

LEEDS CYCLING CONSULTATION FORUM
6.15pm Wednesday 13th July 2011
NOTES OF MEETING

Councillor John Illingworth (part)	Leeds City Council	Gwyn Owen	Leeds City Council
Viv Kendon	Uni of Leeds	Chris Boulton	CTC / Otley CC
Martin Thomas	LCAG	Kathleen Lofthouse	Sustrans Ranger
Lisa Brannan	Uni of Leeds, UTA	Allan Luxton	CTC / RTR
Mark Robinson	Leeds City Council	Dave Holt	LCAG

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 David Hall, Robert Ibberson, Sean Killen, Tim Parry, Mike Piet, Nick Munton

2.0 Minutes of Meeting of 13th April 2011

2.1 The minutes of the 13th of April 2011 were agreed to be a true record.

3.0 Matters Arising

3.1 Para 10.3 Martin Thomas mentioned further parking issues on the A65 near the Sheesh Mahal. Allan Luxton also mentioned a number of locations where cycle lanes were in need of renewal.

3.2 Para 10.1 It was mentioned that a member of the public had been making efforts to see if local businesses would be willing to fund maintenance of sections of the Aire Valley Towpath in return for some kind of advertising on it. The outcome would be reported at the next meeting. A section of towpath near the city centre had recently been given a rough gravel surface, but it was not known who had carried out works. *British Waterways have since acknowledged the works as theirs and explained that further work will be undertaken to improve that section.*

4.0 UTravel Active

4.1 Lisa Brannan reported on a road safety campaign undertaken by University of Leeds, Leeds Met University and Sustrans as part of the UTravel Active project. The campaign was centred on university campuses and its aim was to raise awareness between car and cycle users and pedestrians of each others needs and fears. The theme was 'Put yourself in my shoes.' It tried to adopt a 'no blame' attitude.

4.2 A banner to raise awareness of the campaign was put on the Parkinson building and road safety leaflets were produced and handed out to all drivers on the campuses. In addition an online quiz was produced that involved Highway Code and other road safety related questions. The survey was undertaken by around 1000 people.

4.3 Allan Luxton liked the leaflet and made the point that road safety isn't all about those who were killed or seriously injured but also about how safe people felt. Lisa said that

this was particularly true on campus where cyclists were often viewed as a menace but accident rates were very low. She hoped to continue and develop the project across Leeds in partnership with the Council.

- 4.4 Ideas for developing the project were discussed including providing posters on lamp posts, and generally there was a positive feeling that UTravel Active, LCAG and Leeds City Council should work together to spread the 'mutual respect' message. Viv Kendon thought that the leaflets produced should be handed out around Headingley.

5.0 Local Sustainable Transport Fund bid

- 5.1 MR reported that a Key Component bid made to the DfT's Local Sustainable Transport Fund had been successful. He handed out drawings showing what new cycle routes would be created in financial years 2011/12 and 2012/13. These were:

A route from Armley to the City Centre

A route from Chapeltown to the city centre along Regents Street

Part of the City Centre to Garforth Cycle route

A route from the Canal Towpath and Middleton to City Centre Route into the Aire Valley.

Cookridge Street Contraflow.

He also mentioned that there was additional money for publicity and support for the new routes and those recently provided but details were not yet available.

6.0 Leeds Core Cycle Network Update

- 6.1 MR reported that the Alwoodley to City Centre, West Park to City Centre and Wyke Beck Way cycle routes had been substantially completed and handed out maps of each.

- 6.2 Dave Holt thought that knowledge of the routes were not yet out in the public domain and more publicity was needed. He also mentioned some inadequacies in the signage on the Alwoodley route. Martin Thomas thought that putting information on Council Tax notices would be a good way to raise awareness. Allan Luxton thought leafleting households might work and that LCAG might be able to help with this. Lisa Brannan said that lead rides for schools and putting posters up at the parents drop-off points would be useful as well as talking to residents groups. GP's surgeries and the PCTs were also mentioned as good methods of spreading the word.

