

CYCLE FORUM 10th July 2013, 6pm, CR3

1. Introductions/Apologies

Attendees

Councillor Gittings (Chair)
Richard Pearson (RCC/Reading CTC)
Adrian Lawson (RCC)
John Lee (RCC)
Simon Beasley (RBC)
Michelle Atkins (GREN)
Alex McKnight (Sustrans)
David Wilby (Wokingham BC)

Apologies

Councillor Page
Councillor Duveen
Keith Elliott (RCC)

2. Minutes from 10th April 2013

The minutes from the April meeting were agreed.

3. Issues raised by Forum members (standard item)

(a) West Reading Cycle Workshop

A date for the West Reading Cycle Workshop is to be arranged for mid September

AL brought to the group's attention that the current R60 cycle route includes a pedestrian crossing at Bath Road/Downshire Square that needs to be converted to a toucan crossing.

The group advised that they would like the opportunity to comment or object to plans proposed by the Council once some general design principles have been agreed.

Post Meeting Note - The above crossing has been added to the Cycling Strategy actions chart.

(b) Reading Station

(i) Napier Road Underpass

AL vented frustrations over Napier Road. Legal issues are still outstanding and JL agreed that the Group would be willing to contact MP.

(ii) Station Underpass

11 objections have been received regarding the ceiling being too low (2.4m) - DMRB/M4S guidance used over distance.

SB noted that it takes one and half minutes to walk through the subway.

PG noted that cyclists generally cannot use station routes.

JL will contact CTS re report.

(iii) Vastern Road Changes

Waiting to see what changes will be made as drawings do not include all of the improvements discussed such as dropped kerbs under Vastern Road Bridge.

JL concerned about Vastern Road roundabout.

SB advised the group that the roundabout will be spiral marked as part of this year's Road Safety Programme.

The group would like a safety audit for cyclists to be carried out

(iv) Pedestrian & Cycle Bridge Update

It was strongly suggested that bridge is segregated as there are limited routes available for cyclists, whereas pedestrians have multiple other options.

PG acknowledged the cost issue with constructing a wider bridge. PG stated that it would be advantageous if the bridge is segregated if it is deemed wide enough under current guidance and regulations.

NOTE: Group would like to see any additional drawings, possibly at a workshop. They do not want guard railings to physically segregate the route.

(v) Greyfriars Road Cycle Loop Update

SB acknowledged that there are long delays due to detectors not picking up cyclists.

Officers will investigate installing an overhead detector

c. Bath Road Cycle Lanes

The group would like a workshop to be organised to discuss cycle facilities on Bath Road.

d. Meadway - Road markings

Officers will progress extending the current facilities as far as Honey End Lane, including the provision of lanes through pedestrian refuge islands. SB advised the group that officers view the annual resurfacing programme as an opportunity to review the existing road markings and identify new layouts.

4. Updated cycle strategy actions chart (standard item)

The group suggested installing cycle stands outside Cotswold Outdoor on Basingstoke Road.

The group would like the Elgar Road/Waterloo Road junction layout to be reviewed.

AL suggested that an additional lamp column is installed on Southcote Farm Lane as an extension to the recent upgrade.

AMc asked if it is possible to address the uneven surface through Kings Meadow created by tree roots.

5. Local Sustainable Transport Fund

a. Cycle Improvements

As per the above action chart.

EB also advised the group that the Kings Meadow lighting scheme was in progress and that a trial extension to the Horseshoe Bridge would be progressed once the current works were complete.

b/c. Cycle Development Officer Programme/Workplace Cycle Challenge

EB gave update on behalf of Javed Saddique (CTC Cycle Development Officer). In summary, Bike Week events went well despite the weather and Afterschool Cycle Club receiving 30+ attendees per week.

EB summarised the results from the Workplace Cycle Challenge and advised that a final evaluation report is expected in the Autumn.

The group asked whether it is possible to organise a mass cycle ride directly before or after the Marathon.

SB mentioned the roads are closed on a rolling basis.

d. Sustrans Projects

EB gave update on Sustrans projects; 'Bike It' and 'Pocket Places for People', including new schools that the Bike It Officer is working with (St Mary's & All Saints, Geoffrey Field and Southcote Primary).

6. AOB

Reading Bridge - Pinch Point Fund

The group asked whether cycle lanes on Reading Bridge could be trialled alongside bridge strengthening works.

The group asked the Council to ensure cyclists and pedestrians can use Reading Bridge safely despite the planned construction works.

JL considering carrying out cycle surveys on George Street.

There is a missing link along the Sustrans network where cyclists are encouraged to use George Street, but group does not believe bridge is cycle friendly.

The group asked for the barriers on Thames Path to be removed.

7. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 23rd October, 6pm, Committee Room 2

Agenda Item	Action	Expected
3.a	Arrange West Reading Workshop	September
3.a	Identify design principles for cycle schemes	Autumn
3.b(iii)	CB to provide Vastern Road Update	End of August
3.b(iv)	Circulate any additional plans for pedestrian and cycle bridge	Ongoing
3.b(v)	Officers to resolve issue with Greyfriars Road junction	Ongoing
3.c	Organise Bath Road Workshop	Autumn
3.d	Extend Meadway road markings to Honey End Lane	By next meeting
5.b/c	RBC to investigate a mass cycle ride	By next meeting