

AGENDA FOR PEDALS MONTHLY MEETING:

7.30 p.m. on

Monday 16 November 2009

in the upper room of The Globe PH,

152 London Road, NG2 3BQ (between London Road and Meadows Way, on corner with Ryehill Street, just north of Trent Bridge)

AGENDA

1. Welcome, and apologies for absence

2. Discussion on City Council cycle map revision with Keith Morgan and Steve Brewer, City Council (up to 60 minutes)

(15 minute break)

3. Minutes of the Pedals Meeting of Monday 19 October 2009 and matters arising / update

- Taxi drivers and ASLs
- Proposed Road Users Respect Campaign
- Addressing cycling on pavement issues: Beeston Road pavement cycling fines blitz
- Sales of Pedals City County Forest books
- improving cycle parking at local Coop stores:

4. Feedback on Cyclenation/ CTC cycling seminar (for local authorities) on Fri 13 Nov and national campaigners' conference, Sat 14 November

- Seminar and Conference programme and attendance
- Social events and rides
- Finances and sponsorship (Pannone)
- Follow-up: seminar and conference material to go on Pedals website

5. Finance (Chris Gardner / Susan Young to report) and including:

6. Forthcoming meetings / events etc.

(Speakers at and other arrangements for) Pedals monthly meetings

- 21 December, 18 January, 15 February etc.

Other meetings / events:

- Post conference Pedals meal, Crocus Café, Lenton, Monday 30 November, 7.30 p.m
- Cyclists to THE WAVE need accommodation in Nottingham – request for help from Mary Keynes for night of 1 December for cyclists passing through Nottingham
- 3 December Rural Rides debrief cum 2010 programme planning meeting, County Hall
- 12 December CANN Climate Change event: possible Pedals stall.

7. Cycle facility and traffic management matters:

- **Major matters:-**
- NEP article (Sat 7 Nov) on the opening of the Meadow Lane canal lock riverside path link yesterday
- Bader Road (Wilford) – Gresham Park (West Bridgford) path upgrading proposals and public meeting on 4 Nov
- Re: [Pedals Website Enquiries] Who's right - Arnold Road - Oxclose Lane cycle track – message of 11 Nov from Gale Wakeling and my response
- Barriers on path between Stoke Bardolph and Colwick Park
- Message re A453 dualling plans and public inquiry from Ralph Smyth, CPRE Transport Campaigner
- Apparently less important matters / other City and County Council consultations, e.g. on Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) – details below in the background notes.

8. Miscellaneous items

- DfT Cycle to Work Salary Sacrifice Scheme

9. Any other business

BACKGROUND NOTES (including extracts from some relevant emails)

*** means feedback especially wanted please**

**** means help please!**

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies for absence from
Mara Ozolins, Alison Russell, John Wilson,

2. Discussion with Keith Morgan and Steve Brewer (City Council) re revised cycle mapping. (up to 60 minutes)

(15-minute break)

3. Minutes of the Pedals Meeting Held 19th October 2009 at The Globe.

Present: Hugh McClintock, Peter Osborne, David Miller, Malcolm Kennerley, Susan Young, David Clark, Chris Gardner, Terry Scott, Elizabeth Kirk, Peter Briggs. Andrew Househan, John Bannister, Andrew Martin, Martin Quarton, Ian Hopper, Eve Parker,

Apologies for absence: Roger Codling, Roland & Hilary Backhouse, Mara Ozolins, John Wilson, Arthur Williams, Richard Mallender,

City Council Cycle Map Revision. Owing to confusion over dates, Keith Morgan and Steve Brewer will talk about this next month.

Wilford Suspension Bridge. More damage to the bridge has been discovered raising repair costs to £1.9M and delaying completion until the end of January 2010.

Cycle Development Group.

The Respect campaign is to be broadened to respect for all road users and not just cyclists and needs to be promoted in other cities.

British Waterways would like cyclists to join in the opening of a new cycle link between Victoria Embankment and the other side of Trent Bridge. (This part of the Big Track network).

There had been much discussion about other possible extensions, short and long-term, and including the scheme now underway on the canal path in Broxtowe Borough near Trowell.

The issue of cycling on pavements (Beeston Road) was also discussed.

Sustrans. The Sustrans Higher Education Project consists of a team of five (including three Bile-It officers) led by Joanna Ward who it is hoped will talk about their work in the February meeting next year.

Parking at the Co-Op. There has been a break through on cycle parking outside the West Bridgford store. Look out for improved facilities in the near future.

Pedal it Pink. Dave Clark and Liz Kirk are doing a stall at this event on October 25th.

CANN. Richard Mallender represented Pedals at a recent CANN event.

Nottingham Station Redevelopment. Cycle parking in the Port Cochere may be closed within the next 6 to 12 months. Pedals needs to continue to press for some of this to be maintained, for short-term use.

