

## Welwyn Hatfield Cycling Forum: Meeting Minutes Weds 13th Nov 2013, held at WHBC, Campus East.

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

Apologies: Adam Edwards. Tom Morley.

### Rides and Events

26<sup>th</sup> Nov. HCC Alban Way Ride. Opening Ceremony by SADC Mayor at 8.30am by Morrisons back gate followed by ride. Dr Bike supplied by Cycletech. John to fwd details. **Done.**

14<sup>th</sup> Dec. SSS Alban Way Surface Celebration Tour. The Forum, UofH, Roger.

11<sup>th</sup> Jan 2014 SSS to Bhaktivedanta Manor, Aldenham. <http://www.bhaktivedantamanor.co.uk/home/> Ian.

Feb SSS Adam.

Feb 18<sup>th</sup> 10 – 4 WHCF Stall at the Healthy Living Event, Campus West. John to request table/chairs. **Done.**

March SSS Chris.

April SSS Roger.

April 19<sup>th</sup> Litter Pick on Alban Way, Adam to co-ordinate.

May SSS John. *Coincides with the Womens Tour Stage Finish in WGC so we should do something extra.*

### Planning and Infrastructure

Bridge Road, Heronswood Rd, Howlands, WGC on road scheme.

Adam and Roger and Malcom Cowan met with Clare Martin and Robert Surrige from HCC on 31<sup>st</sup> Oct. The scheme has now been extended to the station footbridge at Hydeway and beyond QEII along Howlands to join the cycle route along Chequers. We also proposed a short extension along Ascots Lane as far as Gypsy Lane to provide a safer link to Hatfield.

This scheme has only £22k allotted. Consequently, a new route cannot be considered.

There have been 4 cycling collisions on the route. However as it stands we are unconvinced that this scheme will be an improvement and are very worried that it may make matters worse. We suggested that blue cycle route signs should not be used as this could give cyclists the impression that this is the preferred route for cycling. The route chosen is circuitous and uses a busy road. Any cycling signage should encourage cyclists to leave the route and not encourage them to join it.

HCC have consulted Sustrans, but Sustrans have not passed consultation down to their local Rangers. Clare agreed to review the scheme with HCC's Safety Engineers and present a revised scheme as soon as possible. Works must be complete by April 2014. For more info see emails of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> Nov. from Adam.

Marstons Pub/Restaurant Application, Bridge Rd and Bessemer Rd.

<https://fastweb.welhat.gov.uk/detail.asp?AltRef=N6/2013/2128/FP&ApplicationNumber=2128&AddressPrefix=&submit1=Go>

We don't think that this proposal is likely to succeed due to extra traffic movements blocking the main junction. Deadline is 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec.

Campus East Offices Development.

<https://fastweb.welhat.gov.uk/detail.asp?AltRef=N6/2013/1938/MA&ApplicationNumber=&AddressPrefix=campus&submit1=Go>

A resubmission has been made by WHBC. Our main objection is that the Travel Strategy and the Environmental Checklist still make claims that the offices are well served by a network of cycle paths. In reality there is only one path from Gresley Way via the car parks. We need to respond again or WHBC will assume that their resubmission has addressed the objections. Deadline is 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. **Action All.**

Clock Roundabout Housing Development.

Cathy to confirm how the S106 money will be used. **Action Cathy.**

**Community Chest** Roger has emailed Councillors requesting small donations. Answers so far –

Sherrards Ward £500 promised.

Panshanger Ward, meeting with Darren Bennett, 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov. *Darren declined but gave us some other leads.*

Malcolm Cowan, Peartree Ward, Further questions asked, awaiting response.

Maureen Cook, Hatfield Central Ward, Will discuss, awaiting response.

Les Page, Welham Green Ward, Further questions asked, awaiting response.

Lynn Chesterman, Hollybush Ward, offered to pay CTC group fees when due.

Howlands Ward, no.

Hatfield Villages Ward, no.

Welwyn East Ward, Will discuss, awaiting response.

No response from other Wards.

### **Herts Speed Management Consultation**

<https://consult.hertsdirect.org/2013ftp3consultation/> WHCF have already commented (see Roger's email of 19<sup>th</sup> Oct.) but others should do so. Closing date is 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov. **Action All.**

Chris to circulate the response from Cycleherts. **Action Chris.**

### **Cyclescape**

Chris has sent details on this useful web communication and campaigning tool. <http://www.cyclescape.org/> Registration is very simple. Faults and improvement requests can be added by anyone interested in our area and then all Cyclescape members will get automatic notifications.

We need to register as a group (a trial name of 'Welhat Cycling' was suggested in order to distinguish it from WHCF. **Action Chris**) to see how we can best use it. STACC seem to be already signed up. The site is currently at the beta stage and will hopefully grow into a really useful tool with additional features. We need to explore how requests can be forwarded to the authorities. Please register. **Action All**

### **Section 106 Question**

John would like to investigate how S106 money for finished cycling projects gets spent by HCC. We may have to ask a FOI question to see how the money is distributed around the County. We will ask to go back 5 years and concentrate on cycling infrastructure rather than walking and cycling.

John to draft question. **Action John. Done**

*Update: Cathy has unearthed some details on HCC schemes which we should discuss first, at the next meeting.*

### **AOB**

Roger recently completed an Outdoor First Aid course arranged by Hertfordshire Orienteering Club. Although substantially sponsored by Herts Orienteers, he was asked to pay £20 for the course.

The meeting approved reimbursement of this payment.

A Cyclenation presentation was given at the Cycleherts meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> Nov by Simon Geller.

Adam has a copy of the presentation. **Action Adam. Done**

Donation to Cycleherts.

In view of the fact that all income is given for WelHat cycling activities/projects, the group decided to decline.

Website hosting fees. Chris to look at better value for money. **Action Chris.**

Yahoo email address. This has not been used for some time. John doesn't have any issues displaying his personal email address, but Chris asked what would happen if absent. Others said that we need to be more professional and that a chairman@ or secretary@ email should be displayed on the website instead.

**Ongoing.**

Memory Map Software. Jeremy mentioned a big price reduction for 1:25000 UK maps.

<http://shop.memory-map.co.uk/acatalog/maps-ordnance-survey-explorer.html>

The TRRL road infrastructure trials have now finished at Wokingham.

Next meeting – aim to assemble at 7.10pm, 11<sup>th</sup> Dec. Campus East for merriment and mince pies.

2014 Meetings Venue TBD 2<sup>nd</sup> Weds. 7.15pm **Action Cathy.**