

Welwyn Hatfield Cycling Forum: Meeting Minutes Wednesday 10 April 2013

Present: Chris Whitehouse, David Dixon, Cathy Wilkins, Roger Moulding, Ian Gregory, Jeremy Payne.

Apologies: John Shead, Adam Edwards, Tom Morley, Bryn Jones

Matters Arising from the meeting held 13 March 2013:

- Ian and Chris did not ride to the Watford Cycle Hub Open Weekend on 23/24 March
- Roger has updated the Ride Sign-In Sheet and will add this to the Yahoo site for use by all ride leaders Action Roger
- Roger will prepare a letter to Richard Smith, or his successor, when more details of the Clock scheme are available. Action Roger
- No shovel ready suggestions were raised in response to Malcolm Cowan's letter in the WHT
- The litter alongside the Lyon Way Industrial Estate has been cleared
- Cathy reported that the Nickey Line and Alban Way maps were being updated. The Green Travel Plan is also being updated, which could provide money for more map updates. Roger reported that stocks of the Great North Way and WH Activity Maps were low and should be considered next for updating.

Events:

Chris confirmed his ride on 13 April will be starting at Kinetic Cycles at 11h00. The CTC web site had shown the start an hour earlier, but this has been corrected following a phone call by Chris.

Hatfield Cycles have still not confirmed the dates of their Official Opening. Action Chris to check.

Two additional items were added to the programme. 20 April - Alban Way Litter Pick and 27 April - Community Fun Day at Campus West.

Adam has provided publicity details for his proposed ride to Verulamium Park on 11 May.

The revised events master spreadsheet will be placed on the Yahoo site. Action Roger.

Alban Way Litter Pick - Saturday 20 April:

Cathy will be arriving at Wrestlers Bridge at 09h30 armed with HV Jackets, Gloves, Litter Pickers, Rubbish Sacks, Sharps Boxes. Sustrans local rangers have been invited to come and help. The Street Wardens will be asked to fix publicity notices to lamp posts throughout the target area. A leaflet drop to local households was considered too much effort for the likely return and will not be carried out.

Everyone was encouraged to spare some time to help between 09h30 and 13h00. Depending on manpower, we aim to get as far as possible along the Alban Way starting from Wrestlers Bridge, working towards the Borough Boundary.

Planning Applications:

The former rubbish tip adjacent to the Cole Green Way has been identified as a possible place to build more houses. It was thought this could be difficult due to ground contamination issues and unlikely to help create a cycle path adjacent to the A414 in the near future.

Several members have submitted objections to the Mount Pleasant housing development on the basis that the site has no direct cycle path connection across the railway to Tesco's and the adjacent cycle path.

The consultation was reported closed at the meeting, but amended plans have been submitted

and the closing date is now 2 May 2013.

Network Rail have submitted a Planning Application in respect of their proposed multi-storey car park development at Hatfield Station. The plans included details of the proposed highway works, which have not been changed from those we objected to when HCC proposed them last year. The consultation period for the application closed on 27 March and the application has been approved. Ian reported that some marking out for the project has already been carried out on site.

There was a short discussion regarding the size of development that would automatically require the developer to provide Section 106 funds. Cathy agreed to investigate. Action Cathy

Open Street Map:

David gave an overview of the Open Street Map system, explaining that it is free to use and even sell provided the map source is acknowledged. Anyone can update the map to include such items as post boxes, pubs and cycle facilities, as considered useful by the mapper. Open Street Map is the basis for CycleStreets and Open Orienteering Maps. David has contributed to the system for several years and is prepared to continue to do so for us in our area. He also offered to demonstrate the system at our May meeting.

Action John to create agenda item and David to prepare demonstration.

AOB:

Chris reported that he had chatted to Grant Shapps about possible assistance for our campaigns. Grant said he was willing to help and even offered to attend one of our meetings. Although we expected he may not be able to find time to attend a meeting, it was thought a delegation may be able to attend one of his surgeries to discuss issues. Members were asked to suggest ways in which Grant may be able to help us. Action All.

Adam has created a questionnaire based on the Times Cycling Campaign in London, intended to be sent to all WH constituency candidates in the coming HCC elections. It was agreed this should be sent to candidates as soon as possible. Roger agreed to organise when John returns from holiday. Action Roger

2013 Meetings 8th May, 12th June, 10th July, 14th Aug (Pub tbd), 11th Sept, 9th Oct, 13th
Nov, 11th Dec.

All meetings (except Aug) start at 7.15pm in the Acorn Suite, Campus West, Welwyn Garden City.