Autumn Newsletter. This has been delayed due to a series of problems in getting satisfactory standard of proof, but it can be downloaded in pdf form from the website. Printed copies should be sent out very soon but Hugh said that he feared that the Postal strike would mean further delays before they got to members.

Pedals Website. Much use is being made of this and it is very important that it kept up to date with fresh photos and material. Can members please feed back any out of date material and generally keep an eye on the site and suggest improvements and other changes?

Cycling in the Meadows. Graham Lansdell has been involved in helping with cycle training and encouraging cycling generally in the Meadows.

National Cycle Conference. The second half of the meeting was allocated to discussing this in detail. So far 46 registrations have been made and all the speakers are confirmed. The latest version of the programme has been circulated.

The Friday night social at the Lincolnshire Poacher is going ahead. Let Susan Young know by email if you want food. Otherwise just turn up for a drink from 6.30pm onwards.

Two rides are on offer on Sunday morning, both leaving from in front of the Council House at 10am.

Displays: Arthur is getting lots of interest from non commercial organisations but not from commercial ones (who might pay). Andrew Martin will check with Arthur that the Sustrans display will go ahead. Dave and Liz will do a Pedals display and try to get a supply of cycle maps.

Volunteers are required for the following: to set up tables and displays, note taking, time keeping, offers of accommodation (to Susan Young via email), to manage bicycle storage, to put up signs including a Pedals banner outside the conference venue. Lots of helpers are required at the venue at 8 am.

Peter O and Dave Clark will take care of photography. John Bannister and Hugh will answer questions from journalists

Post Conference meal on Monday 30 November: Susan Young will email around details of this. Possible venues are: The Crocus in Lenton (Liz Kirk to investigate), or The Last Post in Beeston.

Updates:

Further updates and extra items for Pedals meeting on Monday 19 October 2009

Ensuring Taxi drivers respect for ASLs: message of 15 Oct from Jim Mortell, City Council:

"No worries Hugh.

I had a meeting with the private hire reps this morning and raised the issue with them. They will let their members know of the issue and ask them to comply with the ASL's (although the point was made that the drivers often get frustrated with cyclists going through red lights etc. Not your issue I know, but it helps to see where the drivers are coming from sometimes.)

My next meeting with the hackney carriage reps is in November, but I'll make sure that they are aware of the issue.

Sincerely, Jim Mortell

Team Leader - Taxi Licensing

Contact details:

Taxi Licensing Section

Nottingham City Council

Lawrence House

Talbot Street

NOTTINGHAM

NG1 5NT

Tel: 0115 9156543

E-mail: jim.mortell@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Respect Campaign Discussion Paper as discussed at the 15 Oct meeting of the Greater Nottm Cycling Development Group:

...comments from Peter Briggs, 19 Oct

"I would like to see something in the Respect agenda related to the minimum distance motorists should give cycles when overtaking – recognising that cyclists may be negotiating pot holes/ drain covers/large roadside puddles/ice etc. I never mind a car passing me by leaving a huge amount of space. I get very anxious when they leave very little!"

....comments from Roland Backhouse, 20 Oct:

"Hi Hugh,

Sorry I wasn't able to come to yesterday's meeting. I got back from the US yesterday but was too tired to make it.

I think "respect" is a good word to use but think the emphasis should be on "respect for more vulnerable traffic". So motorists should respect cyclists and pedestrians and cyclists should respect pedestrians.

There is no need for a campaign for the more vulnerable to respect the less vulnerable because they do that already. That is inherent in the meaning of vulnerable.

Cheers, Roland"

...comments from Gary Smerdon-White (22 Oct):

"Hi

I'm with Roland in that I think the objective overall is to help the more vulnerable road users - otherwise why would CDG want to get involved?

However in terms of the strategy behind any such campaign I don't think it works unless the car driver sees something in it for them. So as an occasional driver what can I get out of it?

- Less moments when a cyclist pulls out without thinking
- Less situations where a cyclist doesn't follow the highway code at their peril (red lights, riding on pavements, going up one way streets etc)
- More consistent but maybe lower journey times
- Less personal stress.

- Recognition if I've been respectful

If cyclists were complete angels I'd go along with Roland's proposal but my whole point is that there has to be something in it for the Car driver if we want them to change - mutual respect with cyclists is a starter

Interestingly the couple of responses so far from your distribution lists sort of assume the campaign will happen and have concentrated on the detail of the campaign rather than the major barriers of budget, need for regional/national partners and the need for continuity of purpose. Some comments on how to overcome the barriers would be most welcome

Gary

....more from Roland (24 Oct):

"The problem is that in this form the campaign will be seen by many (the majority? -- i.e. motorists) as cyclists admitting they have been in the wrong all the time and deferring to the power of motorists (who of course have the ultimate weapon). That's not a campaign I would want to sign up to, but it is a campaign that non-cycling motorists would welcome. I might not be alone among the minority of adults who regularly cycle on our car-dominated roads.

