

Wheelrights Meeting

Notes of meeting on 8th February 2022

In the Environment Centre, Pier Street, Swansea SA1 1RY (and on Zoom).

Present: Physically: Suzanne Bevan (SB), Dennis Dwyer (DW), Jeff Green (JG), David Judd (DJ), Nick Guy (NG), Sue Maw (SM), David Naylor (DN), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), John Sayce (JS).

Via Zoom: Dawn Aplin (DA), Sarah Bennett? (SB) Eifion Frances (EF), Barry Norris (BN), Isobel Norris (IN), Hamish Osborn (HO), Chris Walsh (CW).

The meeting comprised a presentation by Teresa Ciano, CEO of *Go Safe*, entitled:
“Partnership Approach to cycle safety in Wales”

It was chaired by JS who having welcomed all introduced the speaker.

The Presentation:

Teresa made the following key points:

GO Safe’s strategy is to make Welsh roads safer through Engineering, Education and Enforcement. They aim to continually reduce accidents with the ultimate goal of no fatalities. To achieve this they work with the police, Local Authorities and the Welsh Government.

Measures include speed enforcement by means of average and spot speed cameras together with mobile speed checks using vans and bikes.

She referred to ‘Operation SNAP’ which is a streamlined process for dealing with police reports of driving offences. She noted that evidence from cyclist’s head cameras and dashboard cameras was taken into account, provided it was corroborated.

With the increase in active travel she noted the importance of Bikeability training for cyclists and of the new Highway Code with its ‘Hierarchy of Responsibility’ whereby the duty of care falls on the more powerful road user, so that motorists must give way to cyclists and cyclists to pedestrians.

A question and answer session followed the talk. This covered safety education, schools, 20 mph zones, highway design and misrepresentation of the new Highway Code by the media.

JS thanked Teresa for her talk and closed the meeting.

Notes prepared by
David Naylor