

Cycle Forum Meeting Notes: 18th July 2012, 6pm, CR2

1. Introductions/Apologies

Attendees

Councillor Gittings (Chair)
Councillor Davies
Councillor Willis
Andy Saunders (FGW)
Keith Elliott (RCC)
Greg Payne (Reading CTC)
Alex McKnight (Sustrans)
Richard Pearson (RCC/Reading CTC)
Paul Harper (GREN)
Anthony Bolton (RBC)
Emma Baker (RBC)
Javed Saddique (CTC/RBC)
Ben Knowles (Sustrans/RBC)

Apologies

Councillor Page
Councillor Duveen
Michelle Atkins (GREN)
Adrian Lawson (RCC)

2. Minutes from 3rd April 2012

- No issues raised
- It was noted that RBC has written to TVP Chief Constable, Sara Thornton, regarding working with the Police to offer cycle training rather than FPN for cycling on footways and for advice on how to lobby the CPS nationally to influence a change in policy.
- PH informed the group that GREN intend to write to the Chief Constable regarding advice previously given by TVP around cyclists riding on-road.
- It was noted that new VMS messages would be considered as part of an overall LSTF Communications Strategy

Note: TVP are considering our request to offer cycle training when issuing Fixed Penalty Notices. They have also advised the Council to contact the CPS directly in regards to lobbying for a change in policy. As a result, a letter has now been sent to the national office.

ACTION - Inform group of TVP response to the above letters

ACTION - Circulate feedback from South Reading Workshop and updated action chart

3. Reading Station (FGW/RBC)

a. Proposals for Cycle Parking

- AS informed the group of FGW's proposals to install a Brompton Dock cycle hire scheme in the southern car park later this year
- FGW are also looking into a repair centre and 25 additional Sheffield Stands adjacent to the Northern Interchange entrance. Two-tiered options are being considered.
- FGW are also considering rearranging the southern car park to cater for a secured parking facility, which may involve a small fee
- The group were informed that RBC and FGW are already aware of each others proposals and will continue to communicate to ensure that schemes are joined up.
- RBC will have extended Wi-Fi connections that will enable us to accommodate more CCTV cameras.

- Additional cycle parking facilities installed on the public highway will be in areas with high-footfall.
 - RP asked about cycle parking on the platform. FGW commented that they are currently piloting a secure cycle parking area at Exeter St David that includes a cyclists' only gate.
 - There was a discussion around the rail operator franchise renewal and capacity for bikes on the new rolling stock, which is yet to be specified.
 - The Forum showed an interest in lobbying the DfT to increase the capacity on the new rolling stock.
 - Cllr Willis suggested that an all-party motion be taken to the next Council meeting
 - The Forum also asked if a national organisation such as CTC or Sustrans could lobby on behalf of local authorities.
- b. Cycle Accessibility to Trains**
- FGW informed the group that cyclists are/will be advised to use the lifts to access platforms
 - The group was informed that the underpass will link the north and south interchanges, not the platforms
- c. Links to Local and National Cycle Routes**
- FGW commented that they would consider signing the local and national cycle routes
 - AS confirmed that there will not be a coffee shop at Tilehurst Station as previously considered

ACTION - The group asked to see updated drawings for Vastern Road roundabout

ACTION - Organise another Reading Station workshop covering the pedestrian/cycle bridge, George Street and Napier Road

4. Issues raised by Forum members (standard item)

a. LTP Implementation Plan 2012/13

- AB informed the group that the LTP Implementation Plan forms part of the LSTF programme and includes schemes such as Town Hall Square.
- The previous Town Hall Square scheme has been revised and does not propose any changes to the existing Traffic Regulation Order. Therefore cyclists will continue to be able to use the route.

ACTION - Town Hall Square to be discussed in more detail at the next meeting

b. Plans for Road Markings

- Plans will be circulated to Forum members after the meeting for comment

ACTION - Circulate plans for comment

c. Station Hill/Garrard St Junction Changes - Update

- Various junctions were discussed including Gun Street/Bridge Street, Friar Street/West Street, Broad Street/West Street and Greyfriars Road/Friar Street.
- The group asked to review the designs prior to implementation

ACTION - Circulate designs to Cycle Forum prior to implementation

d. 20mph Speed Limits

- AB informed the group that a report will be going to TMAP in September outlining the Council's current position and future recommendations.
- PH circulated information on Bristol's proposed scheme, which would be discussed at a Cabinet Meeting on 26th July.
- Cllr Willis suggested that current 20mph limits be extended in the first instance
- AB commented that this is a nationwide debate with differing views as to the effectiveness of blanket 20mph zones, at this time there is currently a lack of evidence from feedback on existing schemes.

Note: Link to DfT Consultation on the speed limit circular has been circulated to Forum members

e. Crossing Facilities (Zebras/Refuge Islands)

- Not discussed due to time limitations, discuss at next meeting

ACTION - Include on next agenda

5. Updated cycle strategy actions chart (standard item)

- Circulated after the meeting

6. Local Sustainable Transport Fund

a. Large LSTF Update

- The group were informed about the successful Large LSTF bid and that the two bids will now be combined into one programme.
- Workstreams will remain similar to the small programme and include Active Travel and Cycle Hire.
- Officers from the three boroughs will be meeting imminently to discuss next steps
- Key deliverables in the large programme include the pedestrian/cycle bridge and the extension of existing work.

b. Small LSTF Update

i. Cycle Improvements

- EB informed the group that background work had been undertaken on a number of schemes discussed at the LSTF workshops, including cycle parking, Lower Caversham and London Road.

ii. Cycle Development Officer Programme (Bike Week Feedback)

- JS thanked AM, KE and BK for helping during Bike Week
- Issues included a shortage of instructors which CTC hope to resolve by running instructor training and ride-leaders courses
- JS also hopes to introduce need activities during Bike Week 2013

iii. Workplace Cycle Challenge (Feedback)

- 127 businesses were contacted, 43 registered and 39 participated
- 837 people registered, 727 recorded a trip and 231 were non-cyclists (32%) who either had not cycled at all or only a few times in the last year
- Workplace PTP will provide opportunities to engage more businesses in future events

iv. Bike It/Volunteer Programme

- BK informed the group about the 'Bike It' programme and the primary schools that are being encouraged to participate (Emmer Green, Caversham, New Christchurch, Ranikhet, St John's and Alfred Sutton)

7. AOB

- No issues raised

8. Date of Next Meeting

- Wednesday, 24th October 2012, CR3 6pm

Agenda Item	Action	Expected
2	RBC to contact TVP to discuss offering cycle training as alternative to Fixed Penalty Fines for cycling on footways	Updated included in notes
2	Circulate South Reading Feedback and Progress Report	Circulated on 10/08/12 & 25/07/12
3	Circulate drawings for Vastern Road roundabout	Before next meeting
3	Organise another Reading Station workshop to cover the pedestrian/cycle bridge, George Street and Napier Road	Autumn/Winter 2012
4a	Add Town Hall Square to next Cycle Forum agenda	October 2012
4b	Circulate road marking proposals that form part of the resurfacing programme	Circulated on 10/08/2012
4c	Circulate junction designs to Cycle Forum prior to implementation	Ongoing
4e	Add crossing facilities to next agenda	October 2012
5	Circulate updated action chart before meeting	Ongoing