

## Notes of meeting of the Test Valley Bicycle User Group Crosfield Hall, Romsey at 3.00pm on 26th April 2018

**Present:** Michael Ward  
 Jim Probert  
 Natalie Martin  
 Nik Daas  
 Simon Keirby  
 Janet Coppeland  
 John Heath  
 Ann Moore  
 Rich House  
 David Laurie  
 Vivien Messenger (TVBC)

**Apologies:** Angela Rackham  
 Eleanor Vamplew  
 Ali Baker

		<b>Action</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>VM welcomed those attending and introductions were given around the table.</li> </ul>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of previous meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The notes of the previous meeting were circulated.            A draft copy of the note of this meeting will be circulated to those attending to comment on prior to being posted on the website.</li> <li>With regard to the items relating to cyclists being consulted on new cycle schemes VM had spoken to officers at Hampshire County Council about this. Where cycle routes have been included as part of the planning application members of the public have had an opportunity to comment at that stage, although it is appreciated that this may be some years in advance of the scheme being implemented. Later in the process it can be more difficult because often alterations are due to technical reasons. Adding another process of public consultation could delay the implementation of schemes given it takes time to send out then assess and respond to any responses.</li> <li>MW felt that they could consult quickly given the use of email and he felt that this would result in better schemes in the long run. As an example he said the sharp right hand turns where cycle routes join back into the carriageway are not suitable for use by cyclists. VM suggested that if there were generic elements of schemes which anyone in the group felt were not suitable for inclusion within cycle schemes they could write directly to HCC to let them know. This could be done using the contact email address on HCC website:   <a href="https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/contact/commentsandcomplaints">https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/contact/commentsandcomplaints</a></li> </ul>	<b>VM</b>

	<p>The group felt that there was still a need for them to be consulted during the process of schemes being drawn up to ensure they meet cyclists' needs and money is not wasted and requested VM to pass this on. The group also discussed having a set of cycle related principles for new developments and cycle schemes for Hampshire County Council to follow, consulting if these were not being applied for any reason. There are documents already published with some of these principles so they could be borrowed from elsewhere.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VM had checked the width of the right hand turn into Middlebridge Street which at its narrowest point is 150cm which should be wide enough for most tricycles.</li> </ul>	<p><b>VM</b></p>
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Romsey Future</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After winning the bid for money to provide new cycle parking the Romsey Future Walking Cycling and Public Transport Group selected several sites for this to be located. This has now largely been implemented with two new stands by the café in Memorial Park, two by the park entrance, one at junction of Latimer Street and The Hundred and two on the wall at Viney Avenue shops. The two at Woodley local shops will be provided shortly once the new contractor has been appointed to complete the scheme underway in that area. Some additional cycle parking in the town centre will be provided in the new scheme in Bell Street shortly and in Market Place in 2019.</li> <li>• The Romsey Future Group has also been assisting with the preparation of a walking and cycling map for Romsey.</li> <li>• There is a website ( <a href="http://romseycyclehub.weebly.com">http://romseycyclehub.weebly.com</a> ) that has been set up by RH which helped to identify the local priorities for cycle parking and is requesting any suggestions for new or improved cycle routes in the area as well. VM said information on the website would help to inform the next cycle strategy currently being prepared and will help to ensure more people can have their views on cycling in the local area taken into account.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Progress report on cycle routes and cycling promotion</b></p> <p><b><u>Cycle routes</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Along Canal Walk a new shared use cycle route has been put in between New Road and Fishlake Meadows. AM said the surfacing and widening was good.</li> <li>• Cycle route around Abbotswood now completely open but has not yet been adopted by HCC.</li> <li>• New cycle route is being implemented on Ganger Farm development to lead from Braishfield Road to Hillier's Arboretum and the new playing fields. The intention is to widen the existing footway along Braishfield Road to link to this</li> </ul>	

route from the shared pedestrian/cycleways in Abbotswood.

