

CycleWight Committee, 23 October 2024 Clatterford Rd & Zoom

Present: Claire Franklin (CF), Mike Marlow (MM), Malcolm Ross (MR), Tim Thorne (TT), Alex Lawson (AL) George Wilks (GW), Alan Bennett (AB), Apologies: Peter Dyer(PD), Matt Whittaker (MattW),

1. Topics for meeting with Joe Robertson MP

Joe Robertson MP has agreed to meet CycleWight on Friday 25 October. Clare Franklin is organising and will do minutes. She will let him know our list of questions. In the context of the new government the active travel budget is uncertain, and answers to some of these issues may be uncertain.

- The general condition of the IW cycle-paths/ infrastructure, maintenance and the issue between IR & the IWC.
- Delay in funding for the WestWight Greenway project.
- How MP's could help by being more vocal and endorsing the benefits of Active Travel.
- LCWIP's and planning.
- How Active Travel could be promoted more within the IW NHS, GP medical centres and pharmacies.
- LTN 1/20 needs to be more than guidance (is legally stronger) and that developers are not allowed to build walking and cycling infrastructure but pay for it to be built by Local/National govt to ensure it is of a high standard instead of being cheap or 'running' out of money: the houses/shops etc.. are built but infrastructure is not.
- Station house Brading
- Hospital Car Parking.

2. Isle Access Conference 8 November

Isle Access are staging a conference to promote cycling as a solution for people with disabilities. CycleWight has been asked to make a presentation. TT will do this (unless there is another volunteer). <https://isleaccess.co.uk/>

3. CycleWight AGM 2024

The CycleWight AGM was held at Newport Minster on Friday 11 October with Laura Laker as guest speaker about the cycling network. About 50 attended with about 8 on zoom. The speaker was enjoyed (although there were some sound problems particularly on Zoom). Presentations for Isle Access by Steve Wright and Keert by Matthew Whitaker were given. The minster was an excellent location making it possible to bring bikes inside have stalls including Medina Books. However the fees were £60-70 and they also provided refreshments which previously was a source of income. On the other hand the raffle raised about £50 and there were a couple of new members.

CF noted that she is unable to attend evening events in person. She could not hear well on zoom. MR acknowledged problems with the mic & said the feed into Zoom needs to be improved next year. AB said the camera angle could be better and lapel mics could help.

Copies of Potholes and Pavements by Laura Laker were sold by Medina Books. Laura was shown the local cycle network by HJ, and this included the Undercliff route. Also present were Cycle and Recycle, Potting Shed Cartoons, and Isle Access.

Arising from the guest speaker subject the committee discussed if CycleWight could organise teams to improve our network. For example in the Fairlee area could we widen the track by digging the grass back? MR suggested that in the Merstone to Horryford stretch we could try rolling a tarmac surface on a short section. TT wondered what are the legal implications of such volunteer efforts? AL said this question was addressed in the August/September *CYCLE* under the heading Cycle Path Maintenance. This deals with inspection regimes which are regulated under the Highways Act 1980. It also says that 1.5m (4.9 ft) is the minimum for cycle tracks under LTN 1/20 and 3m for shared use under LTN 1/12. *Cycle2408CyclePathMaintenance.jpg*. CF said we should seek the views of Cycling UK. ***Follow up TT/Committee***

4. Sunshine Trail signage

TT reported that ROW have these redundant signs which are available to anyone who wishes. They must not be on display where they might cause confusion to the public. Contact TT, AL or Jennine Gardner.

5. Hospital Car Parking Charges

TT said the increased car parking charges at St Mary's Hospital have created a furore. In particular they penalise staff who might normally cycle to work may need to drive when circumstances apply. TT has been involved in correspondence and CycleWight is invited by the Deputy Director of Estates to a meeting scheduled on 19 November. TT added that the Southern Vectis route was changed to Asda premises, so this could be done for St Mary's.

6. Kiddical Mass Ride:

Locations for a future Kiddical Mass ride were discussed and suggestions included Cowes, Whitepit Road in Newport, MR said a start in Taylor Road, Gunville would work. TT likes the Home Bargains area as a start. CF said Christmas would not be a good time to hold a Kiddical Mass, but it was decided to plan for a ride between Christmas & New Year.

7. Dogs on Leads.

CF Proposal to keep dogs on leads on cycle track is probably right. MM said dogs should be kept on a lead which should be short. AL said ownership of tracks varied and different rules could apply. Note the consultation ends on 27 November.

[uk/news/consultation-launched-on-plans-to-renew-pspos-dog-controls/](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk/news/consultation-launched-on-plans-to-renew-pspos-dog-controls/)

8. AOB

Cycle Festival. Matt

Biosphere round up. George, Matt

THINK BIKE signs & Road Safety: PD submitted apologies but progress continues.

Overgrown Entrances: Ongoing.

Barriers on Cycle Tracks: Ongoing.

Rookley A37 Bridleway upgrade: Ongoing.

Next Meeting: 20 November 2024