

Minutes of the Meeting of the Waverley Cycle Forum 12th January 2012

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

Present:

David Moxon (DM)	Chair
Chris Meeks (CM)	Friends of the Earth, Waverley Group
David Kirkham (DK)	Godalming Cycle Campaign
Thomas Lankester (TL)	Transition Town Farnham
Ralph Holmes (RH)	Cranleigh Initiative
Roger Newnes-Smith (RNS)	Godalming CC
Paul Robinson (PR)	Godalming Town Council Councillor
Jenny Barnes (JBn)	Co-opted member
Maurice Byham (MB)	Waverley Councillor
Diane James (DJ)	Waverley Councillor
Jane Bowden (JB)	Waverley Borough Council

1. Apologies for Absence

John Hilder (JH)	SCC Highways
David Munro (Cllr DM)	SCC Councillor
Myra Newnes-Smith (MNS)	Witley Parish Council
Alan Fordham (AF)	SCC Cycling Officer

2. Cranleigh to Ewhurst Cycle Path update

The survey for the path within Ewhurst Parish, indicating the work that needs to be undertaken, has been completed, but it needs to be discussed with landowners before being made public. The parish council's preference is for a route to the north of the road, because it has less land ownership issues. But it is more expensive due to a ditch and is less attractive to users because it will be away from the road, within the woodland.

The long term aim is to achieve a shared use path from Cranleigh to Ewhurst but in the short term the route through Swallow Tiles site needs to be secured. Swallow Tiles planning application is now out for consultation and does now include access through the site for cyclists from the Ewhurst Rd to Wanborough Lane, which would link the potential Ewhurst route into quiet roads onto Cranleigh centre. Waverley Cycling Forum needs to support this sustainable transport route. Also development monies should be sought to enhance cycling provision and help to provide the missing sections in this strategic link.

Action: RH to draft response to planning application for Forum to submit (DJ, TL, CM & MB to be copied in) Done

3. Potential new shared use Path central Cranleigh

Cranleigh Primary School is proposing selling off their sites both sides of Parsonage Road for development and building a new school on part of the

Glebelands School playing fields. This would give the opportunity to create a new shared use path South through the developments that would link houses on the north of Cranleigh to the High Street and the Downs Link. The widening of footpath 367 could provide an east west link. The Forum felt this excellent concept should be added into the Forum's 2012/13 priorities.

4. Wey & Arun Canal towpath near Dunsfold

RH suggested the potential for a cycle route link along the old canal to the south of Dunsfold Park where the canal trust will be restoring the towpath. However RH has found out that the restored canal will not be accessible by cyclist or walkers because the 3 landowners' agreement for the restoration is subject to no public access. Forum to keep an eye on this in case circumstances change.

5. Marshall Road Linking Farncombe/Godalming update

Site survey to go ahead 2011/12, funded by SCC. Steve Cosser is supportive of the scheme and has it on his list for funding the practical work (key meeting will be in March). PR has spoken to Godalming Town Council about them taking on the land ownership, but they are concerned about the future maintenance responsibility. It was pointed out that SCC would maintain the route if it was adopted as a right of way. TL emailed Nick Farthing from Sustrans before Christmas but no response.

To ensure this became a reality it was felt important to get it publicised and onto people's agendas. It was featured in November in a Godalming Together meeting and put in 'Round and About'. Suzie Gortler has been briefed.

**Action: PR to discuss land ownership again with the Town Council.
TL to chase Nick Farthing at Sustrans for advice on legal issues.**

6. Godalming Key Site update

No planning application has been submitted as yet. Kathryn Laughton is the planning officer. DK proposed an advance stop line at Flambard Way/Brighton Road and a toucan crossing at the police station using shared pavements along Flambard Way/Woolsack Way. No response yet from Alan Fordham. It is important that the Marshall Road improvement is presented as a link in a strategic traffic free route for Godalming that includes the Key Site and ensure it appears in the section 106 agreement.

7. New Regulations on contra flow schemes – Godalming

CTC briefing at http://www.ctc.org.uk/resources/Campaigns/11_Contraflow_brf.pdf is helpful and contra-flow systems are supported in LTP3. Also links with the newer open streets approach. Need to take the opportunity to activate the Godalming proposal that was supported by the inspector 10 years ago. Need to look at the problems (eg street furniture) and costs and formulate some proposals.

Action: JBn to do an initial scoping report & copy to TL. TL to look at new regulations in connection with Farnham.

8. Hindhead update on post-tunnel cycle routes

BOAT 500 now provides a good cycle surface apart from one rough patch which is intended to deter motorised users. A separate cycle path, which cannot be accessed by cars, has been created and this merges with the newly-surfaced stretch of BOAT 500 after a few hundred yards. Only time will tell if there is conflict between users in which case further measures might be needed to curb traffic. However the roundabout at Grayswood end is bad for cyclists and the cyclist dismount signs do not tie in with how cyclists use it. DM emailed the National Trust regarding upgrading permissive paths but needs to go back to them with suggested plans for signage. Open Street or Cycle Street maps may help with mapping routes.

Action: DM to provide routes & signage suggestions to NT

9. Priorities for 2012/13

Marshall Road

Cranleigh – Ewhurst

Central Cranleigh link

Haslemere lack of cycle parking

Milford hospital site development

Scholars Way/Weyside Way

20s Plenty initiative

Carriage of bikes on buses

Working with SCC on opportunities where public land is being sold off

Responding to planning applications

Revision of Waverley Cycling Plan – the Plan is out-of-date in various respects but the task of updating can be in part addressed through the mechanism of the Forum's Annual Report as this enables each year's priorities to be identified. These priorities will draw on the Action Plan and list of schemes that form part of the existing Plan. There is no immediate urgency for a more fundamental revision.

Action: DM to produce draft list & action plan for discussion at next meeting.

10. Further matters arising from Minutes from 13/10/11

a) Meadow/Bunkers Hill. No information.

b) Bridleway 142. Continuing problem with dogs and owner trying to stop public access. No action being taken by police.

11. Any Other Business

MOD is trying to reduce access to Hankly Common, and is proposing closing the car park in centre of the site. *NB: there is now a petition at*<<http://www.surreycommunity.info/elsteadnews/petitions>>

Ian Baldwin, countryside ranger that manages the Downs Link is leaving WBC. Not certain how he will be replaced, but Downs Link is an important strategic route for WBC.

SCC Cycling officer post is being scrapped and integrated into a bigger team. The Forum expressed the hope that Alan Fordham would have a continuing role in the new set-up and that the loss of the post did not mean that cycling would be accorded lower priority. The Cycling Strategy part of the LTP3 is still awaited. DM to seek the views of other cycle forums in Surrey to compare ideas on how best to respond to the proposed changes. Roland Seber should have contacts.

Action: DM to write to SCC regretting this loss of post and focus on sustainable transport and copy to Jeremy Hunt.

12. Date of Next Meetings & speakers

- 12th April 2012
- July date to be confirmed

Possible speakers: - Nick Farthing, Sustrans, Stuart Reid ex TRL (David Kirkham to provide contact)