

Notes of meeting of the Test Valley Bicycle User Group Crosfield Hall, Romsey at 3.00pm on 28th April 2016

Present:

Michael Ward	Cycling UK
Jim Probert	Cycling Solutions, Cycling UK
Janet Coppeland	Local resident
Ali Baker	Cycling UK
John Heath	Southampton Cycling Campaign, Cycling Uk
Tina Davis	Southampton Cycling Campaign
John Griffiths	Sustrans
Vivien Messenger	TVBC

Apologies:

Angela Rackham	FOE
Eleanor Vamplew	Cyclist
Hayley Trower	EBC
Richard Pemberton	EBC
Roger Upfold	Cycling UK
Alice Keirby	Local resident
Eric Reed	Sustrans

		Action
1	<p>Welcome and introductions VM welcomed those attending and introductions were given around the table.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of previous meeting The minutes of the previous meeting have been posted on the Test Valley website. A draft copy of the minutes of this meeting will be circulated to those attending to comment on prior to being posted on the website.</p> <p>With regard to the comments at the last meeting regarding the Abbotswood website this was being remodelled but is now operational.</p> <p>http://www.abbotswood-romsey.co.uk/</p>	VM
3	<p>Progress report on cycle routes and cycling promotion</p> <p><u>Cycle routes</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New routes are being implemented as part of the improvement works at the M271/ Brownhill Way junction at Nursling. This will link across the junction to Test Lane. • JH requested that the cycle route on the southern side of Brownhill Way be extended by a few metres to link to the entrance to the Lidl site because this would assist cyclists in avoiding the large roundabout leading to Adanac and would also benefit walkers. VM will pass on the request to HCC but it may not be considered appropriate to extend the route. • MW said a priority was providing a link from Test Lane to Andes Lane avoiding the 	

	<p>large roundabout by B & Q. VM said this was being looked at as a priority to see what may be feasible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JH raised concern at the current pinch points in Lee Lane and tabled an A4 sheet with some recommendations. VM said the current works are still temporary and the utility works have not yet taken place. There may be alterations considered to pinch points prior to them becoming permanent and comments will be passed on to HCC. Concerns were raised about the recent alterations along Lee Lane, such as the bridge widening, which were leading to increased vehicle speeds. MW felt one pinch point was too close to the junction with Dairy Lane. • JP said that the Castle Road into A27 junction lights for cyclists take so long to change most cyclists use the road instead. • MW enquired when the turn for cyclists into Middlebridge Street from the bypass would be implemented. VM to check why not in place yet. • MW said route through Fishlake Meadows has too many unnecessary signs and he would wish to see them removed. The white lines indicating to turn onto dropped kerb are too tight and not safe for cyclists. (JH said same is true of other 'wheelbarrow turns' and they should be altered). MW considered the white line route is too narrow and not safe for cyclists. JC considered the road too narrow to safely accommodate a cyclist in the cycle lane and two cars passing each other, and also said cyclists had expressed concern at the lack of sightlines on the shared path by the roundabout at Cupernham Lane. • MW said would like the NCN route provided along the Canal, north through the nature reserve because both Cupernham Lane and A3057 are unsafe for cyclists. Would also like a link through the new Oxlease development to Cupernham Lane to reduce time cyclists spend on the main road. VM explained aspiration is to put in a link through Oxlease and route along the canal path but there are several issues to overcome. TVBC have been consulting public on the nature reserve recently. Some work has been done on feasibility of the route from Fishlake Meadows to New Road recently and this part is to be funded by the development at Abbotswood. • MW said the condition of the off road route along A3057 close to Stoneymarsh is particularly poor condition with weeds growing through and should be addressed now before it gets worse. • AB said gates on Abbotswood development too close to enable a trike to pass through. Some can be opened to allow this but others appear to be locked.(eg at Braishfield Road end) • TD enquired about the narrow footway from Chilworth Science park to Chilworth Old Village road and whether this can be widened as a priority to provide a much needed link. VM said the Firgrove to Castle Lane is being looked at currently but this section could be considered a high priority after that for any available funding. • EV had asked about the North Baddesley section of NCN route – feasibility is continuing on this but there are various land issues and ecology issues to be considered. • JP said Lordswood Lane, following a public enquiry, can be used as a cycleway but HCC are awaiting rest of the legal process. Would like to see more routes available for cyclists linking to Southampton as alternative to Bassett Avenue. 	<p>VM</p> <p>VM</p> <p>VM</p>
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	<p><u>Cycle promotion</u></p> <p>Travel plan co-ordinators on the new housing sites have continued to encourage sustainable travel. Hampshire County Council have bikeability training in schools and support training for adults too. JP said he had provided cycle training for TVBC Mayor last year. JC suggested TVBC should do more to discourage cyclists from illegally using footways and footpaths.</p>	
4	<p>Update on cycle Strategy Documents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The TVBC Cycle Strategy and Network Supplementary Document was adopted by Full Council in September 2015. It is available on TVBC website. http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/resident/planningandbuildingcontrol/planningpolicy/local-development-framework/supplementary-planning-documents/cyclestrategyspd/ <p>The document includes current policies for encouraging cycling and contains aspirations for new cycle routes within Test Valley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HCC have also produced a Cycle Strategy adopted in September 2015 and this can be viewed on HCC website at http://www3.hants.gov.uk/transport-schemes-index/cycling-strategy.htm The Dft are currently consulting on a Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy the final date for response being 23rd May 2016. This can be viewed on their website at https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-cycling-and-walking-investment-strategy 	
5	<p>Any other business</p> <p>JC requested that TVBC use their website and other measures to impress upon cyclists the safety issues of not cycling on footpaths/footways or going down one way streets in the wrong direction. AB suggested contraflows could be introduced to some one way streets to assist cyclists. VM said HCC provide bikeability for children and adults to help educate them on safety issues.</p>	
6	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next northern BUG meeting will be held in Andover (venue to be confirmed nearer the date) at 6.30pm on Thursday 15th September 2016.</p> <p>The next Southern BUG meeting will be held in Crosfield Hall Annex in Romsey at 3.00pm on Thursday 6th April 2017.</p>	VM