

Welwyn Hatfield Cycling Forum Minutes of Meeting 16th September 2009

Present

Adam Edwards – Chair
Cathy Wilkins
Jeremy Payne
Bryn Jones

Roger Moulding
John Shead
Ian Gregory
Chris Whitehouse

1 Apologies for Absence

Tom Morley

2 Minutes of Last Meeting

Accepted

Matters Arising

- Weathampstead footpath to Lemsford: Adam had written a letter of support to Herts CC.
- Local Access Forum: John had volunteered to be our representative on the group with Ian as reserve, although this may not fit with the official rules for the meeting. The first meeting had been the previous day. Of interest to us had been discussions on a proposed St Albans to Hemel Hempstead cycle route.
- Salisbury Village Nature Reserve: The issue of the opening of this reserve had not been followed up. **Action AE to check and progress this.**

3 Hatfield Rail Station to business park cycle route consultation

Adam had drafted a response. Ian and Chris had cycled the route east to west. All agreed the Queensway roundabout was the major problem with the route as proposed and that an alternative was essential. On roundabout solutions at other places in Hatfield were criticised for placing cyclists in a dangerous position on the road. Adam's paper was agreed subject to the following changes:

- Add more emphasis to our thanks at being given the opportunity to comment.
- Add marked up maps.
- Add a reference to Onslow St Audrey's School as potential users.
- Add more detail on the sight lines at the corner of Beaconsfield Road when going west.
- Add a note about the tram line tactile strips which have to be used but are slippery when wet.

Action: Adam to update as agreed and send to Herts Highways.

4 Kaleidoscope – post event evaluation

Agreed this had been a big success and Roger's scaffolding had been very good for cycle parking. The abandoned bike had been collected from Roger's house by its owner. Noted that we had run out of maps, such had been the demand.

5 Steaming cyclists – post event evaluation

The ride had attracted 23 participants, mostly families, for whom the length of the ride had been about right.

6 Planned events

Agreed we should work on

- Tour de Havilland 2010 – noted that we should try linking this to an event at the School to see if this would increase numbers.
- Kaleidoscope 2010

Other ideas:

- Five miles to fabulous – Cathy is working on another ride (??) **Action CW.**
- Hatfield House – ask if we could have an organised ride with permission to cycle on the roads not normally open to cyclists.
- A talk from Phil Liggot, CTC
- Re run Steaming Cyclists at Easter but starting from a different location, possibly Welwyn GC and perhaps meeting up with a STACC group. **Action AE.**
- David Burt to attend to up date us on developments. **Action AE.**
- Simon Flew to talk to us about what happens next with the new Hatfield route. **Action AE.**
- Hertford Castle – ride linked to an event.
- A picnic ride.
- Mill Green – Cathy to ask them about suitable events to ride to. **Action CW.**
- Panshanger airfield to see the planes. John to look at the route. **Action JS.**
- A ride with the local CTC.
- Invite the local CTC to talk to us at a meeting. **Action AE.**
- A maintenance course, perhaps with one of the group becoming qualified to do checks prior to events.

7 Pedalpoint update

No further developments. Adam had emailed Malcom Cowan, a local councillor about the issue.

9 Any Other Business

- Adam to set dates for 2010 meetings.
- Cathy had been out surveying the condition of the Alban Way. Adam (as a new Sustrans Warden) had reported a large number of faults to HCC and WHBC, which Cathy was following up. Cathy handed out copies of photos of problems and an annotated map.
- Maps: Cathy reported that made up sets of the maps were beginning to run out. There were plenty of the maps themselves still to use up before any reprint might be considered.
- Sheffield stands: No news on any spend on replacing obsolete cycle stands, despite David Burt's assurance back in February that money was available.
- County councillor cycling champions: These people would be good to lobby for example on the Hatfield cycle path and will have changed since the elections. Cathy to find out who they are. **Action CW.**

10 Dates of Next Meetings

14/10/09, 11/11/09, 16/12/09.