- There will be a link provided from the new development at Silverwood Rise which will in time connect with Winchester Road by the bus stop close to Halterworth Lane. It was considered that this would be a useful option for cyclists.
- EV had enquired in advance of meeting about the progress on the Firgrove Road to Castle Lane section of cycle route in North Baddesley. Hampshire County Council have now completed the ecology studies for the route but there are further risks and issues related to the scheme which they are looking into.
- Initial feasibility has been carried out on the route around the B and Q roundabout in Nursling and along Test Lane. JH raised concern about the visibility of cyclists as they pass in front of the entrance to B&Q and suggested narrowing/angling the bell mouth differently and/or putting in an island. RH and MW said it would be beneficial if cyclists could be consulted on new schemes, even by email, to ensure they are suitable and other members of the group agreed.
- AM said there is a need for a cycle route up Pouncefoot Hill which is dangerous for cyclists. There had been a recent car accident near here and so should be looking again at this area. VM stated that this route was in the Cycle Strategy but currently there are insufficient funds to implement it. NM said she could send AM a link to a map of sustrans routes in the area.
- JC expressed concern that in the new Market Place scheme cyclists would cut across the new paved area for pedestrians. VM said this would be discouraged by the layout and cycle parking would be provided so that cyclists could park and then walk. JC considered more should be done to educate secondary school children not to cycle in inappropriate areas and to respect pedestrians. Some routes such as those along main roads may be suitable for shared use whilst others with sharp, blind corners in residential areas are not safe for shared use.
- NM enquired about use of new traffic lights in Romsey at junctions instead of roundabouts. VM explained junction layouts associated with new developments were determined following Transport Assessments and based on predicted traffic requirements at those junctions. Group said that advanced stop lines for cyclists should be provided at traffic lights. VM said there was not always sufficient road width for these to be incorporated in the design. The group said they would prefer to see designs for these junctions in advance.
- JP said he would like the NCN route provided along the Canal, north through the nature reserve because both Cupernham Lane and A3057 are unsafe for cyclists. DL said some improvements to the route through the nature reserve are being planned as far as the footpath that links to Cupernham Lane. VM said a cycle route is also being provided linking through the new development at Oxlease to Cupernham Lane.

VM

NM

**Cycle promotion**

- There is a new cycling event to be held on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> July in Andover this year. It will consist of a 15 mile family ride or 62 mile challenge around Test Valley. The start and finish will be in Andover High Street and they will precede a closed road race for elite cyclists in the afternoon. The group wondered whether it may be possible to hold similar events in Romsey in future.  
<https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/events/details/172888/Andover-Town-Cycling-Festival-Sportive>
- There is an event in Romsey on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018, 'Between the Parks' . This is a 100km ride starting from Woodley in Romsey exploring the quiet lanes between the South Downs and New Forest National Parks organised by Southampton and Romsey etc.  
<http://www.aukweb.net/events/detail/16-247/>
- NM said there is also a Southampton 'lets ride' event on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> June (11-3pm) There will be 6km of traffic free route from Guildhall Square and other cycle related events  
<https://www.letsride.co.uk/events/southampton>

Post meeting note : AB was unable to attend the meeting but afterwards provided details of a 50km leveret on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2018 starting in Romsey. Details and entry forms can be found at ;

[https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=9IPt2rj8zH6sS4feu6AYujAilH3-SV-n\\_Fn9RvRsrw&s=200&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2ecyclinguk%2eorg%2fevent%2fleveret-50-km-2018](https://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=6600&d=9IPt2rj8zH6sS4feu6AYujAilH3-SV-n_Fn9RvRsrw&s=200&u=https%3a%2f%2fwww%2ecyclinguk%2eorg%2fevent%2fleveret-50-km-2018)

## 5 Update on cycle Strategy Documents

- The Dft had published a Call for Evidence on ways to make walking and cycling safer while supporting the government's ambition to increase walking and cycling. The consultation is open until 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018 and can be found on the dft website at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/cycling-and-walking-investment-strategy-cwis-safety-review/cycling-and-walking-investment-strategy-safety-review-call-for-evidence>

MW said the ctc had responded to the call for evidence .

