

LEEDS CYCLING CONSULTATION FORUM
6.15pm Wednesday 8th October 2014
NOTES OF MEETING

Councillor Roger Harington (Chair)	LCC	Stephen Hammond	Leeds Cycle Campaign
Tim Parry	LCC	Les Webb	Sustrans
Mike Earnshaw	Sustrans	Trevor Plows	Sustrans
Colin Noble	Sustrans	Louise Watton	Cyclist
Chris Slade		Lizzie Reather	Leeds Cycle Campaign
Will Crocombe	Leeds Cycle Campaign	Martin Stanley	Leeds Cycle Campaign
Chris Boulton	West Yorks CTC	Mark Robinson	LCC
Tony Reed	Leeds Cycle Campaign	Amit Buk	
Joseph Cullen	Otley	Andrew Hall	LCC
Nick Munton	Leeds Cycle Campaign	Nick Hunt	LCC
Russell Oakes	LCC	Gwyn Owen	LCC

The Cycling Consultation Forum is a forum for discussion of matters related to cycling in Leeds. It is open to interested members of the public and is attended by elected members and officers of Leeds City Council. It does not replace or supersede other consultation processes operated by the Council.

1.0 Apologies

1.1 Councillor Illingworth, Sean Hewitt.

2.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (9th April 2014)

2.1 Nick Munton updated the forum on progress with Horsforth and Rodley Signalisation schemes. Discussions had since occurred where revised cycling provisions, including the installation of 2 metre wide cycle lanes on the radial approaches to the Horsforth junction.

2.2 TP discussed updates to cycle provisions on Water Lane following the closure of routes to cyclists. A variant of the design previously discussed has been issued to Carillion for implementation. TP will update the forum on further developments.

TP

2.3 TP confirmed lining on Chapeltown Road had been removed. New designs were tabled, however, a sub-group was proposed for further consultation to occur [*Sub group scheduled for 12th November 2014*]

2.4 TP & NH discussed the revised proposal for the gap crossing at Easterly Road/Dib Lane. It was confirmed a Toucan Crossing would be installed to replace the current Pelican Crossing. Cyclists aired concern over the length of time this issue has taken to resolve.

2.5 Nick Munton corrected the figures quoted for expected public sector expenditure on cyclists. The All Parliamentary Report suggested expenditure should commence at £10 per head and rise to £20. The Council Executive Board Report misquoted the original figures.

2.6 A site visit with cyclists and Councillor Harington at Calverley Lane, Horsforth took place. TP explained that a Stage 3 safety audit had been conducted. Minor amendments were to be made.

3.0 Issues raised by Forum Members

- 3.1 TP informed cyclists that there were various new schemes for discussion in sub groups. These were Highways Agency schemes at M1 J44 (Stourton) and M62 J28 (Tingley). There was also wind resistance work at Bridgewater Place where consultation with cyclists was welcomed.
- 3.2 Discussion over continued Sunday road closures in areas of the city took place. NH confirmed there was an aspiration to continue Sunday road closures in communities; however scale and scope was undecided. Pilot locations, potentially in the vicinity of parks were to be considered. Les Webb and Chris Boulton (Sustrans Rangers) requested more “Skyride” orientated events which, perhaps, could be conducted on a larger scale. NH & AWH weren’t discounting more events but did make cyclists aware to the practicalities of hosting events such as Cyclovia (<http://www.cycloviatucson.org/>)
- 3.3 Councillor Harington added that Councillor Blake was keen to promote children walking to school and confirmed pilot schools were to be chosen in the future.
- 3.4 Les Webb raised concern with the usage of A-Frames across the city. Complaints from cyclists and disabled scooter users had been received, prompting the question over A-Frame usage to be raised. It was requested that retractable A-Frames should be considered for retrofitting and for future locations.
- 3.5 TP informed the forum that A-Frames were considered for use where there were known issues with motorcycles, for example Wykebeck Way. Without them, some schemes would have had generated many objections and may not have been built. He added that due to large numbers of A-Frames in the city, partnership working with Parks and Countryside colleagues would be required.
- 3.6 Lizzie Reather suggested that this was a policy issue following examples in Garforth where A-Frames had been installed for no obvious reason. Lancaster was given as an example where off road cycle routes had no A-Frames and were well used by Police Officers to get around the city.
- 3.7 Cyclists suggested the York approach was adopted whereby a lockable gate working on a similar system to the RADAR key was installed in place of A-Frames. AWH suggested that it was right that Leeds sought to innovate where possible, but added that approaching this issue with realism was required.
- 3.8 Agreed that TP will discuss the future of A-Frames with Parks and Countryside and Sustrans Rangers. **TP**
- 3.9 Will Crocombe raised issue with road chippings on the A65 where it had been resurfaced. TP to investigate. **TP**

