

**Notes of meeting of the Test Valley Bicycle User Group  
Crosfield Hall, Romsey at 3.00pm on 16th April 2015**

<b>Present:</b>	Eleanor Vamplew	Cyclist
	Hayley Trower	EBC
	Jim Probert	Cycling Solutions CTC
	Angela Rackham	FOE
	Janet Coppeland	Local resident
	David Laurie	Cyclist
	Jim Rule	Cyclist
	Alice Keirby	Local resident
	Melanie Liddell	Local resident
	Vincent Boote	Local resident
	Ali Baker	CTC
	John Heath	CTC
	Ian Callaghan	Local resident/Green party
	Vivien Messenger	TVBC
<b>Apologies:</b>	Michael Ward	CTC
	Lindsay Bluemel	CTC
	Nick Farthing	Sustrans
	James Silvester	HCC
	Eric Reed	Sustrans
	Colin Leonard	Local resident
	Dale Bostock	SCC

		<b>Action</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b> VM welcomed those attending and introductions were given around the table.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of previous meeting</b> 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. With regard to the comments at the last meeting regarding the traffic calming in Lee Lane VM has raised the concerns expressed at the meeting with HCC. The works are still temporary until the expected utilities works are undertaken.	<b>VM</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Progress report on cycle routes and cycling promotion</b>  <u><b>Cycle routes</b></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New routes over the last year have been primarily linked to new large scale residential development in the north and south of the Borough at Abbotswood, East Anton and Picket Twenty.</li> <li>• The cycle /pedestrian link from Abbotswood to Woodley Lane was implemented in Summer 2014.</li> <li>• New routes are being implemented currently in Andover along Weyhill Road and Newberry St/ Chantry Street.</li> <li>• The barriers at the end of The Harrage in Romsey have been altered to allow ease of access for the disabled and cyclists wishing to use the link.</li> </ul>	

	<p><b><u>Cycle promotion</u></b></p> <p>TVBC have been working with various people to support cycling in the Borough. Local sustainable transport funding had been available until March this year to support promotion of cycling in Andover and Southern Test Valley through cycle training, bike maintenance classes, family cycle rides and other promotional events. Further support for cycling comes through the Travel Plan Co-ordinators on large new residential areas or large employment sites within the borough where there is a Travel Plan funded by the developer. In response to a question over the length of time they would be in place VM replied most of the residential sites have a Travel Plan co-ordinator/ Community Development worker for 5 years and then it is anticipated that a resident's association will take over the role.</p> <p>It was pointed out that the Abbotswood Travel Plan website was no longer available to the public. VM to check why this is the case and seek re-instatement.</p> <p>There was an enquiry with regard to monitoring of cycling. VM said Hampshire County Council regularly monitor some routes with automatic counters, monitoring of cycle parking has been undertaken in Romsey and Andover and some counts of cyclists related to new developments had been undertaken. It could be useful to have more information on cycle use.</p>	<p><b>VM</b></p>
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Review of cycle Strategy and Network</b></p> <p>The Cycle Strategy and Network Supplementary Document was reviewed last year and a draft revised document was the subject of public consultation for 8 weeks until 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014. The various comments received are currently being considered and it is likely to be July this year when the document is taken back to Cabinet with any suggested alterations as a result of the consultation.</p> <p>Comments have been received relating to a wide range of subjects such as, safety, maintenance, signage, funding, shared use paths, road cycling, traffic calming, standards for cycle route construction, cycle parking, cycle routes and shared rights of way.</p> <p>There was some discussion relating to poor maintenance of cycle routes. AR said cycleway along A36 is in bad condition where earth on banks at the side are encroaching onto the route. JP and JH raised concerns about hedges not being cut and when they were, clippings with thorns being left, causing punctures for cyclists on A3057 route.</p> <p>Concerns relating to the safety of the route alongside the A3057 at Timsbury were raised, where there has been an accident and several near misses on the junctions. ML said visibility is poor at Heron Lane junction, car drivers cannot hear cyclists, and some cyclists do not give way at the junction which is clearly marked for them to give way. There were concerns raised about cyclists on the cycle route in Timsbury discarding litter. Other members of the group thought litter was also discarded by inconsiderate walkers and car drivers.</p> <p>VM said HCC are considering the safety of the route and any alterations that need to be made.</p> <p>DL would like to see the route extended from Belbins to Romsey, because the route by road is unsafe for cyclists. VM explained aspiration is to put in a route along the canal path but there are several issues to overcome. The potential future use of the area as a nature reserve may help to secure part of the route.</p> <p>Concerns were raised regarding the safety of cyclists in Woodley Lane where the</p>	

	<p>chicanes have been installed. The impact of the chicanes on buses turning into the bus only access point was also of concern, particularly if another one is added. The sightlines at Richmond Lane were considered to be worse now that the junction had been reduced in width. VM explained that the works that had been carried out were to reduce traffic speeds and surveys taken since their installation indicate that this has happened.</p> <p>The alterations to Belbins/Cupernham Lane junction were considered to be an improvement for cyclists. Some concerns were raised about the turning circles for larger vehicles and the fact that some lorries are overrunning onto the other side of the road. The same was said to happen at Cupernham Lane/Winchester Hill junction.</p> <p>JP asked when the cycle paths may be installed in North Baddesley. VM explained there had been some delay in putting in the alterations to the traffic lights and with limited highway land available it has been difficult to provide a safe route for cyclists but the feasibility work is ongoing.</p>	
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>Concerns were raised regarding the volume of traffic now using the service slip roads at Rownhams causing problems for cyclists crossing on the cycle route. The additional cars using it are probably due to the ongoing roadworks on the motorway. The slip road is not adopted but a private road and issue should be resolved by the owner of the service station. The car headlights were also considered to pose a problem for cyclists at night, reducing their vision when travelling north along the cycle route.</p> <p>EV stated that the kerb heights are too high for cyclists on the shared pathway at Firgrove Road, North Baddesley. EV will contact HCC regarding this.</p> <p>VB considered that more could be done to provide for cyclists in the local area and in particular simple solutions such as painting white lines on roads and providing space for cyclists at junctions ( eg squares for turning right) should be undertaken quickly. VM said some junctions/roads have insufficient space for these measures but accepted the possibility of quick and less expensive on road solutions could be considered in certain areas.</p> <p>JP raised concerns about proposals for cyclists in the area around the new Lidl development in Nursling where he felt the increased volume of lorries will make the roads unsafe for cyclists but no suitable alternative has been provided. VM said the concerns of ctc had been passed to HCC.</p> <p>JP stated that the junction at the Mandarin Chef was difficult for cyclists turning right where the grit to slow vehicles has corroded. New surfacing is need on the corner rather than on the hill. It is difficult for cyclists to steer, signal and brake all at the same time in this location.</p>	
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>The next northern BUG meeting will be held in Andover (venue to be confirmed nearer the date) at 6.30pm on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015.</p> <p>The next Southern BUG meeting will be held in Crosfield Hall Annex in Romsey at 3.00pm on Thursday 28th April 2016.</p>	<p><b>VM</b></p>