o Car drivers need to be taught to respect non-adult cyclists at all times, even though they might do things that put themselves at risk. (I have much experience of the Netherlands where I have seen schoolchildren riding 5 abreast. The motorists don't mind because they were schoolchildren doing the same thing themselves once.)

o The Think Bike campaign is about car drivers respecting the vulnerability of motorbikes. I haven't seen a big campaign about motor cyclists following the Highway Code and reducing the personal stress of other road users. I have never been a motor cyclist myself but I am sure they already respect cars and lorries because they are well aware of their own vulnerability, just like pedestrians and pedal cyclists.

o How many pedestrians regularly ignore red lights, particularly at pelican crossings? I do, often, but I still respect what a car or bus can do to me. The respect campaign, if pursued logically, would become a campaign to get pedestrians to respect all red lights. How much support would that get from the general public?

o There has been lots of publicity in recent years about how worse off vulnerable traffic is in the UK compared to other developed nations so it shouldn't be difficult to get a respect-(more)-vulnerable-traffic campaign off the ground. And that is what is needed.
Roland"

...and on the Draft Transport for London Cycle Safety Action Plan - relevant for possible Nottingham 'Respect' campaign:

" This looks a well-balanced document. The emphasis on educating motorists is very important. The report does however seem to assume that cyclists are adults. I see nothing about identifying the particular problems associated with the most vulnerable cyclists -- schoolchildren. (There is just a brief mention about children taking cycling lessons, but nothing about making motorists respect childrens' behaviour.) Until we get a generation of motorists who were once children that regularly cycled to school, we will continue to have problems with motorist education (for example, that they should overtake cyclists and not just squeeze past them, which may be the explanation for the particular causes of deaths identified in the report).
Roland"

....comments of 24 Oct from Gary:

"Hi

Bit late at night and it's been a tough day for me but clearly Roland and I have a different view of how to get change.

I believe it is important to get into the head of the people we want to change and to respond to their perspectives/expectations/concerns.

Roland wants to stand by the principles he adheres to and what he believes is the right ethical case. Personally my principles are close to Roland's but in terms of what and how things should be done we obviously come from different planets.

I have to say I see no point in responding further on this and maybe Roland should get the resources together to support what he wants to do. It would be nice to get a few more people leading some substantial initiatives which help cycling and the environment - I think Hugh and I need some young blood to 'do something'.
Gary"

.....more comments from Gary on possible relevance of Transport for London 'Share the Road' campaign (26 Oct):

"Hi
It is clearly useful having stewardship from the Mayor - something we need to continue to work on with political leaders in the GN area.

I think the campaign 'Share the Road ' has an excellent message as it doesn't attempt to take perceived rights of any one group away or give absolute rights to any one group of user but instead tries to encourage shared use of the road on safety grounds.

Some of the things we have discussed at CDG centred on the Cycling/Walking sharing and that is something we should also not forget locally - 'Share the Space' maybe?
Gary

Hugh McClintock (Dell) wrote:

- > Dear all
- > This new draft document from TfL, downloadable at <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/assets/downloads/businessandpartners/cycle-safety-action-plan-draft.pdf> seems
- > relevant for the possible Nottingham Respect Campaign which we have
- > been discussing, particularly its references to the TfL 'Share the Road' campaign from which we can learn.
- >
- > It is also interesting to see its other recommendations including a
- > lot about the importance of training of cyclists but also of lorry
- > drivers, in view of the fact that, for some reason which I am not
- > clear about, accidents between cyclists and HGVs have been increasing
- > in London recently against a general trend of a marked decrease in the
- > rate of cycle accidents per numbers of cyclists in a part of the
- > country with a particularly high recent increase in cycle use.
- >
- > Not much mention, rather surprisingly, of the importance of 20mph area
- > limits in London, though I understand that these have been getting
- > less emphasis by TfL since the change of Mayor last year, with more
- > such decisions being left to individual London Boroughs.
- > Hugh

Cycling on pavements –Beeston Road etc.: message of 28 Oct from Parbinder Singh, City Council and my reply
"Parbinder

Thank you for this message which I am passing on to Pedals activists, to Tom Williams of the Nottingham University Students' Union and to Joanna Ward and Andy Parkinson of the Sustrans Nottingham University Project (and also Chris Carter, and PC Dave Silverwood).

There is certainly lots of scope for improving the cycle paths around the Dunkirk/QMC area, especially the narrower bits of path on the west side of Clifton Boulevard between the Dunkirk flyover and the Derby Road Island, as well as improving signing. I am glad that you are now addressing this and would be glad please to have details to comment on.

