

HARROGATE & DISTRICT CYCLE FORUM

MINUTES OF MEETING MONDAY 28th JANUARY 2019 **AT 1400 HOURS AT HBC CIVIC CENTRE**

Note: An asterisk by the subject indicates it is on the Project List (attached)

PRESENT: Councillor Phil Ireland, Tom O'Donovan, Melisa Burnham, Rupert Douglas, Kevin Douglas, Martin Weeks, Yvonne Skelton, Rachael Massey.

APOLOGIES: Gia Margolis, Malcolm Margolis, Tom Horner, Don Mackenzie, David Wilson

Welcome to Ian Kendal, Ripon Representative, member of HDCA and now a member of the Forum.

Farewell to Rachael Massey, who is leaving WSP.

Congratulations to Malcolm Margolis who has been awarded a British Empire Medal for his services to cycling in the District. The following is a quote from the Stray FM website: (with apologies for embarrassing Malcolm, but the Forum agreed, praise is due):

After retiring in 2006 Malcolm established the Wheel Easy cycling club, which was set up to promote cycling both to avoid environmental damage and also to encourage healthy exercise. The club has grown to 270 members ranging in age from mid 20s to over 80s. Malcolm has also led two major cycling campaigns -

- *Cycling on the Stray, for which he orchestrated a campaign to make change to an Act of Parliament to allow paths over the Stray to be used for cycling, and*
- *the Nidderdale Greenway which lasted 16 years and converted a former railway line connecting Harrogate to Ripley into a cycle and footpath.*

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING were approved and signed by the Chairperson.

MATTERS ARISING

1. NYCC staff representation Ian Vicars, Improvement Manager will replace MB. She will also be looking for a representative from Network Strategy. MB said it might also be useful for someone from Fiona Ancell's team to join the Forum. **ACTION MB.**
2. Project Requests to NYCC from HDCA - Reference July and October Minutes. Have these been put into the system? MB will raise this with Network Strategy. **ACTION MB.**
3. Harland Way Surfacing Reference July and October Minutes. There is now a S106 agreement to say funding is available. How much? What are the next steps? What sort of surfacing? Is there an ecology impact assessment? Does this need planning permission and if so, at what point will this be required? **ACTION TH.**

4. Dacre to Darley* MM has successfully worked on putting together funding. RD is working with ANOB who realise that resources need to be put into this. A contribution has been agreed and signed off by HBC. The aim is to continue right through to Pateley Bridge and then to Scar House. RD said the route would be in sections, so that if one section is stalled, others can go ahead. Give this project a main heading on the next Agenda. **ACTION YS**
5. Timings of Controlled Crossings - Any further discussions to make the timing of controlled crossings less car orientated has been brought to a stop by NYCC.
6. Air Quality Action Plan - Send Plan to YS for distribution. **Action TH**. Carry forward to next meeting.
7. Cycle Usage - Survey Results are on C2Web. MB to speak to Network Strategy to obtain the data. **ACTION MB**.
8. **HARROGATE CONGESTION STUDY ENGAGEMENT GROUP** Consultation with about 40,000 residents will take place in March.

CYCLE FORUM PRIORITY LIST FOR 2019 See attached.

9. Action by Officers on these projects were a priority for the Forum. Mindful that Officers were extremely busy, it was even more imperative that these projects are the focus of the Forum. PI said his experience was that focussing on one project at a time was more effective, but agreed that this is a praiseworthy list, and to have them at funding ready status a good idea.

SCHEME UPDATES

Harrogate Cycle Highway Route 1 (Otley Road) *

10. RM reported that the Public Engagement forum was well attended, with most of the concerns coming from residents on Otley Road. From this, a questions and answers checklist is being drawn up. This will have to go through a TRO (Traffic Regulation Order) process, which MB will discuss with TH. Hopefully work will start at the beginning of September. Has it been agreed that WSP can do the whole length? MB said it was under review and will clarify at the next meeting. **ACTION MB**
11. There was general discussion about the importance of improving the road surfaces of link roads leading onto this Scheme. RD talked about "Filtered Neighbourhoods": consider all the users who can join and leave the route and develop a network around it so it is not just about "end to end".
12. There is a lot of support from schools who will benefit from this route. Harrogate Grammar School have until now felt they could not encourage pupils to cycle because of safety concerns. But they are very much on board with the new cycleway.
13. RD emphasised the need to have cycle usage (see paragraph above), and air quality data before development of the Highway, after and beyond. **ACTION MB**

14. Follifoot Underpass No response from the stables, who were given an ultimatum to respond, and this deadline has passed. Everything has been approved, so we can now move on it ASAP. Next step is to prepare tender documentation. It is a public bridleway owned by Ridding Estate, which needs to give permission that the work can go ahead on his land. **ACTION TH/TO.**

15. Ecological impact - clearing of vegetation and whether any of that would come into the bird nesting season. It would be helpful to clear it now, before the end of February. Mike Gurney of NYCC to be asked if he can do this now? Kevin Douglas will contact Mike.
ACTION KD

16. MB assured the Forum that whilst the Bridleway will have to be closed to get the work done, a temporary TRO can quickly be done.

