

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Held at the Hill Cottage, Harkstead, at 9.30am, on Thursday 1st September 2016

Present: Mike Crouch, Cathy Crouch, Tony Gould, Giles Goyder, Mike Havard, Rosie Kirkup, Sally Williams

1. Apologies:

Jane Goyder, Karla Powell.

2. Wherstead to Freston section of route:

MC updated the committee on Oliver Paul's change of heart regarding the route from the entrance to Suffolk Food Hall to Redgate Lane, and that he has informed the Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Partnership of this setback.

MC has also contacted Chris Radley (the new Sustrans Network Manager for Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex): he will be coming to ride the route on the morning of Monday 17th October. All Committee members welcome to join the ride and meet him.

At the recent meeting with Paula Booth of SCHP, she mentioned that SCHP is to commission research into the impact that walkers, cyclists, dogs, etc have on birds, such as those on the mudflats on the Strand. SCHP are also putting in a bid for £1.5 million for a landscape project which could include improvements for cycling. A meeting needs to be arranged to look at other possible routes with them.

The Coast Path: Natural England aim to have the River Stour section of the coast path in place by 2018, and the Orwell section by 2020. It was agreed that SPCC should contact NE regarding the section along the Strand, and the lack of a suitable safe route for the SP Green Way.

3. Shotley Section of the route:

Suffolk County Highways need to be contacted to see if resurfacing of Bristol Hill is scheduled. If so, the white lines need to be repositioned, [as discussed at a meeting in April 2012 with David Stiff (SCC Area Surveyor), Ian Richardson (SCC Highways), County Cllr David Wood, Shotley Parish Cllr Michael Vaughn, and Antony Wright (Sustrans)] to allow a bike lane to be created going up Bristol Hill.

Still no news re. the Ganges development.

4. Report from Sub-committee:

It was agreed to put the Sub-committee's section option for the route to Woolverstone Parish Council. (This proposal follows the field edge next to the B1456 from the top of Freston Hill to the start of the housing, then takes to the road as far as Mannings Lane. It then goes north down Mannings Lane, then east along the track known as Pratts Lane, across the Marina Road, along the foot path at the edge of Church Field to St Michael's Church, then up Church Lane to the concrete track which crosses the sheep fields and Nelson's Avenue, and on to Berners Lane via "Phil's Path".)

TG was asked to draw up the route in readiness to take to a further meeting with Woolverstone Parish Council.

5. Shotley Peninsula Tourism Action Group:

CC attended a meeting of the SPTAG that was held on 22.7.16 at Pin Mill Studio, and to which the SPCC had been invited.

This newly formed group, co-ordinated by Tracey Brinkley from BDC, and chaired by Oliver Paul, has been set up to promote the Shotley Peninsula as a tourist destination, hence the invitation to SPCC to attend. It will be worth attending these meetings to reinforce the message that the the Shotley Peninsula Green Way could be very beneficial to local tourism.

6. Website:

TG reported that this is up-to-date.

It seems that some members have not been receiving our emails. TG has therefore emailed all members asking them to confirm receipt of the email. Only half of them replied. TG will email the “missing” half individually to try and resolve the problem.

7. Newsletter:

MC will produce a newsletter to let the members know what has been happening, particularly with regard to the Ipswich to Freston section. RK will then forward it to “In touch”.

8. Treasurer:

SW reported a balance of £3815.94, with no incomings or outgoings since the previous meeting.

9. Membership:

JG reported no change in membership.

10. Minutes of the last meeting:

These were signed as a true record of the previous meeting.

11. AOB:

MH will contact John Soane to let him know what has happened with the Wherstead section of the path.

RK will draft a letter to British Cycling about possible patrons for the SPCC.

CC will look into how footpaths can be upgraded to bridleways, and will speak to Martin Williams at SCC.

Date of next meeting:

A special meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd November, at 9.30am, at Maytrees, Woolverstone, to look at what our objectives should be, following the difficulties with finding an alternative route at Wherstead.