4.0 Cycle Forum Governance

- 4.1 Councillor Harington updated cyclists on proposals to re-consider the format of the forum. Conversations had previously been had between GO and Lizzie Reather. GO added that the Council understood the frustrating nature of the quarterly cycle and suggested the implementation of monthly sub-groups to aid in the consultation of schemes. This would allow for greater responsiveness from the Council.
- 4.2 Lizzie Reather added that Traffic Regulation Order(s) (TROs) were the statutory means of consultation on highway alterations. Timeliness and reactivity of involvement with

consultees was presently an issue. Lizzie Reather welcomed the presence of AWH and considered outcomes of the forum to have greater resonance when senior members of the Council attend forums.

- 4.3 It was agreed that monthly meetings would assist, however MR raised caution that intense usage of resources can occur, particularly in terms of time given by volunteers. Martin Stanley added that attendance would vary depending on the relevance of schemes (e.g. areas affected)
- 4.5 Concern was also raised over the Forum agenda. TP agreed monthly meetings would assist in reducing agenda length, however, he confirmed the timeliness of emailing agendas out was a factor of capturing relevant cycling issues as and when they occurred. Lizzie Reather added that improved usage of the Council website would be welcomed.
- 4.6 Will Crocombe suggested that the forum required formal Terms of Reference in order to provide greater governance. Chris Boulton added that the forum had experienced successes in the past, but it was now moving on to different aspects of work. It was suggested that future sub groups needed to be small in attendance but targeted (for example Ward/ Scheme Specific)
- 4.7 NH added that there were practicality issues on consultation as schemes were interlinked with financial performance and programme of works. Lizzie Reather agreed this practice would need to be workable for all involved. It was also suggested that cycle proofing awareness to Traffic Engineers may reduce the need to change schemes following consultation.
- 4.8 Martin Stanley requested greater transparency with the TRO consultation procedure. NH confirmed his group were exploring different methods of engaging with the public, including the use of social media. Martin Stanley requested that TRO notification is submitted to the Leeds Cycling Campaign inbox (contact@leedscyclingcampaign.co.uk). NH agreed to this request. **NH**
- 4.9 AWH added that the TdF Legacy Board would interface with cyclists, however, he emphasized that the forum will not be superseded by the board.
- 4.10 The forum agreed that monthly subgroups would commence and the first meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 12th November 17.30hrs at Leonardo House Reception. TP/RO to arrange formalities. **TP/RO**
- 5.0 Cycling in Otley**
- 5.1 Joseph Cullen discussed Otley and its role as a burgeoning cycling town. He discussed the aspirations for increased formalised cycle routes including an orbital route around the town. This was assisted by the presence of new housing developments in the town. Joseph Cullen reported that the consultation for the Wharfedale Greenway had happily been met with much support and few objections. He also explained that Waitrose had agreed to sponsor an unofficial cycle map of the town.
- 5.2 Councillor Harington added that there was an aspiration to create a cycling map for the West Yorkshire Region (Item 7) which would include Otley.
- 5.3 Joseph Cullen discussed the potential availability of a bicycle recycling facility in the town subject to funding.
- 5.4 Cyclists requested information on improved linkages to Otley on the A660. Joseph Cullen and TP emphasized the engineering difficulties behind installing fully segregated cycling facilities on the Chevin section. Martin Stanley added that a cycle lane uphill to assist cyclists would be sufficient; however, all recognized that the implementation of such a scheme would be difficult.

