

READING CYCLE FORUM - MEETING NOTE

Wednesday 31 October 2018, 6pm

Mayor's Parlour, Civic Offices, Reading

Attendees

Cllr Deborah Absolom (Chair)
Cllr Tony Page (RBC)
Cllr Adele Barnett-Ward (RBC)
Cllr Paul Gittings (RBC)
Karen Robertson (Cycling UK - Reading)
Brian Oatway
Karen Stanbridge (University of Reading)
Brian Morley (RCC)
2x Other RCC Members
Sam Shean (RBC)
Emma Baker (RBC)
Simon Beasley (RBC)

Apologies

Cllr Ed Hopper (RBC)
RCC Member
Jules Lunness (Green Park)

1. Introductions/Apologies

Cllr Absolom welcomed attendees to the meeting and introductions were made.

2. Note of the Last Meeting

The note of the last meeting was agreed.

3. Presentation on Highways Maintenance

Sam Shean, Streetcare Services Manager, gave a presentation on how roads are selected for resurfacing and repair, including the methodology and prioritisation. The Forum were advised that the highways maintenance policy was in the process of being updated and would be reported to SEPT Committee in November 2018.

The Forum were informed that all correspondence reporting potential highway defects are recorded and used as evidence in the eventuality of an accident occurring. Whilst minor faults not meeting intervention levels are not currently recorded, they will be in future as the Council's approach changes to a more risk-based approach.

4. LTP4/Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan - Update

The group were informed that work had begun on updating the current Local Transport Plan, following changes to national guidance, local priorities and the development and or delivery of schemes identified within the existing plan. The draft document will be available for public consultation in early 2019.

Work on developing the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan commenced in October and outputs will be shared with the Cycle Forum, and other groups, in due course.

5. NCN 422 - Update

A verbal update was given on the overall NCN programme, including updates to Phase 3 designs which are available on our website: <http://www.reading.gov.uk/article/11824/NCN-Cycle-Route-422>.

Local cycling representatives asked whether parking could be reduced on Wokingham Road and enable public highway to be reallocated as a cycle facility.

A discussion also took place on the benefits and dis-benefits of shared-use facilities for both pedestrians and cyclists. It was noted that most people within the group are supportive of the new 'share with care' signing, which has been used along sections where there is high footfall or pinch points.

ACTION - Review whether there are opportunities to remove parking along Wokingham Road between Pitcroft Road and the Three Tuns and opportunities to create improved cycle facilities.

ACTION - Circulate link to Phase 3 drawings (as above)

6. Cycle Forum - Requested Schemes List

Officers updated the Forum on progress in developing and delivering schemes identified on the requested schemes list, which was followed by a discussion on possible funding sources that could be used to progress schemes, including business rate retentions and CIL.

ACTION - Investigate agreed extents of outdoor seating area along southern bank of the Oracle Shopping Centre.

ACTION - Investigate licensing around A-boards on shared-use facilities

ACTION - Clarify whether cyclists can ride in front of Reading Station and Cross St

7. Items Raised by Forum Members

a. Vastern Road Roundabout

Officers informed the Forum that a Road Safety Audit was underway for proposed changes to Vastern Road Roundabout, including spiral markings, and the outcome and drawings would be shared with the Forum when complete.

ACTION - Network Management to share drawings and outcome of Road Safety Audit

b. Cow Lane Cycling & Crossing Facilities

RCC highlighted their concerns re the location of crossing points due to the speed and volume of traffic. Officers advised the Forum that consideration is being given to lowering the speed limit of Portman Road and Cow Lane, which if taken forward, would be implemented after the completion of Network Rail works.

c. Town Centre - Cycling Update

RCC would like to see progress in delivering minor signing improvements included requested schemes list, which was followed by a discussion on funding the works through CIL.

ACTION - RCC to forward details of priority signing improvements.

ACTION - RBC to investigate and implement signing improvements through CIL.

8. Any Other Business

A discussion took place on the current layout out of Craven Road and issues with Erleigh Road. Sam Shean, Streetcare Services Manager, informed the group that repairs to Erleigh Road are planned for early 2019.

ACTION - Review lining and safety at Craven Road roundabout heading north.

9. Date of Next Meeting

To be arranged.