- VM is working on an update to the Current Cycle Strategy and Network SPD adopted in 2015, taking into account the government guidance on preparing walking and cycling Infrastructure Investment Plans. Work has been done preparing some evidence to support the routes proposed. MW suggested that further evidence on the need for some routes could be provided from groups who lead rides indicating the numbers of cyclists who are using certain routes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With regard to future funding of cycle schemes VM explained that whilst money from 106 agreements had been the main way of funding these for some time, TVBC has adopted the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and after 1<sup>st</sup> April this year it could be possible to bid for funding for new cycle routes from the money collected under CIL. The bids are currently open until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018. There is detailed information in relation to this on TVBC website.</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/cil/bidding-for-cil-funds">http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/planning-and-building/cil/bidding-for-cil-funds</a></p> <p>VM said it would be useful to have some information from the group regarding the routes that they consider to be a priority for implementation both in relation to CIL bids but also for input to the Local Walking and Cycling Investment Plan (LCWIP) being prepared.</p> <p>The group discussed various ways in which it may be possible to consult with the public on the LCWIP and it was felt that it should be made easy for busy people to quickly give their views using social media. VM said the aim would be to consult widely using a variety of methods and the Romsey cycle hub website was currently assisting with this.</p> <p>ND said Romsey Voices had campaigned for the crossing at Duttons Road and suggested a petition as one way to collect views – it was also suggested that surveys would be useful to get views. VM suggested the Romsey Future group may be a useful forum to arrange a survey of priority routes local people would like and a way to reach a larger number of people and she will talk to the group. The Romsey News and Information facebook group has over 8000 members and posts on this would reach a large number of people.</p> <p>Post meeting note – A survey is being undertaken on the Romsey Cycle Hub website to provide information on which cycle routes should be progressed as a priority.</p>	VM
6	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JH said the timings on one of the traffic lights at Brownhill Way M271 roundabout had been adjusted and is better but one is still too long and another button is not working.</li> <li>NM expressed concern about the timings on the Alma Road traffic lights too and that the traffic lights by the railway station on Alma Road have no audible signal for visually impaired to help them cross the road.</li> <li>JH said a section of the footway, (by the field entrance), on Southampton Road opposite the wall of Broadlands Estate has a sunken section. This would be a matter of maintenance by HCC and can be reported on their website at : <a href="https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance">https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/roadmaintenance</a></li> </ul> <p>He was also concerned about flooding under the motorway bridge in Station Road south of Lee and felt that the ‘temporary’ build outs in Lee Lane should be removed because they had been in place for a few years now.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>JC felt the time for pedestrians to cross at controlled crossings is too short and the green time should be extended to reassure vulnerable pedestrians in particular. She also stated that there should be no cycling on paths within</li> </ul>	VM  VM

	<p>Woodley.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SK expressed concern at the amount of traffic using Woodley Lane. He said the traffic calming is facing the wrong way and not reducing traffic speeds. Would like to see 20mph speed limit in the area.</li> <li>• JP suggested the route along Southampton Road should be a priority and MW also suggested the route around the B&amp;Q roundabout.</li> <li>• The group felt that more could be done to consult with local cycle groups using emails and cycle websites to get feedback from cyclists who will be using the routes prior to them being finalised and implemented. It was felt this would reduce any adverse elements in new schemes being implemented which may later require alteration.</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next northern BUG meeting will be held in Andover (venue to be confirmed nearer the date) at 6.30pm on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018.</li> <li>• The next Southern BUG meeting will be held in Crosfield Hall Annex in Romsey at 3.00pm on Thursday 4th April 2019.</li> </ul>	VM