As regards the Beeston Road pavement cycling issue, I agreed that the signing is clear where the shared path from the south entrance now ends and where cyclists are supposed (if they do not wish to continue on Beeston Road, on the road itself) to turn left via Greenfield Street etc. towards the Dunkirk flyover cycle crossing but it would be helpful if there could be more attempt to educate and inform cyclists, before resorting to Fixed Penalty Notice in cases of continued riding on the pavement east of the Greenfield Street turn. In discussions of the general issue of pavement cycling at meetings of the Greater Nottm Cycling Development Group it was agreed that persistent offenders should be strongly encouraged to take Ridewise training, as part of the process of educating and informing cyclists in such situations.

It could also be useful to use special markings on the pavements in cases like this where the shared path changes status to being a footway only after a junction and you might perhaps like to consider using something like the attached example which is used in Ireland, I know.
best wishes, Hugh

----- Original Message -----

From: [Parbinder Singh](#)
To: [Hugh McClintock \(Dell\)](#)
Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2009 2:38 PM
Subject: FW: Cycle paths around Beeston Road/abbey Bridge area [Scanned]

Hugh

Informing Pedals via yourself that the City Council will be remarking the cycle paths around Dunkirk/QMC and Abbey Area. Also signs will be improved.

However there is still a problem around Beeston Road, and here cyclists should not cycle on the pavement apart from the marked cycle paths. To make matters worse for cyclists the CPO's have been active in giving out Fixed Penalty Notices. It will be helpful if around this area markings are painted on the pavement showing NO Entry to cyclists and this way cyclists are made aware of not cycling on the pavement.

Welcome your views on regarding this problem around Beeston Road.

Best wishes, Parbinder Singh
Neighbourhood Action Officer
Dunkirk and Lenton & Bridge (Area 8)
Neighbourhood Management
1st Floor, Severns House
20 Middle Pavement
Nottingham
NG1 7DW
Tel: 0115 915 8063
Mobile: 07852 169 252
Fax: 0115 915 8371

Sales of Pedals City County Forest leisure rides books; Update from Lawrence Geary (21 Oct):

Lawrence's rough calculation is:-

- opening stock on 1.1.09: 982
- out in shops on sale or return: 82
- sold this year: 95, at say £5 each to Pedals after shop discount, postage etc. = £475 income
- so stock under his bed is now 805 (though less 44 which Dave has now collected for the stall, so 761 now left

He recommends keeping the shop cost at £9.95 for the time being (i.e. still £5 on stalls)

4. Feedback on Cyclenation/ CTC cycling seminar (for local authorities) on Fri 13 Nov and national campaigners' conference, Sat 14 November

- Seminar and Conference programme and attendance
- Social events and rides
- Finances and sponsorship (Pannone)
- Follow-up: seminar and conference material to go on Pedals website

5. Finance (Chris Gardner / Susan Young to report) and including:

6. Forthcoming meetings / events

(Speakers at and other arrangements for) Pedals monthly meetings

- 21 December, 18 January, 15 February etc.

Pedals post conference cum 30th birthday celebrations meal, Crocus Café, Lenton, 7.30 p.m.

We need to be sure just who is coming.*

Pedals Christmas Social, Monday 21 December

We have already this year not to include a quiz. What else do we want apart from eating and drinking and chatting? Do we want to include a (cycling) holiday slide show, as in recent years?*

18 January monthly meeting

Joanna Ward, Project leader for the new Sustrans Higher Education Nottingham cycling project, can manage 18 January but not 15 February so I proposed that we have her along then, even though we normally reserve this meeting for catching up after our December break.*

If we do make this change, what ideas do people have for the 15 February meeting?*

One idea might be to invite along again Murat Basaran for an update on the Cycling for Health project since we have not in fact had him to speak at one of our meetings since the project started well over 2 years ago.

Another idea might be not to have any speaker in the second half of the meeting but to have this as an 'Open Space' format meeting where we see what topics people would like to raise for a thorough discussion and then divide into 2-3 subgroups to discuss each of these.

From the new year we also need to be giving more thought to the **new committee structure for Pedals, with effect from the AGM next March**, the need for which we agreed in our discussions back in July on future changes in Pedals from next year, and a review of our core and optional tasks and the future allocation of responsibilities.

As well as taking further these ideas there are other ones that we should begin to consider including some of the suggestions in recent months from Peter Briggs for going for charity status for Pedals and perhaps even reconsidering the case for trying to get funding for a permanent worker, to help meet our growing workload while easing the burden on volunteers.

Other meetings / events

Cyclists to THE WAVE need accommodation in Nottingham – request for help from Mary Keynes for night of 1 December for cyclists passing through Nottingham and my response:

"Mary

Thanks for this which I was very interested to hear about. I am passing on your message to other Pedals activists and will put this on the agenda for our next monthly meeting, next Monday before getting back to you with any suggestions and offers of help.

