

# Warrington Cycle Forum

## The Gateway

23<sup>rd</sup> July 2008

### MINUTES

ITEM		ACTION																												
1.0	<p data-bbox="229 443 448 470"><b><u>Introductions:</u></b></p> <table data-bbox="229 510 1362 1064"><thead><tr><th data-bbox="229 510 480 537"><b><u>Forum Members</u></b></th><th data-bbox="855 510 963 537"><b><u>Guests</u></b></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td data-bbox="229 548 480 575">Jon Wood (Chair)</td><td data-bbox="855 548 1318 651">Cllr Alan Litton - WBC Executive Member for Environmental Services</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 586 360 613">Rod King</td><td data-bbox="855 696 1031 723">David Boyer</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 624 437 651">Maurice Leslie</td><td data-bbox="855 734 1230 801">WBC Head of Sustainable Transport</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 663 408 689">Chris Mayes</td><td data-bbox="855 846 1278 913">Karen Kellett – WBC Network Management Manager</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 701 405 728">Pete Owens</td><td data-bbox="855 958 1254 1061">Mark Tune – WBC Accident Investigation &amp; Road Safety Manager</td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 739 400 766">Meg Owens</td><td></td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 777 421 804">Dave Mitchell</td><td></td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 815 400 842">Tom Ireland</td><td></td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 853 373 880">Jill Ireland</td><td></td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 891 448 918">Alison Felstead</td><td></td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 929 427 956">Sean Stringer</td><td></td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 967 735 994">Alan Dickin (WBC – Transport Planning)</td><td></td></tr><tr><td data-bbox="229 1005 815 1032">Lesley McAllister (WBC – Transport Planning)</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table> <p data-bbox="229 1104 395 1131"><b><u>Apologies:</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="229 1176 400 1243">Neil Rowley Joe Royle</p>	<b><u>Forum Members</u></b>	<b><u>Guests</u></b>	Jon Wood (Chair)	Cllr Alan Litton - WBC Executive Member for Environmental Services	Rod King	David Boyer	Maurice Leslie	WBC Head of Sustainable Transport	Chris Mayes	Karen Kellett – WBC Network Management Manager	Pete Owens	Mark Tune – WBC Accident Investigation & Road Safety Manager	Meg Owens		Dave Mitchell		Tom Ireland		Jill Ireland		Alison Felstead		Sean Stringer		Alan Dickin (WBC – Transport Planning)		Lesley McAllister (WBC – Transport Planning)		
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2.0	<p data-bbox="229 1283 668 1310"><b><u>Minutes of Previous meeting</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="229 1355 1350 1422">One change requested – in AOB PO referred to lack of cycle friendly design of Woolston Grange Avenue rather than the lack of specific cycle facilities.</p>																													
3.0	<p data-bbox="229 1467 475 1494"><b><u>Matters Arising:</u></b></p> <ul data-bbox="280 1541 1326 2096" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="280 1541 1326 1608">• 3.0 AD updated members on the progress of permitting cycling in the town centre pedestrianised area.</li><li data-bbox="280 1619 1326 1798">• 4.0 Concern was raised re the council’s cycle to work scheme being set up solely with Halfords. LM advised that the choice of supplier reflected the fact that no additional officer time had been allocated to running the scheme, so the scheme had to be as self-sufficient as possible.</li><li data-bbox="280 1809 1326 1899">• 6.0 A complaint that outlying villages such as Glazebury and Croft have been omitted from the cycle map will be considered for the next edition.</li><li data-bbox="280 1910 1326 2096">• 7.0 AD provided a copy of the new Design Guide and explained that external consultation had not been considered necessary. The guide was not available electronically on the internet as is charged for by the Council The copy to be passed between forum members and responses to be fed back to Neil Jones, WBC’s Network Development</li></ul>																													

Manager. NJ would be able to take into consideration any comments in further revisions, made easier by the loose leaf format of the guide.

- 8.0 The removal of Tesco bus lane supported by WBT due to the bus gate at Winwick Street being opened. A cycle audit had been carried out and off-road provision as well as a wider inside lane will compensate cyclists for loss of bus lane.

#### **4.0 Introduction to 20mph speed limits**

##### ***Rod King – 20's Plenty For Us***

RK gave an overview of the 20s Plenty For Us objectives and argued strongly that area-wide schemes would lead to a reduction in vulnerable user casualties.

He reported on the Sunflower Report conclusions and outlined the experience in Warrington's twin town Hilden.

He then analysed government guidance and gave his interpretation of DfT circular 01/2006, and explained how a borough-wide scheme could be delivered.

RK's presentation can be found on the Forum's webpage at:

[www.warrington.gov.uk/warringtoncycleforum](http://www.warrington.gov.uk/warringtoncycleforum)

#### **5.0 Council's proposals for 20mph pilot zones**

##### ***Mark Tune – Road Safety Manager***

##### ***Alan Dickin – Transport Planning Manager***

MT started with a review of current guidance on the subject, and then moved on to describing the Portsmouth scheme and the fact-finding visit he and other officials had undertaken. He explained that the circumstances of the Portsmouth scheme and the nature of their road network were different to Warrington.

AD then linked the introduction of such a scheme in Warrington to wider council objectives and transport policy and the contribution which reduced speed could have to cycling and pedestrian activity as well as casualty numbers.

MT continued with an outline of the proposed pilot scheme, explaining how the three areas had been identified, how the pilots would be implemented and how they would be monitored. MT explained that monitoring would include traffic speed, flow, pedestrian and cycle activity as well as casualty statistics - the impact of the pilots would not be purely judged on accident statistics. Also MT explained that Cheshire Constabulary had agreed to carry out speed enforcement as part of the pilot,

A discussion was programmed on the meeting agenda to take place after the two presentations had finished, however interruptions from forum members to MT's presentation left little time for this. It was therefore not possible to fully discuss the issues and the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

However, the following list summarises a number of comments made during and immediately following MT's presentation.

1. **RK:** *not impressed that Road Safety is leading the project – will only focus on casualty reduction and not include road danger/green spaces/modal shift or community aspiration.*
2. **RK:** *concerned that mean speed was measured at only two points on a road rather than whole road. Feels that mean speed on Warrington roads is already around 24mph.*
3. **JW:** *wanted to know why Warrington needed a pilot when there has already been evidence of success in other English and European towns.*

**AD:** *important to allow people to see the benefits from the pilot areas.*

4. **PO:** *Park Road is not a good example to choose – it will probably need traffic calming.*

**MT:** *The intention is to test if a borough-wide scheme would work without traffic calming – all three areas were chosen partly by their road design.*

5. **RK:** *disappointed that a borough-wide scheme had not been costed or fully considered.*

**AL:** *a borough-wide scheme may or may not transpire from it. We will look at the results after the 18 month trial, however this is only one solution to the wider issue of how to share our roadspace. We will continue to look at others.*

6. **TI:** *To elderly people this initiative is a novelty – they don't know enough about it and these small pilot areas will do nothing to raise awareness.*

7. **Jl:** *can we continue this discussion at next meeting*

8. **AL:** *we need evidence from the pilot scheme to bring forward a wider scheme. Warrington is not similar to the other towns mentioned and this evidence is required before devoting expenditure at the expense of other budgets.*

### **Future Meeting Date**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009**