

CycleWight Committee, 24 September 2025 Clatterford Rd & Zoom

Present: Claire Franklin (CF), Helen Jones (HJ), Malcolm Ross (MR), Tim Thorne (TT), Mick Watts (MickW), George Wilks (GW), Stella Peterson (SP)

Apologies: Peter Dyer(PD), Neil Oliver (NO), Matt Whitaker (MattW), Alex Lawson (AL)

1. CycleWight AGM 2025.

This will be on **Friday 3 October at 7pm at Caffè Isola, St James St PO30 1LG**. Our invitation to speak has been accepted by **Peter Fellows** who is IWC Project Leader for the Green Link project. There will also be an online presentation by **Mark Philpotts**, who is a highway design consultant. TT has sent a personal invitation to councillors, and a further reminder to members will be sent next week. ****TT****.

The event will be streamed online. Kit needed includes radio mics & lapel mics, screen, amp & speakers, internet connection. It is hoped to try a sound check in advance. This will be managed by ***** MR & MattW*****. The meeting format was discussed. Prizes are requested from members, some have been offered by Love Running and Grazed Knee Cider and we will seek prizes from other bike shop owners which will be thanked on web site ****AB****. Raffle to be run by ****MM****. TT open to any other suggestions. ****All****

It was decided to arrange a meal prior to the AGM as previous years. Contact Tim soon. ***All***.

2. Island Transport Plan

Suggestions for our comments. We should push for Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, more commitment to 20mph limits and a strategic cross-island network. Also excessive traffic noise should be tackled. TT commented that the phrase Healthy Streets has been adopted rather than Low Traffic Neighbourhoods which appears to be politically contentious. TT liked the phrase 'Car as guests'. Another phrase which gaining favour is Liveable Neighbourhoods.

There was general agreement that vehicle noise especially from motor bikes and 'kit' cars is out of control and is harmful for people. TT suggested noisy cars & bikes should be banned from National Landscape areas and speed reduced to 40mph. SP suggested tyre noise is a factor. AB said the road surface can make tyres noisy or quiet.

Discussing safety and speed limits, TT & HJ noted that lower speeds in Wales have cut accidents which has repaid the high installation costs. Also there have been lower insurance renewal cost for motorists. SP said kit was available locally to monitor speeds and gather information which could be used to inform policy. She added that the good sections of cycle route do not connect well together. Often horrific junctions have to be negotiated. Can CycleWight borrow from the Ramblers gaps & links idea? TT said the issue in some cases is land ownership when seeking a strategic network.

Discussing the Ramblers TT said he will let them know our response to the consultation. We will decide this later, post AGM.

<https://www.iow.gov.uk/transport-and-parking/transport/transport-policy/consultations-on-island-transport/> **The closing date for comment is 24 November 2025.**

3. Bathingbourne Lane speed limit

The Bathingbourne Lane/Watery Lane junction carries the round the Island route across the A3056 which carries a lot of high speed traffic. The recently announced speed restriction at Branstone nearby could have been extended to make the junction safer for cyclists (see previous minutes). HJ wrote to the IWC to query the policy but has not had a reply. A review of island speed limits has been carried out: does this consider the round the island route? HJ would like CycleWight to have a policy on speed limits, which would set out a 30mph speed limit for the Round the Island route and for the junctions which it crosses. Keep on agenda. ****TT****

(Post-meeting note: Bathingbourne Lane is not mentioned in the review – see link above.) (HJ has now received the Fol request re Bathingbourne Lane junction. Post on our website?)

4. Letter to Council

- Why badger signs erected but “Think Bikes” signs not erected ?
- £300k Active Travel funding: How to be spent ?
- Birchmore Lane four humps to be removed as a safety issue
- CycleWight list of barriers to be removed
- What money is allocated to improve Island Harbour to East Cowes, part of Medina Greenway.
- Route 23 surface Horringford – Merstone (Subject to a further report HJ & GW)

These issues were set out in last minutes. Contact by TT and PD with the Transport Officer Kayleigh Richter is ongoing. Meeting now arranged. TT will invite to the CycleWight AGM,

****TT & PD****

5. Smallbrook Junction accident

At the Smallbrook roundabout on 9 August 2025 a car was in collision with a bicycle (see previous minutes). CycleWight has issued a press release to point out that we had specifically warned the IWC that the junction was dangerous to cyclists on the round the Island route. We are waiting to hear more. MR added that an elderly cyclist died of his injuries having been knocked down near the Hovercraft terminal on Ryde Esplanade. Keep on agenda. ****TT****

6. Display Materials including map

Updating the display material and the map in particular was discussed at our last meeting. TT has since discussed with Visit IoW. They are keen to follow up and they have an Isle of Wight Walking map and an Isle of Wight Cycling map which they will send and TT will circulate to committee. A CycleWight sub-group should look at this to come up with material for display and distribution by Easter 2026. TT asks for those interested to contact him. MR queried the copyright on maps. TT said we were granted ownership by the council in 2012 as well as the intellectual property. We hold the compute data on file. To be pursued. ****All/TT****

7. Local Access Forum

Helen Jones will take over as CycleWight representative to the Local Access Forum. This is held by the Public Rights of Way section of the IWC, and the next meeting is on 8 October.

It was pointed out at the previous LAF meeting that frequent roadworks on the Isle of Wight lead to traffic diversions onto rural roads unsuitable to the consequent high volume. For the safety of road users a temporary reduced speed limit should be imposed on the diversions. This possibility will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

<https://www.iow.gov.uk/libraries-leisure-and-heritage/public-rights-of-way/local-access-forum/laf-meetings/>

8. Stag Lane Bridge Closure

On the Cowes Newport Cycletrack the Dodnor Bridge “Cement Mills Viaduct” is closed for redecking which entails a diversion onto Newport Road (see previous minutes). CycleWight were notified in advance of the closure which could be for up to seven weeks. However it was closed without warning the week before scheduled date. TT has asked for the schedule of work to be provided as the road closure notice does not seem to be sufficient. This will be followed up as Island Roads have a history of poor notification and diversion signage. *****TT*****

9. AOB

GW: With respect to the ITP consultation should we update the CycleWight Cycling Strategy ? document which CycleWight produced in 2017 and which the IWC adopted as part of its strategy. TT said that People Powered have submitted a document which Martin Gibson thinks would meet the current requirements. It was said that we should ask to see their submission then consider our way forward – to be continued. ****GW****

HJ: There is a planning application regarding further development at Rookley. It refers to a cycling link alongside the development. CycleWight has sourced a preliminary report on the A37 bridleway surfacing and has been informed of previous S106 money for the area. We should ask that planning add further demand on this new development.

Next Meeting: AGM 3 Oct 2025