

CYCLING ACTION PROGRESS GROUP

Meeting Notes – 18TH MAY 2021 – 10:30AM

Microsoft Teams Meeting Attendance:

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Councillor Nick Davies (Chair) | (Cllr. ND) | Swansea Council |
| Chloe Lewis | (CL) | 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 item 2.4 from previous minutes regarding Juniper Place. CL advised that this will be looked into.
- 1.2 Cllr. ND raised item 2.1 from previous minutes regarding the Kingsbridge Link near Gowerton train station. CL advised that Alder Way section is still in delay due to agreements between Network Rail and Transport for Wales taking considerably longer than expected.
- 1.3 DN added the need for the route between Kingsbridge and Gorseinon to be upgraded and could be included in future. CL added that there isn't any funding in place for this to take place at the moment.
- 1.4 JS raised 3.5 from previous minutes regarding the Townhill Road route and that the speed camera has been removed, but there are still a number of obstacles still on the paths. CL responded that there are still a number of items along the route that are still due to be relocated by statutory undertakers.

2. Update on 2020/21 Projects

- 2.1 CL advised that Mayals Road works ongoing.
- 2.2 ND asked for feedback on the Mayals Road scheme and for lessons learnt from the scheme. DR raised issues with a narrow section of the scheme towards the bottom of Mayals Road causing problems with lorries/buses passing.
- 2.3 CL advised that Townhill Northern Link works are progressing well on-site, with 80% of the earthworks complete. Good public perception of the scheme so far. No completion date can be provided currently.
- 2.4 CL advised that Olchfa Links is 95% complete with some minor works remaining.

2.5 CL advised that Sketty Park Links was largely complete, with some signage and lining outstanding.

3. 2021/22 Projects

3.1 CL advised that the schemes had been taken to cabinet following the award letter from Welsh Government. CL explained the three packages that were submitted for grant funding, in addition to the core allocation package.

3.2 Swansea Northern Strategic Route

| Package | Scheme | Funding Allocation |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Swansea Northern Strategic Route | Clasemont Road | Full allocation for construction. |
| | Pontarddulais Link | Partial allocation for surveys and design. |
| | Pontarddulais Public Transport Link | Partial allocation for surveys and design. |
| | Penllergaer to Gorseinon | Partial allocation for surveys and design. |
| | | TOTAL = £624,000 |

3.3 JS asked for more information on the Pontarddulais Public Transport Link. CL clarified the route would be from the Pentre Road Bridge to Tidal Reach, where there is an existing SUP adjacent to the Tesco Store.

3.4 TJ advised of Sustrans view, that they are supportive of all of the routes that have been proposed and awarded for 2021/22.

3.5 City Centre Links

| Package | Scheme | Funding Allocation |
|-------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| City Centre Links | Townhill Northern Link | Full allocation for construction. |
| | Penllergaer to Fforestfach | Partial allocation for surveys and design. |
| | | TOTAL = £702,000 |

3.6 Townhill Northern Link fully funded. Work will continue from previous year to complete the route in 2021/22.

3.7 Penllergaer to Fforestfach- Partial Funding for the scheme to develop the route further. There has been good communication with Penllergare Trust for developing the route through the woods.

3.8 Swansea Valley Links

| Package | Scheme | Funding Allocation |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Swansea Valley Links | Morrison South Link | Full allocation for construction. |
| | Jersey Road | Full allocation for construction. |
| | Upper Forest Way | Partial allocation for surveys and design. |
| | Morrison North Link | Partial allocation for surveys and design. |
| | | TOTAL = £801,000 |

- 3.9 Full funding allocation for Morriston South Link and Jersey Road. Morriston South Link will improve an existing link, and create new section through Morriston to improve connectivity.
- 3.10 Jersey Road Link will facilitate local journeys on this link to improve first and last mile travel for the adjacent community to the existing network.
- 3.11 JS- Morriston North Link- Expressed concerns for the demand for this route, and suggested that the route should be the other side of the river to link up to the footbridge that goes over the motorway. CL added the INM uses the alignment proposed, however the route and alignment with partial funding will be further developed.
- 3.12 Cllr. ND enquired about Cockett Road onward route options as the road is especially busy and the topography is challenging. CL advised that Carmarthen Road scheme under the Local Transport Fund was proposed, but was not awarded funding for this financial year. This project proposed a much wider approach to Carmarthen Road, which would consider options for improvements to both public transport and active travel along the corridor.
- 3.13 Core Allocation- CL provided a breakdown of the core allocation awarded to Swansea for £1,197,000, as below.

| Package | Scheme | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Core Allocation | Active Travel Network Map Development | Feasibility, design and minor works projects. |
| | Minor Works Programming from Active Travel Network Map Consultations | |
| | Cycle Counters | |
| | Walter Road and Sketty Road | |
| | DVLA to Morriston Hospital | |
| | Pont Y Cob Road | |
| | Clyne Common | |
| | NCN43 Ynysallan Road and Parc Brynheulog | |
| | NCN 43 Swansea Canal | |
| | Cwm Level Road to Clase | |
| | Mumbles Community Links | |
| | Bridge Amendments | |
| | Gors Avenue Improvements | |
| | Cycle Hub Development | |
| | Dropped Crossing Improvements | |
| | Blackpill Bridge | |
| | Bridge Parapet Adjustments | |
| TOTAL = £1,197,000 | | |

- 3.14 Active Travel Network Map Development - Fully funded to allow further development and consultation prior to the December deadline for submission to Welsh Government.
- 3.15 The Minor Works Programming will allow for issues raised / identified during public consultation to be compiled into a programme of improvements for delivery in the next financial year, subject to funding.

