

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Held at Fennel Cottage, Harkstead, at 10.30am, on Monday 23rd September 2013

Present: Mike Crouch, Cathy Crouch, Tony Gould, Giles Goyder, Jane Goyder, Mike Havard and Sally Williams

1. Apologies:

Rosie Kirkup, Karla Powell.

2. Community path – Ipswich to Freston section:

a) Meeting with BDC and SCC

MC reported on the meeting that had taken place with officers from Babergh District Council and Suffolk County Council, plus County Councillor David Wood, and Sustrans representative Anthony Wright, on 2nd July 2013.

- BDC has confirmed what will be required for the planning application for those parts of the path needing pp. Whilst not an unreasonable list, it will nevertheless entail a considerable amount of work to prepare all the necessary drawings, details, sections etc. It was also confirmed that an Environmental Impact Assessment will **not** be required.
- SCC stated that they would have liked to be in a position to help, but because of public sector cuts there are far fewer staff in the Highways department, and all their design work has now been contracted out.
- BDC suggested contacting Suffolk ProHelp, which offers free professional help to the voluntary sector.

b) Meeting with Martin Williams:

MC and MH met with Martin Williams, from SCC's Rights of Way Department, and walked the route from the B1456 up towards Suffolk Foodhall, then along the footpath to the bottom of Freston Hill, and up the verge and footway to the top of the hill.

MW advised that for the section of fenced footpath from the Foodhall access road to Redgate Lane, SPCC should seek a licence for cycle usage for an agreed period of years. Suitable surfacing, eg footpath hoggin, also needs to be agreed.

The footpath from Redgate Lane to Freston Hill had just been ploughed, and would be impossible to cycle in this state. Using the field boundary furthest from the river was also ruled out as impractical. In the light of earlier discussions, as reported in the minutes dated 29.4.13, the path may have to use the B1456 over this short section.

In the light of the above information MC will:-

- contact Suffolk ProHelp.
- contact the Paul Family to agree the surfacing for the footpath in front of Suffolk Foodhall, and double-check that the Stewardship agreement on the field south of Redgate Lane remains the same.
- seek confirmation from Oyster Properties that they own the flood defence wall adjacent to the boat storage area.
- contact the environment agency regarding the siting and surfacing of the path south of the Orwell Bridge, to where the path crosses the road and goes up towards the Foodhall.

3 Community path – Shotley section:

The Shotley section will not require planning permission as it is all on Highway land, but plans and specifications etc will still need to be prepared. It is to be hoped that there will be Section106 money available for this.

4. Ganges Planning Application:

Still no date has been set for the Ganges Planning Application to be considered by the Planning Committee. Graham Chamberlain, who is the BDC officer dealing with the application had hoped that it would be fairly soon.

MC has already drafted a letter to be sent to all the BDC Planning Committee members, BDC officers, Tim Yeo, etc as soon as a date for the committee meeting is set.

5. Report from Sub-Committee:

The sub-committee met on 24th July, and discussed two sections of the path in Woolverstone, plus a section in Chelmondiston.

A meeting has been arranged with Ipswich High School on 26th September to look at the path where it potentially crosses their land. TG and CC to attend.

Martin Williams will be coming to a meeting with TG, RK and the Edgell family to look at possible upgrading of the surface of the bridleway from Richardsons Lane to Collimer Close in Chelmondiston.

TG also reported that there is a scheme called Paths for Communities, which is particularly looking to upgrade footpaths to bridleways.

6. New Leaflet:

The Committee congratulated RK for all her efforts to produce the new leaflet. She has already ordered plastic holders to place them in, and has started to distribute them round the peninsula.

7. Publicity and Communications:

a) Website:

TG has added a new merchandise page, and has re-arranged the maps to make them easier to open.

b) Newsletter:

The latest newsletters have all been sent out.

8. Treasurers report:

SW reported a balance of £4,367.54 in the bank.

This will permit SPCC to fund some of the cost of submitting planning applications for the path.

9. Membership:

JG reported that after the fun ride had taken place membership rose to a total of 204 members, comprising 70 households, and 52 children. 8 organisations are also members.

10. Minutes and matters arising:

The minutes of the meeting of 15.7.13 were signed as a true record.

All matters arising had all been dealt with, as above.

11. AOB:

MH had applied for a committee post on the Suffolk Local Forum, but did not get appointed. However, Anthony Wright is already a committee member.

12. Date of next meeting:

11th November 2013, 10.30am, at Stone Cottage.