Hugh McClintock
Chairman, Pedals

----- Original Message -----

From: [Mary Keynes](mailto:Mary.Keynes@ntlworld.com)

To: hugh.mcclintock@ntlworld.com

Sent: Monday, November 09, 2009 5:25 PM

Subject: Cyclists to THE WAVE need accommodation in Nottingham

Hi Hugh,

Mary Steiner of WDM Nottingham, gave me your address. I am one of a group of cyclists, Climate Chains, who are planning to cycle from Bradford to London for The Wave, leaving Bradford on Monday November 30th and arriving in London on the morning of December 5th. You will find us listed on The Wave website.

We are planning to spend Tuesday night, December 1st, in Nottingham, and we're looking for places where 13 cyclists can spend the night, whether on floors or in beds. We'll be carrying sleeping bags and mats. We'd be very grateful for any help.

In a way the best option would be a community centre or church hall where we could all arrive and leave together, but we'll gladly take what we can find. At the moment we have one offer of space for 4 or 5 people, so the minimum we would need is spaces for 8 or 9 people.

At Mary's suggestion I have also contacted Callie Lister of CANN.

I'd be very grateful for any help you can give us, whether by publicising our accommodation needs on your email lists or by suggesting other people I could contact. Also, if there are any events in Nottingham in the run-up to The Wave and Copenhagen that we could take part in. And of course, if any of your members would like to join us for any part of the ride we'd be delighted. Our route is Bradford, Sheffield, Nottingham, Peterborough, Cambridge and Walthamstow, roughly 30-40 mile stages and 10 miles into London on Saturday morning.

Thanks for any help you can give us, and I hope to meet you on December 1st.

Mary

Mary Keynes

email: marykeynes@googlemail.com

37 Roundhay Avenue

Leeds LS8 4DU, UK

Tel: 00 44 113 262 3330

....further message from Mary Keynes on 10 Dec:

"Hugh,

Many thanks for your quick response. If Pedals people would be interested in having a meeting and talk, we would be happy to oblige, as we already have something set up for Sheffield. Some of us have a history of cycling to G8 summit meetings and other campaign events nearer to home so one suggestion might be a talk and possibly slide show on that. I am in touch with people from WDM and FoE in Nottingham, also with the Notts Int. Dev Forum, so there might be interest in a joint meeting.

We are doing a test ride to Sheffield this weekend, so we should know better how our speed averages out and roughly when we can expect to arrive and depart. I'll get in touch with you next week when I know more about that and about the overall accommodation arrangements.
Mary"

Rural Rides De-brief, Thursday 3 Dec. 7-9pm

Date now fixed for 3rd December in the Assembly Room at County Hall with refreshments and bar booked, Pete Jarman tells me.

PS. I have been asked if the Rural Rides will be continuing, given the big cutbacks at the County Council. My understanding from Pete's message is that they will be, as will the Great Notts Bike Ride, the date for which next year has provisionally been fixed for Sunday 20 June.

....exchange of messages about recruiting extra rural ride leaders, and involving myself, Pete Jarman, Murat Basaran (Cycling for Health Project) and Helen Voce, CEO of Nottm Council for Voluntary Service (5 Nov):

"Hi

Thanks Hugh

Hi Pete

Is there any chance I could talk about the cycling for health project setting up regular group bike ride sessions in city locations at your meeting

I'd like to see if any of your members would be interested in helping us to set up and either lead/assist/support group rides in local communities – this will create potential to get more people cycling, practicing in between lessons, improving/maintaining health and fitness levels, getting regular exercise etc etc....no intention of poaching just looking for places where we might be able to draw some interest

We currently have one successful weekly ride from Sneinton to Colwick Park, we've organised another in Meadows and preparing one in Clifton, we just need volunteers to participate/build up a network
Would you be able to help?

Murat

Murat Basaran - 'Cycling for Health' Project Manager
Ridewise Cycle Training Co
Mobile: 07791 724548
Please send all correspondence to:
RideWise, c/o Groundwork Greater Nottingham
Denman Street East
Nottingham
NG7 3GX
Direct Line: 0115 9421919

For more information about the Cycling for Health Project take a look at
http://www.pedals.org.uk/cycling_for_health
<http://www.getmovingnottingham.nhs.uk/cycling>

From: Hugh McClintock (Dell) [mailto:Hugh.McClintock@ntlworld.com]

Sent: 05 November 2009 14:02

To: Pete Jarman

Cc: Murat Basaran (CfH); Helen Voce

Subject: getting more volunteers to lead rural guided rides

Pete

This morning I attend the AGM of the NCVS (Nottm Council for Voluntary Service), including a small group discussion on 'the changing nature of volunteering'. In the course of discussions I wondered if there might be scope for using their services to help recruit some new leaders for the Rural Rides programme and, if so, to encourage them to come along to this year's debrief meeting at County Hall on the evening of 2 December.

