

Welwyn Hatfield Cycling Forum: Meeting Minutes held Weds 13th March 2013

Present: Bryn Jones, Chris Whitehouse, David Dixon, John Shead, Roger Moulding, Ian Gregory.

Apologies: Cathy, Adam, Tom.

Items from the previous meeting held 12.2.13:

Alban Way Cathy has raised an order for works to change the curve on the slope from The Lindens, Albans Road West. Works are to start before the end of March to meet the 2012/13 budget.

Publicity John to send a Press Release on our SSS to WHT.
Deferred until our membership T&Cs have been revised.

Events and Rides for 2013

- Jeremy's Sat Social Ride 9th March to Amwell Nature Reserve cancelled due to snow forecast.
 - Chris's Sat Social Ride 13th April. Route discussed in detail and we decided we will stop at Wheathampstead, with a possible 2nd group to continue to Redbourn TBD on the day.
 - Stall at Community Fun Day, Sat April 27th Campus West, 10.30 – 15.30.
 - Hatfield Cycles re-opening now moved to May, **date TBC. Chris to liaise.**
 - SSS 11th May Adam to lead, probably to Verulamium, St Albans.
 - Sat 1st June Steam Rally, St Albans John to lead.
 - SSS 8th June, Roger to lead.
 - Bikeweek June 15 – 23rd.
 - Sat 15th June Stall outside Howard Centre.
 - Sat 22nd June Stall at Welwyn Festival (22 – 30th June)
 - Sun June 23rd Herts Action on Disability charity ride, Start Gosling Cycle Track to the Old Albanian RFC, Woollams Playing Fields on the Harpenden Road, AL3 6BB.
 - SSS 13th July
 - Sun July 14th Wheathampstead Village Day, Start WGC.
 - August, Treasure Hunt.
 - Sept, NLSME ride to Colney Heath. Adam.
 - Ideas welcome for new rides, please send to Roger for inclusion on the reserve list.
- Action All**
- The 2013 rides list is on the WHCF Yahoo site.

Cathy has requested (yahoo messages 7th March) a litter pick on the Alban Way. Maybe we could have lunch afterwards. Roger suggested that Sustrans Rangers would help if we held this on the 3rd Sat. of the month. *Update. Now scheduled for Sat 20th April, 10pm, Wrestlers Bridge.*

On March 23 or 24th Ian and Chris are riding to the Watford Cycle Hub open weekend.
<http://watfordcyclehub.org.uk/>

Ride Insurance

The current CTC T&Cs for Affiliated groups state that there must not be more than 5 non (WHCF) members on any one ride, nor should a non (WHCF) member participate in a ride more than 5 times. However we do not want to turn people away.

Roger circulated 3 docs for discussion at the meeting (copies on Yahoo Messages 14th March) Membership Application Form, Revision of WHCF Constitution, Revision of Disclaimer.

Roger has registered our ride leaders with the CTC.

Several membership ideas were discussed -

1. First ride free then Annual WHCF membership on 2nd ride say £5 fee. More work to administer on renewal.
2. First ride free, day membership, say £1 per ride subsequent rides. Not too difficult. Would this be considered to be 'getting around the rules'?
3. Sign in on the day for automatic Life membership. Would this be considered to be 'getting around the rules'? Membership would lapse if non-contactable.
4. WHCF Membership cards, simple printed business type cards handwritten with each member's name. Membership cards were felt to have little merit. (However card owners may help spread the word, generate new WHCF website visits and introduce new riders)

Revision to Sign-in Sheet. Add emergency contact no. **Action Roger.**

Update. Roger contacted the CTC Insurers Butterworth Spengler who have confirmed that the 'no more than 5 non members' is a guideline and not a condition. Although we are covered for rides, Publicity Stalls, not associated with rides, are only covered if they are specifically used to promote CTC. However we can use the Bikeweek Insurance (available April to July inclusive) for the WHCF stall and any other 'non-ride' events.
http://www.bikeweek.org.uk/cms_data/files/2012/BikeWeek_insurance.pdf

Infrastructure

The Clock Hotel, Welwyn is to be demolished to build flats.
http://www.whtimes.co.uk/news/fire_stricken_hotel_could_be_turned_into_homes_1_1971778

Roger suggested lobbying Richard Smith (copy David Burt) for the A1000 to Welwyn footpath to be converted to a cycle path, together with a link beside the Welwyn Bypass to the Clock roundabout, where it could join up with the currently isolated cycle infrastructure. **Roger to draft.**

Malcolm Cowan's letter in the WHT on the WHBC underspend of £22.7M. (See Yahoo Messages 13th March) Can some of this be reserved for cycling infrastructure? Ideas please. **Action All**

New housing developments often have no cycle infrastructure or adequate cycle storage built in.

The weekly planning list for WelHat can be seen here

<https://fastweb.welhat.gov.uk/weeklylistapp.asp>

Please comment (and copy David Burt if appropriate). **Action All.**

AOB

The plastic recycle depot at the Lyon Way Industrial Estate on the Alban Way has allowed loose waste to be blown away. Chris to report to the Environment Agency and Hertsdirect. **Action Chris.**

Chris explored the A414 riding on the south side from the Cole Green Underpass to Gypsy Lane. There is a possibility to convert the path into a cycle path. Can this path be added to the Cycleherts List for rural pavement conversion? **Action Adam.** Further detail is needed on the Gypsy Lane to the A1000 Hertford Rd section.

The 20mph EU petition has reached approx 16,000 signatures after 3 months. 1M are needed by the end of 2013.

Update. HCC Overview & Scrutiny Committee held a meeting at County Hall on 21st March to hear a presentation on Herts 20mph Limits and agreed to meet again in 2013. More at
http://www.whtimes.co.uk/news/more_progress_needed_on_20mph_zones_in_hertfordshire_meeting_hears_1_1995295 and <http://www.hitinform.org.uk/scrutinizing-20mph-speed-limits-in-herts/>

2013 Meetings 10th April, 8th May, 12th June (AGM), 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.