- 3.16 Cycle counters- Funding to add to the existing 12 counters that are currently installed across the network.
- 3.17 Walter Road and Sketty Road- Funding to continue design, engagement and consultation.
- 3.18 DVLA to Morrision Hospital- Continued development of proposed route linking from Clasemont Road to Morrision Hospital. Work ongoing with the developer of the site to provide the link.
- 3.19 Pont Y Cob Road – Continued feasibility and work on possible alignment.
- 3.20 Clyne Common – Will be taken forward under Active Travel Fund. Design and feasibility ongoing.
- 3.21 NCN 43 Ynysallan Road- Minor works project to improve surface under the motorway bridge, and to develop options for the alignment of a route connecting to Parc Brynheulog from NCN 43.
- 3.22 NCN 43 Swansea Canal – Work with Canal and River Trust to agree design of route improvements, in-line with Neath Port Talbot improvements made in the past year.
- 3.23 Cwm Level Road to Clase – Feasibility of route to Parc Llewellyn and onwards towards Clase.
- 3.24 Mumbles Community Links- Continued feasibility of potential routes into the residential areas of Mumbles.
- 3.25 Bridge Amendments – Plasmarl to Beaufort Road – Feasibility of replacement of stepped deck to a ramp, and creation of a small section to link on to NCN 43.
- 3.26 Gors Avenue- Funding for improvements that have been identified.
- 3.27 Cycle Hub Development- Cycle hub in the city centre for secure bike parking.
- 3.28 Blackpill Bridge- Funding to continue development of proposed bridge crossing in this area. Move forward with detailed design and consultation.
- 3.29 Bridge Parapet Adjustment – Funding to increase the bridge parapet height along the Swansea Vale route in Morrision.
- 3.30 DR enquired as to how core allocation is allocated. CL explained that the funding is based upon population, but all schemes still have to be submitted and approved.

4. Active Travel Network Map 2021

- 4.1 CL advised that the initial engagement held on Commonplace had now closed and that the draft map is being developed further, taking into consideration the comments received from members of the public. The draft map will be subject to formal public consultation later in the year.
- 4.2 DN advised that Wheelrights have an active travel routes page on their website with 4 maps that they wish to see included within the ATNM. CL encouraged all to send any routes or maps to the project team for inclusion.

5. E-Bike Hire Scheme – John Sayce

- 5.1 JS asked for an update on the e-bike scheme. CL explained that we had gone out to tender for the cycle hire scheme. Unfortunately timescales meant that the scheme was undeliverable during the previous financial year. Work is ongoing and requests made to Welsh Government for funding to deliver the scheme.
- 5.2 MC asked if the scheme is being frozen and not extended currently. CL explained that is correct from a Council perspective, however there is nothing to stop Swansea University from expanding their scheme if they wish to. MC asked if there is still a possibility, if Swansea University wishes to extend the scheme further, could the council assist with planning etc. CL advised that we would not fund any further extensions to the scheme currently, but the Council would support with planning etc., where possible.
- 5.3 JS asked about an update with the e-cargo bike scheme. TJ explained that two years of funding has been secured from the Welsh Government, and would be coordinated by Sustrans. One e-cargo bike scheme in Swansea and further e-bike hire schemes in Rhyl and Barry. These schemes are about giving people the opportunity to use e-bikes. E-cargo hire to businesses in Swansea and e-bikes for residents. The scheme is still being developed but may work on a monthly hire basis. Bikes have been purchased and could start within the next month.
- 5.4 MC added that people should be trained with e-bikes and cargo bikes and Bikeability can assist with training.

6. Follow Up and Evaluation of SUPs- John Sayce

- 6.1 JS- Following construction of new routes, the need for contacting residents to give them information on what the path is for and why they should not park on it, and advised that Wheelrights would like to help with this.

7. Wheelrights Priority Routes – John Sayce

7.1 JS pleased that prioritised routes had been taken forward, however a lack of routes in the Penlan and Manselton area taken forward. CL advised that routes in this area have been identified as progressing in conjunction with Carmarthen Road, which was unfortunately not funded.

7.2 DN discussed an alternative to NCN4 along Fabian Way on Langdon Road, which Wheelrights are supportive of.

8. Baldwins Bridge

8.1 CL updated that a bid was submitted to Welsh Government, including the provision of active travel along the route, but was not awarded funding by Welsh Government for this financial year. The scheme is still progressing, with funding received for further land acquisition earlier this year.

9. Uplands School Cycle Routes - Cllr. Nick Davies

9.1 Cllr. ND advised that a number of parents are campaigning for cycle storage at Brynmill Primary School and Bryn Y Mor Primary School, as well as provision of a cycle route from Gwydr Square to the primary schools. ND asked if this can be considered in the next round of applications for funding. CL advised that this is something that we can look at.

10. AOB

10.1 No other business.

11. Date of Next Meeting

11.1 Tuesday 28th September 2021 at 10:30am via Microsoft Teams.