Incidentally, the Chief Exec of the NCVS, Helen Voce (to whom I am copying this message), is a regular cyclist, I happen to know, which might also be helpful in getting more such recruits!

It is also important to encourage the Health Trainers who have been trained by Ridewise as part of the Cycling for Health project and I know that Murat Basaran is interested in developing this.

best wishes
Hugh

Pedals monthly rides in spring and summer 2010 (for rural rides programme):

As we have been doing for the last two years we need now to agree a couple of people to co-lead Pedals rides on the third Wednesday of each month from April to July, to be submitted for entries to the Rural rides programme/

12 January City Council Regeneration and Sustainability Committee

Cllr. Emma Dewinton has told me that I should be invited along again to make a presentation on Pedals perspective on the City Cycling Action Plan. More details still awaited.

7. Cycle facility and traffic management matters:

NEP article (Sat 7 Nov) on the opening of the Meadow Lane canal lock riverside path link on 6 Nov (my message of 7 Nov)

"A good picture in today's Evening Post with the story about yesterday's opening of the 'missing link' by the Meadow Lane lock between the riverside path from Victoria Embankment (under Trent Bridge) and the canal path by London Road and the Turney's Quay housing area, opposite the NFFC ground on the south bank.

This item can also be found on the NEP website at <http://www.thisisthemeadows.co.uk/> and headed "£1.5mn towpath link officially opened"

The opening, by City Transport Portfolio Holder, Councillor, Jane Urquhart, was attended by a good crowd of cyclists, pedestrians and representatives of the City Council, British Waterways and other organisations and including two local MPs, Alan Simpson and John Heppell, which was good. Alan's speech included a reference to the closure of the Wilford Suspension Bridge and to the need for more good quality paths like this to encourage more people to walk on cycle, along the lines of the extensive system he had experience in Montreal, where his wife comes from.

There was also good coverage of the opening yesterday from BBC East Midlands Today, including an interview with Pedals member Peter Briggs, and in fact so much so that I had an email later from someone in East Leake saying that he had lodged a complaint to the BBC about the biased nature of their report which seemed to talk about this only as a cycle route and not for pedestrians etc. to enjoy!

Good coverage also about this yesterday afternoon on BBC Radio Nottingham from John Holmes, including a live interview with me about Pedals, and, without my prompting, a remark from him about how this opening would be even more welcome if it had coincided with the reopening of the Wilford suspension bridge!

PS. Improvement ideas:

I am well aware of various ways in which this basically very welcome route could be improved and have indeed already mentioned some of these informally to people at the City Council.

They include lighting, especially under Trent Bridge, and signing, including cycle route direction signs on the main access routes to let people know much more clearly that this new route now exists.

It will also help a lot when in due course

- there are much better connections to and from the canal towpath at the Low Level Station / City Centre end, as proposed in connection with the 'Turning Point East' scheme which the City Council are due to implement in this area in the next couple of years
- the riverside route continues from Meadow Lane lock through all the way to connect with the new Trent Lane-Colwick Park path (built last year in connection with John Rhodes' Riverside Crescent development). With the very negative impact of the recession on plans for redevelopment of this area we could easily be waiting another ten years at least for this!

Wilford meeting to discuss new shared path proposal between Bader Road and Gresham Park"- my message of 3 Nov to John Lee, City Council:

"John

I was interested to see the item in tonight's NEP about the meeting on Wednesday evening to discuss improvement of the path between Bader Road and Gresham Park. I can't manage to make the meeting but would welcome further details of the proposals.

I hope that they include signing, as the whole complex of new cycle routes in and near Gresham Park (and also the riverside path to and from West Bridgford and the various routes in Compton Acres etc), including the links to and from Wilford, badly need improved signing including clear, comprehensive, coherent and consistent direction signing, including integrating with the strategic cycle route signing proposals for Rushcliffe which I met Clive Wood at Trent Bridge House to discuss several months ago. I gathered from Clive a few days ago, when I rang him for an update, that these are still not finalised.

best wishes
Hugh

....and his reply of 4 Nov:

"Hugh, the Council were asked to look into the feasibility of this around 4 years ago by keen cyclists in the village. the proposal is for a new cycle/foot path to link Bader Road to Gresham Park. the alignment options are shown on the attached plan. However, residents from Bader Road, the school governors and the allotment holders do not want the path and cite crime, ASB, parking problems and child safety as the reasons. Three years ago the school were really keen on the idea and gave their full support as this would provide a direct link from their school to the facilities on Gresham and vice versa

Tonight's meeting is to give everyone in the village the opportunity to hear the 'facts' and then to make an informed decision on the proposals. if this does not go ahead I will then offer a proposal to upgrade (tarmac) the Holly avenue path which also links (although not as direct) to Gresham park via the tunnel, and depending on residents views who live on Vernon Avenue, will have street lights and be signed as a foot/cycle route to the wider network of PROW / open spaces

Do call if you would like to discuss this further, cheers
John Lee
Public Rights of Way
Traffic Management
Environment and Regeneration
Tele: 0115 9156078

....PS from Jonathan Shewell-Cooper, Wilford (4 Nov):

"Hugh,
Alas the residents voted to against the suggestion
Jonathan"

Re: [Pedals Website Enquiries] Who's right - Arnold Road - Oxclose Lane cycle track – message of 11 Nov from Gale Wakeling and my response

" Dear Gale

Thanks for this message. I must confess that I have not used the cycle track you mention for a long time but can well believe your account of how neglected and abused it is.

