

CycleWight Committee, 16 September 2026 Clatterford Rd & Zoom

Present: Peter Dyer(PD), Alex Lawson (AL), Mike Marlow (MM), Stella Peterson (SP), Malcolm Ross (MR), Tim Thorne (TT), George Wilks (GW),
Apologies: Claire Franklin (CF), Helen Jones (HJ), Matt Whitaker (MWh) Mick Watts (MWa)

1. CycleWight AGM

NATALIE MARTIN of the Walk Wheel & Cycle Trust is the speaker. The meeting is on Friday 25 September commencing at 8pm, at the Unity Hall 20 ST Thomas' Square, Newport, PO30 1SG. The speaker has arranged to meet IWC officers during the day, timing to be confirmed. TT is liaising with her to meet up and to ensure she catches the ferry at 10 pm. GW & PD will meet her & hope to show her some local cycle routes. Walk Wheel & Cycle Ranger, Tig, is keen to meet her. A meal along with CycleWight committee members will be arranged (TT). Please course meet at Unity Hall at 5.30 to get the room ready.

VGL has the key and has been briefed about the hall rules which include locking the downstairs entrance during the meeting and caring for the hall floor. WiFi code will be obtained.

Projector & PA to be set up along with live streaming if possible (MR & MW). Raffle to be arranged (MM) and prizes are kindly requested. Interval refreshments will be provided (VGL). *****members & committee*****

2. Island Green Link

The August Briefing set out the situation as seen by CycleWight. It was noted that completion by April 2028 must be hit as this is the deadline to spend the Department for Transport grant. It is possible that this deadline will be missed given the current rate of progress. TT and HJ have written to the council to express our concern. This letter and any replies will be circulated to the committee,

TT has cycled the new cycle path from Belmont Lane to Wootton, which is built to an excellent standard. Two things are disappointing: there are Cyclist Dismount blue (advisory) signs at every junction. And the direction signs to Ryde & Newport at Belmont Lane and at the crematorium are misleading. CycleWight wrote to raise these points. The reply that was received said there is no controlled crossing at each junction so the Highways team believe these are important from a safety perspective, as without them people may ride out into live traffic.

With regards the NCN22 signs, specifically the Belmont Lane end of that section is a Footpath, and which means no cycling, hence the signs on the new gate and the lack of change with the finger post sign. There was some discussion with the land owner to officially designate it as a bridleway however they are reluctant, but have said they are comfortable with cyclist using their access road up to the bridge for the time being while we continue to work on a solution for the rest of the path towards Newport.

3. A3056

Regarding the speed limits at the Fighting Cocks Crossroads PD & HJ attended a further meeting with project manager Claire Buxton & IWC Transport Strategy officer KR. It seems the hoped for ETRO has not been progressed. PD added that CycleWight has pushed for barriers to be removed, for speed humps to be

removed, for safety signs to be installed and for reduced speed limits, but not one success has been scored.

TT has discussed the 50mph speed limit at this section with Ken Fry who has a lot of experience of highways. He provided reasons why the speed limit would be seen as appropriate by some. However PD argued that the whole environment has changed with retail businesses in the area as well as at the junction. Vulnerable users could include people who use mobility scooters: Southern Vectis makes an effort to cater for these passengers who may need to cross to access the local businesses. The stopping distance of a vehicle at 40mph is 30% less than at 50 mph which gives you a better chance of survival in a collision. Further discussion by the committee supported the push for an experimental Traffic Regulation Order as the way forward, although it may be opposed by Island Roads.

4. Merstone Horringford Cycle Path:

TT noted that Cllr James Whelan, the Reform UK leader at County Hall, has spoken of rebuilding confidence and trust between the IWC and Island Roads. Should we write to him with our materials about Merstone to Horringford? PD suggested that we do write and to Cllr Jonathan Bacon and others. PD will draft a letter and send to TT.

5. AOB

There are to be Active Travel England **webinars regarding the new guidelines for rural routes**, to be attended by IWC officers and others. HJ has signed up for a session. TT will share link.

Island Roads have a customer survey, which can be completed until the end of September, but sadly not for cycling customers. **<https://islandroads.com/home/customer-survey-2026/>**

SP is irritated about the anti-cyclist attitude of some motorists who are unaware that road tax was abolished in 1937. PD said he has noticed a lot more pro-cyclist pushback on social media. Many cyclists pay lots of tax anyway. **Should we make this a campaign issue?**

MR: Attrill's Lane, St Helens to Whitefield Woods to East Ashey is an important linking road for cyclists but the surface is loose gravel making it dangerous. This and other routes could easily be made a lot bit better, and maybe we should make this a campaign issue. TT said we could ask PROW what issues might prevent this.

PD asked about speed humps on Birchmore Lane. If not privately owned then IWC could progress this. *****TT to ask PROW*****

PD: St Mary's Hospital bike parking? Chase for an update. ****TT /GW to contact member****

GW Where is the new Island Transport plan? TT thinks it is available to be formally accepted.

SP How many members does CycleWight have? TT said we have about 120 members paying annually or having paid life membership. Also around 40 honorary members who are cycle traders/ appropriate council officers/ media outlets. So a total of about 160. There are various cycling groups on the island and a lot of

approval for CycleWight but not many people come to CycleWight rides. PD said there are around 1500 on Facebook and we should build on that.

Next Meeting: AGM 25/9/2026