

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Held at Stone Cottage, Chelmondiston, at 10.30am, on Monday 13th January 2014

Present: Mike Crouch, Cathy Crouch, Tony Gould, Giles Goyder, Jane Goyder, Mike Havard, Rosie Kirkup, Karla Powell and Sally Williams.

1. Apologies:

None

2. Community path:

a) Ipswich to Freston section:

MC reported little change from our previous meeting: we are still waiting for Oyster Properties to get back to us with a firm answer regarding whether they will allow the community path to use the grass verge adjacent to the B1456, which is in their ownership. Earlier discussions have indicated that this should be possible. Sally Morton, of Oyster Properties, has promised to get back to us by the end of January.

A meeting with Oliver and Robert Paul has been set up for Wednesday 15th January to check that they are still happy with what has previously been discussed, and to try to agree the surface treatment of the various bits of path on their land.

Once all this has been sorted out, a firm of Consulting Engineers has agreed to meet on site to discuss what help, if any, they can offer with preparing plans and construction details that will need to accompany the planning application.

If SPCC has to pay for this work, the cost could be in the region of £3 – 5,000.00. We may need to ask David Wood if he can offer grant money from his locality budget. The Suffolk Foundation would also be worth approaching again.

b) Shotley section:

Shotley Parish Council has been in contact with Babergh District Council confirming that Shotley would like to see the Community Path put in place.

Should the development at Ganges go ahead, S.106 money alone would be insufficient. Ian Richardson (SCC Highways) has said that he will look into whether any County Council funding might be available.

Chelmondiston and Woolverstone Parish Councils have asked that BDC's decision to grant planning permission be called in by the Secretary of State, and looked at again.

3. Sub-Committee:

TG has emailed James Edgell about driving his tractor along Church Path bridleway between the two ends of Collimer Close. As landowner, he has the right to do this, but the path gets very churned up and rutted. No response so far.

SCC has opposed using road planings to improve the surface, on the grounds that it is unsuitable for horses.

MC mentioned the Flitch Way in Essex, as a possible model to look at. This was constructed 5 years ago, and has a granite surface that seems suitable for horses and cyclists and walkers. It has been recommended to us by Paula Booth (SCHP)

TG has had no response from the Stennet family regarding the use of the footpath on the field side of the hedge between the Woolverstone Hall entrance and Richardsons Lane. MC will ask Richard Wrinch if he will speak to Stennets on our behalf.

TG has also continued talks with Ipswich High School; another meeting is needed.

4. Publicity and Communications:

TG has renewed with our web host, at no cost to the SPCC.

The content is up to date.

A newsletter went out to all our members just before Christmas.
In Touch Magazine: the new editor of this free magazine is very keen to get news from community groups, such as the SPCC. JG offered to have a go at supplying articles to the magazine.

5. Treasurer:

SW reported a balance of £4402.50 in our bank account.
MC commented that we will need £5-600 to pay for a landscape and ecological assessment which will be needed for the planning application for the Ipswich end of the path.

6. Membership:

JG reported that she has been through the 2013 – 2014 membership list, and that 16 previous members had not rejoined from the previous year. However, we still have 199 members, plus the 8 group members. SW agreed to chase up a couple of the families who have not renewed.

7. Minutes and matters arising:

Matters arising: all dealt with as above.
The minutes were agreed as a true record, and were signed by the chairman, Mike Crouch.

8. AOB:

KP has met Denise Tinker (Community Link at Holbrook Academy). She is keen to promote cycling among the students, and has suggested appointing “cycling ambassadors” to assist with this. She is also suggesting a “cycle to school” session in the gym, using exercise bikes. She is open to other good ideas.

MH reported that he attends Ipswich Borough Council Environment and Sustainable Transport Panel. He has suggested promoting Wherstead Road as a radial route; Cycle Ipswich is also in favour. This proposal will be gone into in more detail at the next meeting. MH will do an article for the Winged Wheels (CTC) magazine.

Date of next meeting:

17th March 2014, 10.30am, at Stone Cottage, Chelmondiston.