I will pass this message on to Chris Carter and Steve Brewer at Nottingham City Council to respond to.

best wishes
Hugh McClintock
Chairman, Pedals

----- Original Message -----

From: <gale.wakeling@yahoo.co.uk>

To: <Ineylon@ntlworld.com>; <Hugh.McClintock@ntlworld.com>; <andrew@veggies.org.uk>; <chris.gardner@nsn.com>; <Arthur.Williams@nottingham.ac.uk>; <Susan.Young@nottingham.ac.uk>

Sent: Wednesday, November 11, 2009 8:13 PM

Subject: [Website Enquiries] Who's right

> Gale Wakeling sent a message using the contact form at

> <http://www.pedals.org.uk/contact>.

>

> I have left the car at home for just over a year now, i managed to get my
> friend to cycle along side me to work as well. We join the cycle track at
> the top of Arnold Road, all the way down to Oxclose Lane. The problem is
> we get abuse from people walking on the track, Why.. because there are NO
> signs to say it's a cycle track apart from a 15" notice that is placed high
> inside the trees just across the road from the Police Station. In some
> parts the path is breaking away making it dangerous to ride on, When it
> rains there is a pool of water spreading right across the track. There is a
> white car that thinks it is a parking plot on the track, again just across

> the road from the Station. I love riding my bike to and from work but I'm
> getting sick of the public moaning. It's bad enough that cars blast me for
> riding in the middle of the road on St Albums Road Bulwell when cars are
> parked on the nearside hump i have to go around. I am lit up like a Xmas tree
> and wear Hi Viz gear so there is no excuse they don't see me. this cycling
> lark is not as much fun as some make it out to be when you have to be go
> into battle every day. Oh by the way,, this is at 7am in the morning, so
> gawd help us if it was any later. I don't know who to complain to as i am
> not one to complain.
Thank you for taking the time to read this email.
> Mrs Gale Wakeling who would like to continue her ride to work.

Another one for the developing comprehensive Pedals wish list for Nottingham!

Comment on Pedals website re barriers on path between Stoke Bardolph and Colwick Park, forwarded to Pete Jarman, Notts CC:

"Pete

You might perhaps like to respond to this comment on the Pedals website which Larry Neylon (Pedals webmaster) has just drawn to my attention. I don't in fact know the person who sent it.

"Path From Stoke Bardolph towards Colwick
Posted October 31st, 2009 by mike-h

Hi,

There are some improvements to the path between Stoke Bardolph and Colwick Park.

Part of the work includes installing A frame barriers.

The barrier near to the railway crossing appears to have been installed with the gap between the frames narrower than on other A Frames in the area, and the gap is too narrow for the handlebars of my bike to fit through.

I can't turn/wiggle the bars to get them through, so turning around is the only option.

Any ideas who to speak to get this fixed? I believe they have only been installed in the last few days.

ta
Mike

.....response from Pete Jarman, 5 Nov:

"Hugh,

I believe that Groundwork who are doing the scheme have already agreed to meet with him, as he's complained through multiple channels.

Regards, Peter Jarman
Senior Recreational Routes Officer
Communities Department
Nottinghamshire County Council
Tel. 0115 977 3371

----- Original Message -----

From: [Larry Neylon](#)

To: '[Hugh McClintock \(Dell\)](#)'

Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2009 7:57 AM

Subject: Comment on website

<http://www.pedals.org.uk/node/295>

Message from Ralph Smyth, CPRE Transport Campaigner re the dualling of the A453 and CPRE's submission to the forthcoming public inquiry:

"Dear Hugh

Thanks very much for the information. I do sympathise with you having a busy agenda at your next meeting.

The HA reports on NMUs (DD34 and 39) are now available at:
http://www.persona.uk.com/A453widening/core_documents.htm

As you may have gathered Sustrans has now contacted the inquiry officer to say that it is now supporting our proof in general terms.

