

Minutes of the Meeting of the Waverley Cycle Forum 19 July 2012

Website: <http://cycleforum.org.uk/waverley/>

Present:

David Moxon (DM)	Chair
Chris Meeks (CM)	Friends of the Earth, Waverley Group
Paul Robinson (PR)	Godalming Town Council
David Kirkham (DK)	Godalming Cycle Campaign
Thomas Lankester (TL)	Transition Town Farnham
Ralph Holmes (RH)	Cranleigh Initiative
Chris Peck (CP)	CTC
Roger Newnes-Smith (RNS)	Godalming CC
Myra Newnes-Smith (MNS)	Witley Parish Council
Maurice Byham (MB)	Waverley Councillor
Jenny Barnes (JBn)	Community
Ian Capon (IC)	My BikeStation Ltd
Matthew Ellis (MTE)	Waverley Borough Council

Apologies for Absence

David Munro (Cllr DM)	SCC Councillor
John Hilder (JH)	SCC Highways
Paul Megson (PM)	Haslemere
Roland Seber (RS)	Godalming Cycle Campaign
James Browne	SCC
Diane James	Waverley Councillor Ewhurst

Marshall Road

Scheme funding agreed by SCC Waverley Local Committee. The brief has been issued and design considered with the intention that construction will start later this year. However John Hilder still has some concerns regarding the concrete staging on Chalk Road. The question of who should own the strip of land which is being donated by Jewsons had still to be resolved. One consideration was how this would affect responsibility for maintenance. As this is a short strip of land along the line of the existing footpath it is assumed this would fall to SCC and that the cost would constitute a minimal addition to their rights of way responsibilities. **Action:** PR to get Godalming TC to further consider ownership. DM to contact John Hilder.

Catteshall Lane

DK has responded to the Godalming Key Site application. The junction has been amended and now has a right of way for cyclists but there are still certain details missing. There is an extension of the deadline for making additional representations on the planning application by 02/08/12

Godalming High Street Contraflow

The idea of a contraflow scheme in Godalming High Street originated from the Report of the Public Inquiry published in 2001. Although the idea was not carried forward at the time, it was subsequently incorporated into the Waverley Cycle Plan and was endorsed by the Godalming Healthcheck. It also reflects more recent national and local guidance on contraflow schemes, including LTP3. The original proposal was for an extended trial. It was suggested that this might be linked to introduction of a 20 mph speed limit for the High Street. Although street furniture reduces the width in places the low level and speed of traffic meant that this should not cause significant problems and so little more than signage would be needed to implement the scheme. The case for an extended trial, rather than immediate full implementation, would ensure that the concerns of those opposed to the scheme on safety grounds, which included Witley Parish Council, could be properly considered. DM suggested a report should be prepared summarising the history of the proposal and supporting the proposed trial. JBn, CP, DK and PR would like to be involved in taking the scheme forward. **Action:** DM to draft a paper in consultation with the above Forum members as a basis for securing the support of Steve Cosser and others

Wurth House (Linden Homes development)

No real progress. Planning Application now submitted. Tim Lipscomb Case Officer.

Milford Hospital

CTC and Godalming Cycle Campaign have responded to the public consultation on the Upper Tuesley (Milford Hospital) Supplementary Planning Document.

There was an extensive discussion about the appropriateness and feasibility of different cycle routes through to Godalming centre and Milford Station as well as on to both Rodborough and Broadwater schools including concerns about a lit route, suitable surfaces and consent of landowners. MB also mentioned that although the site was in his ward, the routes would run through others. It was agreed that the key landowner would be approached

Action: MNS to approach landowner to discuss his plans/ideas

Cranleigh/Ewhurst Cycle Path

Richard Cleaves chair of Ewhurst Parish Council had informed DM of his statement to the Council at its meeting on 16 July:

“Work on the proposed footpath continues apace. We are looking at various options and it would be premature to rule any of these in or out at this stage. We are in dialogue with a number of local landowners but do not feel it appropriate to comment on any ongoing negotiations until we have settled on a preferred option for the path”.

Negotiations were based in part on a survey of the route which had been jointly financed by SCC and Ewhurst. It was noted that the route is described as a footpath when it has always been understood that it is a shared path and that the route will predominantly lie within Cranleigh PC.

Action: DM to approach Richard Cleaves to seek further information on progress and the possible timetable.

Shared use path in Central Cranleigh

The scheme has support from SCC Cllr Young if the primary school development goes ahead. RH said there had been no development since last meeting.

Farnham Schemes

TL updated the Forum on the Scholars Greenway Launch which is to take place on 23/09/12 with a number of dignitaries. Both cyclist and walkers are invited to travel the route and then double back along the proposed Weyside route. This will give an opportunity to both publicise what has been achieved and demonstrate what can be achieved for the Weyside way that will connect important locations in Farnham. Organisers, marshals and participants are needed – contact TL.