5.5 Nick Munton questioned whether Otley would be a suitable location for a Shared Space scheme. Martin Stanley suggested the Council review trials in London.
(<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/travel-information/improvements-and-projects/mini-hollands>)

6.0 Leeds City Centre

6.1 TP detailed proposals for a new cycle route from Leeds Station to Leeds Dock. Signing is due to be implemented; however, this scheme would rely on the completion of the City Connect contraflow on Lower Briggate. TP also explained the scheme would require a length of shared use path on Black Bull Street.

6.2 An update on the City Centre Pedestrian area was provided. It was confirmed that a trial was being considered, however, it wouldn't be implemented until 2015 when new legislation will simplify the necessary procedures.

6.3 TP added that it may be difficult to gain acceptance from Equalities Hub members, Lizzie Reather and Martin Stanley agreed it would be worthwhile meeting with these groups to discuss various points of view.

6.4 Lizzie Reather also requested that subject to revised TROs in the pedestrian area consideration should be given to cycle parking in light of some locations being legally inaccessible by bike.

7.0 West Yorkshire Cycle Map

7.1 RO updated the forum with progress to date on the cycle map consultation. Public engagement had occurred where possible. The council consultation web pages had also been utilised to promote this activity with materials being made available through this source.
(https://consult.leeds.gov.uk/leeds/kms/dmart.aspx?LoggingIn=tempVar&noip=1&filter_status=1)

7.2 There were discussions surrounding the suitability of a revised map considering advances in technology (<http://www.cyclestreets.net/>). RO confirmed there was the aspiration for this map to be accessible online, this prompted suggestions that there should be the ability to flag up areas of issue as witnessed with the City Connect consultation mapping. In general it was reported by officials and some cyclists that the existing map had been a success.

7.3 Consultation due to end October 27th. Please contact Russell Oakes
(Russell.Oakes2@leeds.gov.uk) for more information.

8.0 City Connect

8.1 MR reported that consultation had been completed on the eastern leg of the route with TRO processes also reaching completion in the West. The latter had received five objections. The tender process for the western section was underway with works expected to commence in the new year. MR also reported that works were starting imminently on the canal towpath. It was advised to check Canals and Rivers Trust (<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/>) or City Connect (<http://www.cyclecityconnect.co.uk>) for more information.

8.2 Sub-group meetings have continued. It was confirmed that new designs for the eastern section would be available on City Connect website during November. MR added that Dawsons Corner and Ledgard Way/ Armley Branch Road junctions were under review.

8.3 MR discussed the potential for DfT funding to be made available through rail operators to improve cycling provisions on railway station land. City Connect would seek to match the funding secured in West Yorkshire to allow stations to be connected to the route.

- 8.4 MR also tabled proposals for treating side road crossings. Comments were required as soon as possible.
- 8.5 Will Crocombe requested an update on progress with the canal towpath. MR confirmed that Centrac surfacing would be applied in places, it would be tarmacked as far as the Outer Ring Road.
- 8.6 Cyclists questioned the efficiency of works considering the varied states of repair the canal towpath currently experiences. AWH suggested that greater clarity will be gained once tenders for work are returned.

9.0 New Generation Transport

- 9.1 TP provided a statement to the forum on behalf of the NGT team. The Public Inquiry was still ongoing, due to finish in October 2014. Leeds Cycling Campaign was commended for their professional contribution to the proceedings. The NGT team requested continued liaison with the Cycle Forum.

10.0 Tour de France Legacy

- 10.1 AWH updated the forum on progress. He confirmed Mark Allman (Head of Sport and Active Recreation) was leading on this project. Proposals to increase community engagement, including repeating the Junior TdF were discussed. It was also confirmed that the West Yorkshire Combined Authority would also be involved with legacy activities on a regional scale.
- 10.2 A deadline for Christmas 2014 was provided for establishing the Legacy arrangements.

11.0 Leeds Core Cycle Network

- 11.1 TP confirmed civils work for Cycle Route 9 were complete with the exception of areas around Clay Pit Lane and Regent Street roundabout. It was also reported that issues had arisen with arranging for the installation of Elephant Footprint lining and signal heads.
- 11.2 Lizzie Reather requested sight of the latest plans for Route 9. TP
- 11.3 TP also confirmed that a Stage 3 safety audit was imminent on Cookridge Street.

Date of Next Meeting

14th January 2015

Date of next Sub-Group Meeting

12th November 2014 (Leonardo Building)

Contact for queries etc:

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