need for more specialist inclusive sessions – see above – with staff (paid or volunteers) who can supervise the use of the adapted bikes. **Post-meeting note:** a few GP practices have started to respond over the summer. Pedal for Health will continue in the autumn

<http://www.travelshropshire.co.uk/pedal4health>

- **Cycling for Health in South Shropshire**

Louise Reynolds of South Shropshire Housing Association reported on the development of cycling 'hubs' at their south Shropshire housing schemes; most successfully to date at Bishops Castle. Housing Support Worker Jeremy Hall has successfully sought grant funding for a pool of adult bikes and lockers in which to store them whilst gathering support from locals in the idea of a regular cycling club. With help from co-worker Roger Crump he has started leading a series of weekly cycle rides and has benefited from help in publicising the rides from the local medical practice. In addition he has requested some free one to one adult cycle training for some of his group from Travel Shropshire and brought some riders unable to ride on two wheel bikes to the Pedal for Health sessions in Shrewsbury. He is looking to add different kinds of bikes to the Bishop's Castle fleet suitable for those with balance challenges such as a tandem.

6. Ludlow and south Shropshire cycling news.

- Ludlow Cycling Festival 21 September. Ashley Green described his plans for this event which is in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. For more info <http://www.travelshropshire.co.uk/cycle/events/macmillan-cycling-festival.aspx>
- Social cycling – Ludlow Easy Riders. The Easy Riders started in the spring of 2013 and take place on a Tuesday starting at 10am – for dates see <http://www.travelshropshire.co.uk/cycle/regular-cycle-events/ludlow-morning-rides>
This is an informal group open to all, they have even been joined by people on holiday in the area. There are now 40 people on the email list. More details from Eliz-Anne Williams at smartycyclepants@gmail.com
- Breeze – Eliz-Anne Williams is returning to ride leading after knee surgery. Breeze is the British Cycling campaign to get more women cycling. Numbers on the rides are small as there aren't yet many trained Breeze leaders – but it's good to see the women who come along gaining in confidence. E-AW said that Ludlow now has a good mix of cycling opportunities for all levels of experience, which has developed over the past couple of years.
- Schools and family rides – RH has been working in the local primary schools and has set up after-school cycling clubs at St Laurence with help from Sasha Lee and at Ludlow Juniors with help from Claire Webb.
- Steve Redknap, a teacher and keen cyclist at Ludlow Education Centre organises regular off road cycling activities for his students. s.redknap@sky.com
- Volunteering with Sustrans – local cyclists are welcome to become a Sustrans volunteer benefiting from support from this national sustainable transport charity and partner to Shropshire Council's Sustainable Transport Project Team. More details from william.baugh@sustrans.org.uk

7. Update on cycling in Telford

See reports from Jill Henderson and Derek Owen attached.

8. Shropshire events and update

- Shrewsbury BikeFest 7 June – was a great success despite the poor weather at the start
- Shrewsbury Cycle Grand Prix 25 May – was well-supported; the family rides around the course before the start of the races had about 100 participants.
- Long Mynd Cycling Festival 7-14 June
- Great Green Bike Ride 28 June (formerly Tour de Ludlow)
- Food Chain ride 19 July – was postponed due to storms. New date – 4 October

9. AOB

- MK put a motion to Council setting the aim of reducing the number of car journeys made on business by 2020. The motion was passed but the target date was removed.

- Tweed Ride takes place in Ludlow on the first Saturday of the month April – October
<http://www.travelshropshire.co.uk/tweed>
Vintage clothes and bicycles welcomed!
- Eliz-Anne Williams thanked those involved for supporting the various Ludlow cycling initiatives to start up and get to the stage where they are now well-established and popular.
- KM raised the issue of the health benefits of cycling but said there is “no money” in preventive health. The Travel Shropshire team have more contact with the public health team now that the latter are part of Shropshire Council.

10. Next meeting

Tuesday 14 October, Wellington Civic Centre
Contact Jill Henderson with agenda items

Emma Bullard
27 August 2014