

CYCLE LIAISON GROUP MEETING

Thursday 29th October 2009 at 6pm, Committee Room 5, Civic Centre

Present: Councillor Page (Chair), Councillor Gittings, Councillor Willis, Councillor Duveen, Councillor Harris, Pat Baxter (RBC), Ruth Leuillette (RBC), Keith Elliott (RCC), Adrian Lawson (RCC), Greg Payne (CTC) and Emma Baker (RBC)

Apologies: Peter Challis (Sustrans), Ros Furley (RCC), Helen Biggerstaff (RBC/CTC) and Hannah Budnitz (RBC)

1. **Introductions**
2. **Minutes from 30th July 2009 and matters arising**

Update on Footpath 2 resurfacing

The Parks team are continuing to progress the resurfacing proposal for Footpath 2 and are writing a decision book report to enable them to take the scheme forward.

ACTION: Update the group on any progress that Parks make on Footpath 2.

Update on Premier Cycle Routes Maintenance Policy

A report was taken to the Traffic Management Advisory Panel on Thursday 10th September informing members of the discussions and actions arising from July's Cycle Liaison Group meeting. The report also advises members that a policy for the cleaning and maintenance of branded cycle routes is being developed.

ACTION: Take a copy of the draft policy to the next meeting.

Cycle Monitoring Data

The group was shown data for cycle parking at Reading Station and figures collected through the cordon counts (this has been circulated with the minutes).

DfT feedback on cycle auditing guidance

The group were informed that the DfT are happy with the current auditing procedures carried out by the Council and, although the IHT Cycle Audit and Cycle Review document is a good example, there are other useful processes around (please see the attached email).

3. **Update on Bikeability and Cycling Proficiency**

A note on Bikeability was circulated prior to the meeting.

The group were informed that since the last meeting Bikeability has been promoted through various channels, including: the Governors e-bulletin, the Healthy Schools newsletter, Travel Bug (the transport newsletter for schools) and targeted letters/emails to the head teachers. This has provoked many schools to express interest in the course, including: Prospect School, Reading Girls' School, Oxford Road Community School, The Hill and Katesgrove Primary. Emmer Green Primary and Thameside Primary are the first schools to participate in the courses this academic year. Highdown are due to take part in November.

The group were advised of the challenge that Javed Saddique, the cycling instructor, faces when approaching the schools. To overcome these issues we are producing business cards for Javed outlining that he is working in partnership with Reading Borough Council. We are also looking into other ways to promote the course, including presenting at the head teachers meeting in November.

ACTION: Inform the group how many children have participated in the course (post-meeting note: 80 children have completed the course so far and 115 children will have completed the course to Level 2 by 8 December).

4. Major Transport Schemes

M4 J11 Improvements

Pat Baxter gave a presentation on the cycling elements of the J11 improvement scheme, including cycle routes linking to the scheme and raised suspension bridges. Pat also informed the group that there would be CCTV coverage throughout the junction.

The scheme is within budget and on-track for completion in Summer 2010.

The group asked whether there would be barriers separating pedestrians and cyclists over the suspension bridge. They were informed that the facilities will be unsegregated.

ACTION: Inform the group whether cyclists will be able to use the bus lanes.

ACTION: Circulate J11 Scheme plans.

Transport Innovation Fund

Ruth Leuillette gave a presentation on the cycling measures included in Phase 1 of the TIF package. These included: personalised travel planning, strategic cycle network and facilities and a pedestrian/cycle bridge over the Thames in Central Reading.

Current indications from DfT are that phase one funding should commence in April 2010.

Reading Station

The latest 'fly-through' showing the proposed concourse was shown.

Roads around the station will need to be reconfigured due to Station Approach becoming pedestrianised. This will mean that Friar Street and Greyfriars Road will become two-way for cyclists (Reading Station Cycle Route plans have been circulated separately).

The group were informed that the licence to reopen the Napier Road/Kenavon Drive link is now being finalised with Network Rail.

ACTION: Circulate the TROs that are currently being advertised and arrange for all TROs to be displayed on the website (post-meeting note: TROs were circulated to the group and TROs can now be viewed on the reading-travelinfo website).

ACTION: If possible, circulate the timeframe for the reopening of Napier Road.

ACTION: Arrange for Anthony Bolton to attend the next CLG meeting to discuss the methodology of schemes

5. Progress on Cycle Strategy Actions 2009-10

The latest proofs of the cycle and route maps were shown to the group, which incorporate the comments that have been received.

ACTION: Circulate the cycle strategy action plan progress note.

6. AOB

The group were informed that the Bridge Street cycle lane had been repainted (post meeting note: the lane has been repainted using a reflective paint).

Helen Biggerstaff's replacement has now been appointed (post meeting note: Mark Tancock will replace Helen as Reading's Cycle Development Officer).

7. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 11th February 2010 at 6pm, Committee Room 5, Civic Centre