

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Held at Stone Cottage, Chelmondiston, at 9.15 am, on Monday 28th November 2011

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

Apologies: Elaine Purves.

1. Cycle route:

a) Meeting with Ipswich Borough Council

On 4.11.11, MC, CC, MH, together with Anthony Wright (Sustrans), and Kevin Ablitt (Cycle Ipswich) attended a meeting with Tim Snook and Adam Keer representing Ipswich Borough Council.

Purpose of meeting was to alert IBC to our proposals, to get them to consider a cycle link from Bourne Bridge into the town centre, and to seek the support of the IBC Members both in general terms, and as landowners of the foreshore.

Tim Snook reported that IBC's ownership of the saltings and foreshore on the Strand has now been called into question by the Paul family, and may have to be determined in Court.

However, he agreed to put a report to his Senior Management Team to alert them to the SPCC and its aims.

b) Meeting with Sustrans regional director

Also on 4.11.11, MC, CC, MH met with Nigel Brigham (Sustrans Regional Director), and Anthony Wright.

NB was very helpful and supportive but had to inform us that Sustrans has recently lost a lot of funding, such as "Safer Routes to Schools" money. However, Sustrans would be willing to help us out with free legal advice, eg for land acquisition, and could also carry out the construction of the cycle path, and act as project manager.

He agreed that the section to start with should, ideally, be that which would benefit the greatest number of people, and where the vehicular traffic is heaviest, ie the Bourne Bridge to Freston Boot section. However, if there are major problems that delay developing this section we should try to identify another section that could be completed relatively easily and cheaply, and start with that section instead.

c) Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Partnership

On 8.11.11, MC, CC, and MH met with Cllr Dave Wood (Chair of SCHP) and its manager, Nick Collinson.

NC was very enthusiastic about our proposals, and also agreed that the Bourne Bridge to Freston Boot section should be our priority. He confirmed MC's view that we need a joint meeting with the Environment Agency, Natural England and Pauls, with SCHP taking a lead role in the discussions. He will make some initial enquiries about setting up this meeting, and get back to us.

2. Traffic Surveys and Questionnaires:

a) Traffic surveys:

The SPCC is engaging Sustrans to convert our survey data to an annual usage figure, and to look for examples of similar schemes elsewhere to compare our data with, in order to arrive at likely future usage of the cycle route.

MC asked to be advised of the suggested comparable routes: none are perfect matches, so the nearest equivalents will have to be used.

b) Questionnaires:

A total of 355 completed questionnaires were returned, 215 from the general public and 140 from Holbrook High School students. MC has started to analyse the data.

3. Publicity and communications:

a) Website:

TG has now added a subscribe/unsubscribe function to our website, to allow members / new members to join and pay online.

Our website now has links to / Suffolk CTC, Cycle Ipswich, and Chelmondiston's website.

TG will contact Ipswich Tourist Information, Pin Mill Sailing Club, SCHP and Shotley Foot Ferry in the new year re. links with them.

Twitter and Facebook has also been set up, with some comments already posted on Twitter.

Our present web host ends at end of February, and so far an affordable replacement has not been identified. TG will contact Paul Warren for advice.

b) Fliers:

Fliers will be needed for handing out at the Christmas party on the 9.12.11.

RK has looked into the costs of a coloured version: £30 for 100 from Staples. She will check if HHS or IHS could produce them for us any cheaper.

4. Christmas Social:

A reminder has been sent to all our members.

The pop-up poster, maps of the route, membership application forms and fliers will all be displayed at the event.

5. Schools:

Stutton Primary School has joined the campaign

Shotley PS has still not joined: David Mullett will be asked to approach the Head Teacher.

6. Treasurer's report:

Membership stands at 184 individual members in 67 households, plus 8 organisations.

Bank balance: £4002.67

JG thanked TG for talking her through various queries re joining on line, etc.

7. Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 31.10.11 were signed as a true record.

All matters arising already dealt with under previous items.

8. Committee membership:

Jezz Meredith has expressed an interest in joining the committee. It was unanimously agreed to invite him to join.

9. AOB:

None.

10. Date of next meeting:

Monday 16th January, at Stone Cottage, 9.15 am