

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Held at Fennel Cottage, Harkstead, at 9.15 am, on Monday 31th October 2011

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

Apologies: Elaine Purves, Anthony Wright.

MC opened the meeting by welcoming Mike Havard to his first SPCC committee meeting, and asked him if he would briefly like to introduce himself to the committee. MF replied that he is retired, a CTC member for 45 years, and is involved in “right to ride” with Suffolk CTC.

1. Cycle Route Draft Report:

a) Consultations:

Our consultation period is now coming to an end.

Natural England: since our last meeting a response has been received from Natural England: they would clearly prefer the cycle path to be on the south side of the road, although they have not given an outright “no” to it being by the river. Their support is crucial to the success of the proposed first section, because the saltings form part of the R. Orwell SSSI and Special Protection Area.

Environment Agency: as reported at our last meeting, they have given us a very non-committal reply, but we need to consider their Shoreline Management Plan, which shows the Strand as an area they deem to be in need of protection from flooding. We need to find out what their timescale is for any flood prevention works, as this could greatly affect our cycle route.

MC was of the view that we need to try to set up a joint meeting with Natural England and the Environment Agency, and that we may need someone with influence to Chair it. MC will investigate.

Ipswich Borough Council: a meeting with IBC officers has been arranged on 4th November. MC, CC, MH, RK to attend, plus Anthony Wright (Sustrans) and Kevin Ablitt (Cycle Ipswich)

Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Partnership: a meeting on 8th November has been arranged. MC, CC, MH to attend.

Sustrans: a meeting with their Regional Director and AW has been arranged for 4th November. MC, CC, MH, to attend.

Pauls: a meeting with members of the Paul Family will be needed in due course.

b) Surveys:

Twenty-two people took part in the traffic surveys. The committee thanked all those who took part.

Some really interesting figures came out from the data collected, as previously mentioned in the October newsletter.

MC has contacted Sustrans National Research Unit asking for a quotation for working out the expected increase in cycle journeys with our cycle route in place, using our data and other comparable schemes that are already in place. Their quotation for the work is £690 inc. vat. RK proposed that we accept the quotation, seconded by JG, and unanimously approved.

c) Questionnaires:

The Questionnaires that were distributed around the peninsula have all now been retrieved, with about 350 completed. MC will look at them and analyse what they are saying for our next meeting.

2. Website:

TG reported that all our documents, minutes, and newsletters are now on the website, and that payment for membership by Paypal is now up and running. TG will try to set up a 'Subscribe' button which would allow members to set up payment of their annual subscriptions on an ongoing basis, until they "Unsubscribe".

TG is also looking into php scripting, and at other hosts for the website.

MH mentioned that CTC use Greenliving as their host. TG will look into.

Links to other websites: we will concentrate on links to other complementary organisations, eg Sustrans Eastern Region, Suffolk CTC, Cycle Ipswich, Shotley Foot Ferry, Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Partnership, Ipswich TIC, and Parish Councils. No commercial links.

TG will also investigate Twitter/Facebook, and also a video of the proposed route for the website.

3. Publicity:

We should attempt to get an article in the EADT about our Traffic Survey and our findings. MC will try.

4. Christmas Social Event:

This is to take place, in conjunction with the Stour and Orwell Society, on 9.12.2011, at the Royal Harwich Yacht Club. CC will email the invitation to all our members. Ticket price, £10.00. (The SPCC cannot lose financially out of this event as SOS guarantees to stand any loss).

We hope we may get some new members out of the event: we will need to take the Pop-up Banner, membership forms, and the map of the draft route. RK agreed to investigate the preparation of a simple leaflet for the event publicising our work and website etc.

5. Schools:

JG has received no response from Shotley PS, or from Stutton PS.

CC will ask David Mullett to talk to the Chair of Governors at Shotley.

6. Treasurers Report:

JG reported a balance of £3,968.04 in the bank, and individual membership has now risen to 176.

7. Minutes and matters arising:

The minutes of the meeting of 26th September 2011 were agreed and signed as a true record of the meeting. TG will now put them on the website.

- Matters arising: the traffic survey summary was included in the last newsletter, which was circulated to all members in October. MC will also email all local Councils, and County and District Councillors, to draw their attention to it.
- The report to the Suffolk Foundation has been sent.

8. Date of next meeting:

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