Best wishes
Ralph Smyth
Senior Transport Campaigner
Campaign to Protect Rural England
128 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SW
Direct Dial: 020 7981 2825

-----Original Message-----

From: Hugh McClintock (Dell) [mailto:Hugh.McClintock@ntlworld.com]
Sent: 29 October 2009 13:12
To: Ralph Smyth
Cc: Patrick Davis
Subject: Re: Pedals & A453 dualling

Dear Ralph

Thanks for sending this which I will raise at the next Pedals monthly meeting on Monday 16 November. However, I know that we have a great deal else to discuss then, so am not sure how much time we will have to get to grips with it. Meanwhile, I will have a look at your Proof.

Please find attached a copy of Pedals comments to the HA, as you request. We worked very closely on this with Patrick Davis of Sustrans and agreed that the quality of the cycling provision in the scheme had improved greatly since the earlier plans.

I also attach a copy of the flyer for the national Cyclenation-CTC campaigners' conference which Pedals and Notts CTC are hosting on Saturday 14 November in Nottingham and for which bookings are now coming in steadily. Please do circulate to anyone who may be interested. The theme of the conference is Cycle Campaigners Working in Partnership at national and local levels.

best wishes
Hugh McClintock
Chairman, Pedals

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ralph Smyth" <RalphS@cpre.org.uk>
To: <Hugh.McClintock@ntlworld.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 29, 2009 11:54 AM
Subject: Pedals & A453 dualling

Dear Hugh

I'm writing to ask whether Pedals could support CPRE's objection to the A453 dualling by writing a statement to the forthcoming public inquiry. I realise that Pedals has already written a consultation response to the scheme but can't find it on your website and would be really grateful if you could email me a copy.

As with our local district group, Pedals may have felt that the road was going to go ahead so the best that could be sought was mitigating it. As you can see from our proof we think there is a fighting chance now. With the likely cuts next year of up to 35% in transport spending, increasing urgency on climate change and yesterday's announcement on MML electrification, there's a real need to focus spending effectively.

I look forwards to hearing from you.
Kind regards
Ralph Smyth
Senior Transport Campaigner
Campaign to Protect Rural England
128 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SW
Direct Dial: 020 7981 2825

-----Original Message-----

From: Ralph Smyth
Sent: 29 October 2009 11:46
To: 'Richard George'; 'David Powell'; 'Richard Dyer'; Chris Peck; Jason Torrance; David Murray (davidm@ramblers.org.uk)
Subject: Local group support statements sought against A453 dualling
Importance: High

As you may know CPRE is objecting to the £180m dualling of the A453 between the M1 and Nottingham, which is going to public inquiry next month. I'm writing to ask for you to contact your local groups/staff to see if they are willing to write a one paragraph letter (or more if they want!) to the Inspector saying that they support our position - I attach our full proof of evidence. The main other objectors are the Notts Wildlife Trust...and Eon as it will eat into the landscaped grounds of one of their power stations.

In essence we are calling for much more limited changes with the rest of the money to go on improving the parallel Birmingham - Notts rail services, in particular by electrification. The widening scheme has the highest carbon emissions of any non-motorway scheme in the region - as the inquiry is in the run-up to Copenhagen we want to put high carbon road expansion on trial.

The proposed active travel facilities would be poor, with a 3m (the minimum width in Cycle Infrastructure Design) for a shared use path running past a university that's already very busy: we're calling for land to be used to make this much better rather than two extra lanes of carriageway. We do support the active mode improvements on the rural section of the route though but believe the extra noise and air pollution from a widened road would make leisure use even less than it already is.

I'd be grateful if you could copy me into emails that you forward.
Thanks in advance
Ralph Smyth
Senior Transport Campaigner
Campaign to Protect Rural England
128 Southwark Street, London SE1 0SW
Direct Dial: 020 7981 2825

We last made detailed comments on the cycling provision in the A453 proposals about a year ago, being at last fairly satisfied with their quality. In doing this we accepted that, whatever the general merits and demerits of investing in such major road schemes, this one was very likely to go ahead and that we may as well at least ensure that cyclists' needs were properly provided for.

Since then, although notified about the public inquiry which is about to start, and about the various detailed alternatives / variations put forward we have not commented on those.

CPRE now think that there is a good chance at the Inquiry to challenge the whole basis for the scheme and to say that recent policy changes mean that the money should be invested in alternatives.

Apparently less important matters / other City and County Council consultations, e.g. on Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) – details below in the background notes.

- TMP6813 – responses needed by 3 Dec.: Canal St: Proposed Amendments to Pay and Display Parking Bays
- TMP6815 by 7 Dec.: Elliot St, Nottm: Proposed Restricted zone.
- TMP6818 by 23 Nov: Hoyland Avenue area, Lenton: Residents' Parking Scheme TRO

8. Miscellaneous items:

Cycle to Work Salary Sacrifice scheme:

The Department for Transport (DfT) has recently published guidance on how to implement 'cycle to work' salary sacrifice schemes.

More info at:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/sustainable/cycling/cycletoworkguidance/pdf/518054>

/

Hugh, 12.11.09