There are still some issues with:

- Planning permission for a second build-out to complete the crossing of Castle Street has been granted. However, implementation has been delayed while it is considered further in the context of the Waverley Farnham Conservation Area Management Plan (FCAMP). TL had commented on the draft FCAMP but had no reply from Waverley. MTE said that draft FCAMP was being prepared by Waverley along with Farnham Town Council, SCC and the Farnham Society. In the case of most consultations on planning documents, the Council would not respond directly to individuals' comments but would wait until the comments had been collated. **Note:** Since the meeting MTE has spoken to the Waverley officer leading on the FCAMP, Sarah Wells, who confirmed that this is the case and that once all comments are considered they will be published along with the Council's response.
- Ensuring that the narrow pathway at Rowan House does not become a showstopper on Weyside Greenway. Not a public footpath and therefore need to lobby Waverley to release land to widen it and get SCC to maintain it. Funding for dealing with this section of the path is available from s106 money from the Farnham Hospital redevelopment of three years ago. (The East Street development will provide funding for other sections of Weyside.) TL to liaise with Cllr Munro.

TL said that Farnham, like Godalming, had one section of one way street that would be ideal for a contraflow scheme. This is Bear Lane which is not only a quiet road, about 100m long and at least 4m wide, but contraflow would allow cyclists travelling from the Scholars Greenway to town centre and station to avoid busy Castle Street and The Borough.

National Trust Signage

DM and Paul Megson have looked at a potential offroad route from Milford to Thursley, to link in with the new cycle route to Hindhead. There were other routes in the Hindhead area which could potentially be improved to make them usable by hybrid bikes and which, with suitable signage, would make good routes for utility cyclists as well as leisure cyclists. The National Trust have been receptive in principal to having signs that would help cyclists (and walkers) find their way from A to B. However, the route is not all on NT property and other landowners would need to be consulted. DM had also been in contact with CTC who are working with the National Trust and Surrey Hills on a new cycle trail at Leith Hill. This may provide ideas about possible sources of funding.

Action: DM to email Forum the map of the proposed route and to take ideas forward with NT.

Cycle Forum Website

IC and Alec McCalden have liaised and IC has reviewed the website with suggestions of improvements and making it easier for it to be updated including removing old information. CP felt that the website was excellent as a repository of information. However, he suggested other sites such as CycleStreets and Cyclescope would complement the Forum's website. Further thought was needed to assess what the role of the Forum's website should be beyond its current focus on the work of the Forum itself, bearing in mind what the various other online resources can offer.

Action: IC to look further at improving the website's structure and management, liaising with its author, Alec McCalden, as necessary. The role of the Forum's website will be the subject of further discussion and ideas from members will be welcome.

Bikes on Buses

There have been some encouraging signs that , nationally, operating companies are sympathetic. **Action: CP to pursue.**

Cycle Parking in Haslemere

PM had been in touch with DM saying he had written to Steve Renshaw (SCC Haslemere) when there was a major debate going on about parking in Haslemere. More cycle parking in the town could help to address some of the concerns of those who are unhappy with new parking restrictions for drivers. Steve Renshaw had responded positively and asked county officers to consider further though as yet there is nothing further to report. PM has also been trying to get a contact at South West Trains about cycle parking at the station to discuss expansion/improvements, so far without success.

AOB

Revision of the Cycle Plan

MTE explained that a comprehensive revision of the Waverley Cycle Plan Supplementary Planning Document would need to be carried out in accordance with the SPD regulations and this would involve full consultation. A review of the SPD has not been programmed into the Council's workload. It was up to the Forum to consider what were the weaknesses relying on the existing SPD were and whether there was an essential need to review it. It had been organised so that the Action Plan and the Prioritised List of Schemes in the existing SPD were living documents and could be changed in accordance with the Forum's priorities so that up to date schemes would still be a material consideration in determining planning applications. The other point is that the Council were preparing an Infrastructure Delivery Plan as part of their work on the Core Strategy and CIL. The Forum have been invited to contribute to that in putting forward their priority schemes.

Action: Forum (DM) to consider the value of a comprehensive review of the SDP and to liaise with MTE

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Update

CIL will eventually replace Planning Infrastructure contributions (PIC) which is the present system of collecting s106 money to fund projects/schemes in the Borough by 2014. This is because after that the Council can no longer pool s106 contributions to fund schemes. MTE briefly explained the progress the Council was making including preparing the IDP which would establish the infrastructure needed and the funding gap that CIL would aim to fill as well as the viability work to ensure that the amount developers are charged is not so onerous that they can not afford to develop. A charging schedule for developments would then be prepared which would then be examined by an independent inspector. As such a funding gap is likely to remain and therefore infrastructure projects would still need to be prioritised. It would be still up to SCC to make the case for the funding of transport schemes. Paul Falconer at Waverley is leading on this work

Action: Forum (DM) to look at the IDP to see if the cycle schemes in it are correct and liaise with Paul Falconer if needed

Date of Next Meetings

Thursday 25 October 2012 at 18.30

Thursday 17 January 2013 at 18.30