

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Held at Stone Cottage, Chelmondiston, at 10.30am, on Monday 29th April 2013

Present: Mike Crouch, Cathy Crouch, Tony Gould, Giles Goyder, Jane Goyder, Mike Havard, Rosie Kirkup, Karla Powell and Sally Williams, plus Anthony Wright (Sustrans)

1. Apologies:

None.

2. Community Path

Shotley end: The HMS Ganges planning application is still stalled, and there is no news regarding when Babergh District Council are likely to determine it.

All the proposed community path works at the Shotley end are on County Council-owned land, and SCC Highways are supportive of our proposals. Subject to the right approvals, work could be proceeded with, subject to funding being found..

AW pointed out that Suffolk County Council would not need planning permission for any changes or improvements on *Highway* land, but would need it for other SCC owned land. He also suggested that the Shotley section could be split into two sections and phased, to help with funding issues. Safety issues could help play a part in finding funding.

Bourne Bridge to Freston end: AW suggested that small sections of the Bourne Bridge to Freston route could be developed in isolation, such as Freston Hill itself, where there are safety issues with slow moving cyclists, and fast moving motor vehicles. This part of the route is all on Highways land, and is therefore more easily doable.

Bourne Bridge to Suffolk Food Hall could be another short section to look at.

AW also reported that an application for funding is being submitted to improve the route for cyclists going into Ipswich, from Bourne Bridge to Halifax, and that the DfT is probably going to be putting more money into cycling schemes generally.

MC also reported that he had now heard back from Steve Gilby of Natural England concerning the section of the proposed path which crosses the field owned by the Paul's, between Redgate Lane and Freston Hill. Unfortunately, the Pauls' representative (that SG had spoken to) did not want any extension of the Higher Level Stewardship area in this field which means that we cannot seek to upgrade surface of the cross-field path. For the time being, it was agreed that we would need to consider other route options between these two points, although it was also agreed that a route across this field along the line of the footpath should remain our longer-term objective.

Next steps: MC will try to arrange a meeting (with the help and support of David Wood if necessary) with the relevant officers from the County Council, to establish which short sections of the route could perhaps be implemented quickly and easily, whether planning permission would be required, etc. People to invite to the meeting include: Anthony Wright (Sustrans), Carol Grimsey (Highways), Ian Richardson (Highways), CTC, Cllr David Wood. Talks will also be necessary with Foxes Marina and the Pauls re. developing the route from Bourne Bridge to Suffolk Food Hall.

Talk to Parish Councils on the route to see if there is a willingness to try to get selected existing footpaths upgraded to bridlepaths.

Speak to Elaine Purves at IHS re that part of the route on Ipswich High School land.

Other improvements: JG asked if there was anything we could do on the south side of the peninsula for the benefit of cyclists. The meeting agreed that the Regional Sustrans Route proposed by AW/ Sustrans would be very beneficial.

AW agreed to try to take this project forward, and will speak to the Rights of Way Officer concerned.

AW will forward a map of his proposals to MC so that SPCC knows precisely where the route is scheduled to go. AW also asked that SPCC speak to the relevant Parish Councils, and landowners, where the route is on bridleways.

3. Leaflet:

RK reported that she was still waiting for the weather to improve before getting the photographs done.

JG confirmed that Paul Squirrel was awaiting our request for him to take photographs.

Sunday 19th May and Sunday 2nd June were suggested as dates for committee members to meet him, at Freston Hill lay-by. Time to be agreed.

4. Fun Ride:

This had had to be cancelled owing to appalling weather at Easter. Two dates were suggested for the rescheduled event – the 16th or 23rd June, in the afternoon. RK and KP will make the necessary arrangements.

5. AGM

AGM to take place on Thursday 6th June, at 7.30pm. Venue to be sorted out by RK. CC will email the agenda round to all SPCC members.

6. Publicity:

TG will update the website as necessary.

7. Schools:

JG wrote to the Chair of Shotley School Governors regarding membership, and is still awaiting a reply.

8. Financial matters:

SW reported a balance of £4651.88.

SW will ask Nicky Cordle if she is willing to audit our books again, for the AGM.

9. Membership:

143 members, from 62 households and including 26 children.

6 group memberships.

Membership renewal reminders will be sent out after the AGM.

10. Minutes of the last meeting

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

11. Matters arising:

RK gave an update on the SPCC hi-vis tabards. The Committee agreed that 30 adult and 30 child-size tabards should be ordered, and resold at a small profit, or used for events such as the fun ride.

All other matters arising had already been dealt with, above.

12. AOB

TG mentioned the Alton Water Cycle Ride, but no-one from SPCC was available to attend.

Date of next meeting: A short business meeting will be held after the AGM, if necessary, at which time the next committee meeting will also be arranged.

