

CYCLING ACTION PROGRESS GROUP

Meeting Notes – 25TH FEBRUARY 2021 – 9.30AM

Microsoft Teams Meeting Attendance:

Councillor Nick Davies (Chair)	(Cllr. ND)	Swansea Council
Chloe Lewis	(CL)	Swansea Council
Corey Plumley	(CP)	Swansea Council
John Sayce	(JS)	Wheelrights
Dareyoush Rassi	(DR)	Wheelrights
David Naylor	(DN)	Cycling UK
Mike Cherry	(MC)	Bikeability
Tim John	(TJ)	Sustrans

1. Matters Arising

- 1.1 JS raised point 2.1 from previous meeting regarding the Swansea Vale route width and parapet over the river and road bridge. CL advised that the width of the footway could not be extended, however the bridge parapet height would be increased, subject to funding.
- 1.2 JS raised point 4.2 from previous meeting regarding Gors Avenue parking issue. JS suggested a leaflet to raise awareness of parking. CL advised that this is an option that can be looked into.

2. Update on 2019/20 Projects

- 2.1 CL explained that Kingsbridge to Alder Way section is now complete and open. Alder Way to Gowerton Railway Station- Work due to start shortly. Cllr. ND emphasised the need to push comms teams for the opening of the event. CL advised that a formal opening of the route would be arranged once complete and possible without restrictions.
- 2.2 DN asked if a Pontarddulais Link has been proposed for 2021/22. CL stated that once cabinet has approved the 2021/22 bid and ward members are notified, details of 2021/22 schemes will be released.
- 2.3 CL raised the Townhill Northern Link (The Ravine) project, advising that the project will not be completed this financial year, but will look to be finished next financial year.
- 2.4 JS raised an issue with the width of the path outside Juniper Place encroaching on to the shared use path. CL to raise.

3. Update on 2020/21 Projects

- 3.1 CL advised that Mayals Road is on site and progressing. DR raised that due to less traffic temporary lights have not caused traffic issues. DN also discussed a lack of consultation of detailed plans.
- 3.2 DN advised of the following points:
- The problems with the Mayals Road plan could probably have been avoided if consultation with local residents and cycling organisations had been carried out at an early stage. Procedures need to be changed both to involve us early on and to allow design changes. To allow such changes it seems that the condition which ties the funding to the original design needs to be relaxed.
 - A simple solution that omits the north side hybrid track and uses the space freed up to provide satisfactory uphill off-road provision on the south side, while not meeting all the requirements, would take cyclists off the road to the advantage of both them and car drivers.
- 3.3 CL advised that Sketty Links is progressing on-site. JS added that on-site progress is good. JS also raised that a successful meeting with Alan Thomas and Clyne Valley volunteers regarding an extra 200m of tarmac path that will also now be installed.
- 3.4 CL- St Helens section between foreshore and Guildhall. The scheme links in with a Road Safety scheme which will incorporate improvements to the mini-roundabout and crossing near the Guildhall.
- 3.5 CL- Townhill Road progressing well. Cllr. ND raised a meeting that was held with Andrew James regarding traffic calming or speed mitigation on the scheme. Following the meeting a speed survey would be carried out to monitor area. JS raised a point regarding the last 20m of the scheme having street furniture on the path, including a communications box and other furniture and queried if any could be re-located. JS also raised 2 bus shelters on the route that also narrow the path size. CL to raise with engineers.

4. Future Proposals

- 4.1 CL-Pontarddulais- Pentre Road Bridge currently closed by Network Rail for upgrade works. The Council is working to secure agreement to add traffic signals enabling the construction of a crossing on the bridge.
- 4.2 Cllr. ND- Meeting was held to discuss the scope of consultation regarding Walter Road and added that Wheelrights should be included in discussions.
- 4.3 JS raised the Mumbles Sea Wall project and queried if any cycle provisions can be included in the scheme. Cllr. ND added that this path can become very

overcrowded at peak times. CL advised that a meeting was held with Mumbles Community Council recently to consider active travel provision in the area.

5. Barriers to Cycling

- 5.1 DN advised that a number of barriers on cycle routes had been provided to Swansea Council. CL thanked DN for this information and that the Council will look into the points raised in the document.

6. Active Travel Network Map 2021

- 6.1 CL explained that the Active Travel Network Map (ATNM) is due to be submitted to WG by the end of December 2021 and explained there will be a programme of different activities leading up to the formal consultation.
- 6.2 CL explained that the Commonplace webpage was not live as of 22/02/2021. Press releases are due 01/03/21 and the site will be live for 6/8 weeks. The Commonplace webpage will allow members of the public to have their say on where they would like to see walking and cycling improvements in their area. Formal public consultation will then follow this in the summer. CL explained that we are in the information gathering stage at the moment and ward members will be contacted shortly asking for community group and key stakeholder contacts.
- 6.3 DR will send out correspondence to other Wheelrights members on this. DN asked how this relates to 2021/22 schemes and how Wheelrights can help for future proposals. CL advised that this process is for future proposals going forward from 2022 onwards and Wheelrights can help by sharing the Commonplace webpage with stakeholders and contacts who would like to suggest improvements to the network.

7. AOB

- 7.1 Cllr. ND queried progress on the bike hire scheme project. CL explained that the Council was currently out to tender, which closes 05/03/2021. There was a lot of effort by the Council early on, to try to add-on and extend the Swansea University Next Bike scheme, however after much discussion this was not possible due to a number of factors. Swansea University's contract with Next Bike remains for the next two years.
- 7.2 MC raised concerns of parallel schemes and the use of Next bike across the whole of South Wales. CL advised that Swansea Council is cognisant of this, however the Council has to adhere to strict procurement rules and be able to demonstrate best value for public funds, which could unfortunately not be achieved.
- 7.3 MC added thanks for moving of barrier on Wern Fawr Road, and the improvement that this has resulted in.

7.4 The next meeting will be held on 18th May 2021 via Microsoft Teams.