

CYCLE FORUM 30th January 2013, 6pm, CR2

1. Introductions/Apologies

Attendees

Councillor Gittings (Chair)
Richard Pearson (RCC/Reading CTC)
Adrian Lawson (RCC)
John Lee (RCC)
Councillor Duveen
Cris Butler (RBC)
Emma Baker (RBC)
Javed Saddique (CTC/RBC)
Ben Knowles (Sustrans/RBC)

Apologies

Councillor Page
Councillor Willis
Keith Elliott (RCC)
Michelle Atkins (GREN)
Alex McKnight (Sustrans)

2. Minutes from 30th January 2013

- AL asked that it be noted that at the meeting held on 24th October 2012, he requested that the barriers along the Thames Towpath be removed.

3. Issues raised by Forum members (standard item)

a. Cycle Audits

- CB informed the group that cyclists are included as part of the Road Safety Audit process and RBC views the cycle workshops as a further cycle audit for proposed schemes.
- AL would like RBC to use cycle audit for schemes that are not taken to Cycle Forum
- The group would like minor schemes to also be audited and signed-off by the Forum

b. Town Centre Signing

- EB informed the group that RBC was considering signing the town centre with stickers similar to those produced by Sustrans highlighting key destinations such as the station and other cycle routes
- These would be wider than the existing branded stickers and implemented Summer 2013

c. Reading Station - Comments from the Workshop

- Comments received from John Lee have been noted
- CB agreed to arrange a site visit and short meeting with Cycle Forum members in February
- JL asked for 2m wide cycle lanes and 3.5m vehicular lanes as well as spiralling on roundabouts
- PG asked for an update on signals at Richfield Ave roundabout
- CB informed the group that the above has been considered and ruled out due to detailed modelling showing a large reduction in the junctions operational efficiency
- AL asked about improvements to the current taxi waiting area outside the station

- CB informed the group that the rank will be temporarily suspended as part of the southwest interchange works. These works commence in March 2013 with the suspension of the rank taking place late Summer 2013.

d. HGV Driver Training

- The Forum requested that they would like freight companies to consider cycle safety training, especially when working on behalf of the council
- EB informed the group that there has been three slight accidents involving HGVs and cyclists
- JS working with Reading Buses to promote cycling to staff, including cycle training
- The forum named the A4 (westbound) as a particular problem

4. Updated cycle strategy actions chart (standard item)

- Circulated prior to the meeting
- Forum members requested that a grit bin be installed on/near the Horse Shoe Bridge - EB to investigate
- New cycle parking at Palmer Park noted and AL requested four more stands be installed near the leisure centre
- Improvements to Henley Road/Lower Henley Road noted
- Bath Road plans will be taken to next workshop in February
- Forum asked for officers to reconsider Elgar Road/Waterloo Road priority
- Forum asked for the Meadway to be looked at again in terms of extending the existing lines to Honey End Lane and carried through the refuge islands

5. Local Sustainable Transport Fund

- RD informed the group of the new funding for cycling announced by the DfT. EB mentioned that officers are aware of the funding and will make a decision on whether to apply when more information is available.

a. Napier Road Update

- CB gave update on Napier Road progress highlighting that construction is expected to start March 2013.

b. Cycle Hire Update

- EB highlighted progress in the project, including interest from over 35 potential suppliers.
- More information to be brought to the next meeting

c. Cycle Improvements

- AL asked for an update on George Street at next meeting

d. Supporting Initiatives

i. Cycle Development Officer Programme

- JS updated the group on progress delivered as part of the CTC programme, including cycle training, Dr Bike sessions and the recycling scheme at the university

ii. Workplace Cycle Challenge

- This year's challenge will take place between 6th and 26th May across Reading, Wokingham and West Berkshire

iii. Pocket Places for People/Bike It

- BK informed the group of progress in the Bike It programme over the past few months and that Sustrans and RBC would be encouraging schools to participate in the annual 'Big Pedal' event
- BK asked the Forum whether they could find out if there are any people interested in becoming volunteers for the Bike It programme. BK to circulate text for advertising
- A project officer is now in post for Pocket Places and more information will be brought to future meetings

6. AOB

- No issues raised

7. Date of Next Meeting

- Wednesday, 10th April 2013, CR3 6pm

Agenda Item	Action	Expected
3	CB to arrange site visit and short meeting re: Reading Station highway works	Feb 2013 - Complete
3	RBC to investigate whether cycle safety training can be incorporated into contracts advertised by RBC	By next meeting - April 2013
4	EB to circulate updated progress sheet before next meeting	April 2013
4	EB to investigate whether a grit bin can be installed near Horse Shoe Bridge	By next meeting - April 2013
4	Officers to reconsider priority at Elgar Road/Waterloo Road	By next meeting - April 2013
4	Investigate whether more cycle parking is needed at Palmer Park near the leisure centre	By next meeting - April 2013
4	Revisit road markings on Meadway and consider joining up with Honey End Lane	By next meeting - April 2013
5	EB to circulate information on Sustainable Travel Fund to RCC	Feb 2013 - Complete
5	Cycle Hire to be included on the next agenda	By next meeting - April 2013
5	BS to send Forum text for the recruitment of volunteers	Feb 2013 - Complete