- 6.3 The signing issues were discussed further and it was agreed that MR would look into a way to provide the Leeds Core Cycle Network signs with straight-on and diagonal arrows as well as the left and right arrows allowed by the DfT. It was thought this would provide more clarity. MR

- 6.4 Discussion also took place regarding anti motorcycle barriers. The various barriers used around Leeds were thought to be a problem by the forum. MR mentioned instances where motorcycle problems were real and that barriers were needed. Dave Holt asked that a compromise might be that A-Frames that could be opened should be used and left open unless a specific problem with motorcycles arose. MR would discuss with the Police Service and Parks Service. MR

- 6.5 Discussion took place regarding the West Park to City Centre Route, in particular proposals for Hyde Park Road which were to include a 'fake' speed table. This would highlight the junction but have minimal impact on surrounding properties. Lisa Brannan also mentioned that cycle access was to be provided through the University of Leeds' main campus, although this would be signed for student and staff use only.

- 6.6 Councillor Illingworth mentioned he would be meeting shop owners on Roundhay Road, near the Fforde Green junction. They had been asking for the outbound cycle lane to be removed to enable parking outside their premises. They claimed trade was being lost.
- 7.0 **Leeds Cycle Action Group**
- 7.1 Dave Holt reported that the LCAG committee had been changed in April, and they were looking at how to effectively operate and influence cycling in Leeds.
- 7.2 Councillor Illingworth suggested making a deputation to the council, with support from NHS Leeds. He said that Leeds City Council had signed up to reduce carbon emissions but was not making much headway. Chris Boulton thought this a good idea but suggested LCAG needed to be very clear and specific about what it asked for. After further discussion Dave Holt agreed to start writing a deputation and Councillor Illingworth said he would do some research into health and cycling.
- 7.3 Dave Holt thought LCAG ought to focus on specific projects that had real outcomes. He also mentioned a report being prepared by ITS at the University of Leeds that looked at what Leeds would look like in 2030 if 30% of people cycled. He thought to attain this Leeds really needed to decide that it was a 'cycle city' and adopt policy accordingly.
- 7.4 Viv Kendon mentioned that in the past guest speakers had been invited to the forum. MR said he would invite people if a particular issue was raised.
- 7.5 Chris Boulton thought that two groups were needed. He liked the open cycling forum as a means to find out what was going on in Leeds, but also thought a sub-group was needed to write reports and undertake specific projects etc. MR said that sub-groups to discuss specific schemes had been effective in the past. A scheme on Roundhay Road to provide bus and cycle facilities would be going to public consultation in September and this would be a good chance for such a group to meet. MR
- 7.6 Further suggestions to improve the forum included releasing a draft agenda a month before the meeting and asking for AOB items. It was also suggested it was advertised to the West Yorkshire Travel plan Network.
- 7.7 Lisa Brannan asked if Mark Sadler from Leeds City Council's Road Safety Team could attend to discuss cycle training at the next meeting. MR
- 8.0 **A.O.B.**
- 8.1 Lisa Brannan asked how long road works would be taking place for on Commercial Road (A65) and asked if the footway could be used by cyclists on a temporary basis so that they could avoid narrow sections of road. MR
- 8.2 The difficulties of using Horsforth Roundabout were also raised. MR reported that schemes were being examined, but that costs were high and the scheme could hinge on whether certain developments took place that would provide contributions.
- 8.3 It was questioned why the bus and cycle lanes on Otley Road operated only between 7.30 and 9.30 and it was asked if there was any scope to extend. The lack of feeder lanes on the ASLs was also raised. MR

8.4 Allan Luxton handed out two papers for information. One was an analysis of a recent accident study regarding the A65 A660 wedge undertaken by Leeds City Council and the other concerned the lack of a 'Cycle to Work' scheme at Leeds City Council. MR would circulate within the council. MR

9.0 Date of the next meeting

9.1 The provisional date for the next meeting was 12th October 2011.

Contact for queries etc:

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