

Warrington Cycle Forum

21st February 2007

MINUTES

ITEM

ACTION

1.0

Introductions

Alan Dickin - WBC Transport Planning Manager (temporary Chair)

Michelle Wilder - WBC planning officer

John Mitchell – Regular cyclist, works at Chester University Warrington Campus

Martin Mookerji – WBC Transport Planner

Tim Jordan - WBC Transport Planning assistant

Dave Mitchell

Hermine Briffa– Development officer - Cycling Projects

Doug Highley – Works in Birchwood – wants to discuss rural links to Birchwood

Chris Mayes - Chairman of Warrington Cycle Campaign

Pete Owens

Rod King

Joyce Ireland

Tom Ireland

Lesley McAllister - WBC Travel Plan adviser

Cllr Brian Axcell – WBC Exec Board Member for Environment (which includes Transportation)

Maurice Leslie – CTC Right to Ride representative & soon-to-be national standard accredited cycling instructor

Jon Wood – newly elected Chairman

APOLOGIES

Paul Slydell

Meg Owens

Dave Harding

Mike Carlin

John Walsh

Carsten Kressel

Mike Atkinson

Sean Stringer

2.0 **Minutes of Previous meeting**

Minor Amendment – ‘too’ to be removed from bullet point ‘Shouldn’t be too prescriptive where can and cannot cycle’ at section 5.0.

Short comment from JW regarding his comments upon the Interchange security staff. LM has spoken to Interchange Manager who apologised and made the security staff aware of their responsibilities.

Minutes Agreed

3.0 **Election of the Chair**

Only one nomination for Chair was received. This was a proposal from CM that Jon Wood take the Chair. AD spoke to JW who agreed to stand for chair.

JW delivered a short summary of his thoughts on cycling, expressing his wish to contribute at a strategic level to the development of cycling.

AD invited a member to second the nomination. PO seconded the nomination.

AD asked all members in favour of the nomination and JW was elected Chair unanimously.

4.0 **Constitution Sub-group Feedback**

AD summarised the changes made at the draft constitution sub-group meeting
These were:

- a slight change to the Vision making it more embracing
- bullet points at 1.1 to be extended to better explain the forum’s aims
- removal of para 2.4 regarding the external groups voting rights
- role of the Chair emphasised at para 5.3 to include the reporting to WBC elected members.

PO proposed the removal of the requirement to produce annual report. JI suggested the possibility of a newsletter. It was felt important to report to the wider community. HB suggested some other forms of engagement not paper based to communicate with young people. RK wants the forum to be careful not to undertake to do too much.

The removal of the aim to produce an annual progress report was agreed.

AD stated that the constitution would be amended and distributed to members and posted on web-page.

Constitution agreed

5.0 Cycle Map Sub-group Feedback

5 people attended the sub group meeting - PO and ML provided a summary.

The sub-group proposed to the group that the map guide should adopt a very similar approach to that of Cheltenham. All roads should be graded in 5 categories between quiet and busy. A number of route identifications including off road routes was also proposed. This was agreed.

The only unresolved item was the extent to which the explanatory text was needed to accompany the road classification key. This caused debate regarding how people would judge their confidence as cyclists.

It was agreed that the full explanation provided in the sub-group note was not required, but beyond this no decision was reached on whether any brief description was needed or not.

RK suggested no text was necessary. AD suggested a short description. JM suggested the flipside of the map-guide could be used to provide a fuller explanation of route classifications.

It was felt necessary to provide information on A Frame and other access controls. HB said it was very important to include as much information as possible on the type and location of access controls. To be discussed in more detail as map is progressed.

JW suggested we should aim higher than the Cheltenham example. TI felt it was important it was an enabling not discriminative document.

AD made a commitment to work on the draft and bring to the next Cycle Forum in May a final draft, but some working may be appropriate from within the forum in the meantime. Various members of the forum were available for aiding the working up process in terms of road classification. Ideally a final drafty will be able to be publicised if not published during Bike Week in mid June.

JW felt the rear of the map, if it is not mapped on both sides, is a real opportunity to publicise the cycle forum. AD suggested some opportunity for Sponsorship. JW felt not too much. AD also stated aspiration to send one to every household.

Sub-Groups ACTIONS:

- **sub-group on Cycle map guide route classifications**
- **Sub-group on cycle map guide flip-side**

6.0 Presentation from LM on Cycle Training through BikeRight, Manchester which WBC have introduced since March 2006. Some discussion occurred on the standard of adult cyclists etc.

It was agreed that it was a good scheme but not far reaching enough. Should look for further funding opportunities, through education and health as well as LTP capital, and council revenue.

Suggestion that parents pay for the scheme in the school holidays at leisure centres etc. LM felt WBC could not then monitor which kids were being offered the scheme and AD raised issues of the cost per child which could potentially be very expensive and lower the quality.

HB considered engaging clubs etc who can claim various funding which is not open to other organisations. Cycling Projects are also writing the disability module for "Bikeability."

Discussion on how to gain extra funding with the aim of training all year 6 students as this is seen as a real opportunity for long term changes to people's attitudes, even if they still drive, they may be better drivers for the training.

PO suggested that even if the funding can only come from LTP capital then WBC should look to ramp up funding through the LTP2 period, in addition to looking for alternative funding methods.

The Forum recommendation is that it is a good scheme but needs to be developed to reach 100% of Year 6.

7.0 Member Matters

JW suggested for the next agenda that everyone who wants should be given a 5/10 minute slot to discuss one subject which could increase cycling. This was agreed as a good opportunity for all members.

Members to register interest in speaking by end March.

PO questioned where the website had gone and will it ever come back. TJ advised it was being developed at the current time. It will be made permanent at a point in the near future. PO felt even the little that was originally available was better than nothing.

CM questioned WBC's Transport and Planning sections on undertaking cycle audits on all new schemes. AD admitted WBC do not fulfill the commitment at the current time due to staff resource, but currently talking with consultants to give options on Cycle audits - but the quality is an issue.

CM urged the Cycle Forum to make sure the WBC policy is actioned fully.

Future Meeting Dates

**8.0 Wed 16th May 6pm for 6.30pm start – 8.30pm finish
The Gateway, Sankey Street, Warrington.**