17. Traffic Free Route to Fountains See below - Progress in Ripon.

18. Harlow Moor Road Cycleway Tom will pick this up once the Local Plan is complete.
ACTION TH.

PROGRESS IN RIPON IK

19. The progress IK has made in Ripon is significant and inspirational. He has divided his Ripon Cycle Plan into 3 stages:

Stage 1 - Fountains.

Stage 2 - Going across the City.

Stage 3 - To Newby Hall.

20. These routes would be good news for Ripon from a cycle tourism perspective. TH is to get extra cycle racks in Ripon.

21. Historical Note:

22. The route to Newby Hall is via a bridleway which is now impassible due to a fallen bridge. It is the site of the Nidd Ferry Disaster. On February 4th 1869 the York and Ainsty Hunt reached the banks of the River Ure which was swollen after heavy rain. Several members boarded the ferry but one of the horses became tangled in the chains on the side of the ferry, panicked and tipped the boat over. Six men were drowned, including Sir Charles Slingsby, the heir to the estates in Knaresborough and Scriven, Captain Henry Vyner and Edmund Robinson - members of the family of Newby Hall. It was a dramatic event which had a considerable impact on the history of estates in the area.

23. PI thanked IK for the successful work being undertaken.

LOCAL PLAN & CYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

24. Andrew Bainbridge's eMail noted: "approval process deferred due to workload. This does not impact on any potential use of the plan as we can feed the proposals into developing proposals for potential bidding opportunities from Government and developers.

Written consultation with local elected County Councillors be undertaken with a report to the Business and Environmental Services Executive Members being considered in March”.

EXTERNAL FUNDING UPDATES:

25.Access Fund Fiona Ansell has again provided no update. Part of the bid was to bring schemes up to shovel ready but we have no information on which schemes and process so far. KD to draft eMail to FA and agree it with PII before it goes out. **ACTION KD/PI**

26.The question remains about whether the lower threshold for less than 50 houses for sustainable transport contributions is in place. This sits within MB’s team’s remit. In terms of policy, is this now established by Network Strategy? **ACTION MB**

27.IK asked if there was a S106 with the Choir School site at Ripon? If we can get a route to run along the back that would be good. MB to make enquiries. **ACTION MB**

RECENT PLANNING APPLICATION COMMENTS - Nothing to report.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

28.HBC made an expression of interest in UCI legacy funds, to build a sports facility such as a pump track. Are we any further on with this, and has the full application been made? There is no infrastructure project planned but it is within John McGiven’s remit. KD will email John. **ACTION KD.**

29.British Cycling have announced a fund £15m - Places to Ride about supporting facilities. There may be possibility for funding from this. **ACTION KD.**

30.Cycle Racks on the Stray Not yet in place. Removed from the Agenda in March 2018 as then imminent. Comments from parkrun awaited. **ACTION TH.**

31.Green Hammerton Greenway MW has offered to voluntarily project manage this, but it depends on Professional Indemnity cover, which Sustrans is researching for MW .

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Meets every 3 months preferably on a Monday at 2pm. Dates to be agreed. **ACTION YS.**

Signed by the Chairperson

Dated

See attached Project list agreed by the Cycle Forum

REPORT TO HARROGATE CYCLE FORUM FROM HDCA

CYCLING PROJECT LIST FOR 2019

The last twelve months has been frustrating for members of the Forum in that little progress has been made to position us to move a number of projects forward, the exception being Otley Road Cycleway.

In 2017 there had been successful bids for funding and with projects and funding in place we appeared to be ready to deliver on some of the aspirations that had been set out by both HBC/NYCC and the Forum in the HBC Cycle Delivery Plan. However, due to loss of staff, the Local Plan, the Relief Road Project and a lack of co-ordination and direction very little was achieved in 2018.

Now that the staff have been replaced and the majority of work on the Local Plan has been completed, we need to agree a focus and priority for 2019. The starting point for this should be that the Cycle Forum agree a list of projects for instigating/completion in the next 12 months. In doing this it will enable Officers/Members/Groups to focus on them and ensure they are progressed. The following is the proposed list of projects from HDCA:-

Follifoot Underpass - Lead HBC

Harrogate Cycle Highway Route 1 (Otley Road Section) - Lead: NYCC

Harlow Moor Road to Cardale Park /linked to Otley Road - Lead:NYCC

Community Grant Schemes- to facilitate local schemes - Lead:HBC

Yorkshire Showground Access points - Lead: YSG/ Community

Design and completion of Nidderdale Greenway, Clint Bank to Pateley Bridge and extension to Scar House Reservoir. Lead: Sustrans/Community/Nidderdale Plus

Fountains Abbey to Ripon Cyclepath - Lead: NT/Community/Sustrans

Wetherby Road Pegasus Crossing - Lead: HBC/NYCC

Green Hammerton Greenway - Lead: Community

Killijnhall Moor Footpath Upgrade to Cycleway - Lead:HBC

Cycle path High Bridge Knaresborough to Golf Club cycle lane on A59 - Lead:HBC/NYCC

Community event/s for UCI World Championships (TBC) - Lead:HBC

Note: Excluded from this is the policy work related to Approval for a Cycle Infrastructure Plan for the Harrogate District.

If, after discussion, we can agree the Project List we can then begin the process of resourcing and monitoring them at the Forum meetings.