

Minutes for Pedals Monthly Meeting on 18th July 2016

Held at the Vat and Fiddle Public House at 7:30pm

Present:

Paul Abel
David Easley
David Lally
Thomas Madar
Andrew Martin
Hugh McClintock
David Miller
Ben Troth
Susan Young

Apologies:

Ian Lane
Mara Ozolins
Anne Sladen

Meeting started at 7:35pm

Chair: Susan Young

Minutes: Thomas Madar

Matters Arising From the Minutes of the Previous Pedals Meeting (20 June 2016)

Pedals deficit and newsletter costs:

At a cost of £1.50 per copy, the production of 800 colour copies over a year costs £1200. A number of economies were mooted such as black and white printing, using a poorer quality of paper, and/or having fewer pages. Hugh maintained that the use of colour was important in conveying a good impression, but that the print run could be cut to 250 per issue. Susan advocated a newsletter of 16 A6 pages, folded from 4 A4 sheets.

Susan additionally advocated the following measures requiring the availability of the internet:-

- The promotion of the website, with PDF colour copies available for download.
- Members to be offered the option of a free electronic copy of the newsletter sent by e-mail, or a paid-for paper version through the post.

Response to Nottingham City Council's Nottingham Eco Expressway:

There were no additional matters arising.

Marie Ashby planned BBC TV Inside Out programme feature on trams and cyclists' safety:

No further news yet on the date of the programme due to be shown in September.

Currently, there are two separate tram accident reporting systems, one for Sheffield and another for Nottingham. There was an action placed on Ben to liaise with Jonathan about enabling tram accident reporting to cover more than one city, so that there would be one system for all cities, and also to make it easy to discern any hotspots and patterns of accident occurrence. The logging of detailed statistics such as severity, time of day and weather would be useful to improve route design and to

promote the good behaviour of road users. Hugh said that he was trying to arrange another meeting in September with the City Council to discuss outstanding tram-related issues for cyclists, and that it would be very helpful before then to have up to date figures on accidents.

New East Midlands Trains Station Cycle Parking Facility on Queen's Road:

The cycle parking facility was ready for cycles, but the cycle shop which was intended to be an integral part of this facility was not yet open. Without this, cyclists were having difficulty in obtaining the key fobs required for access, Paul Abel said. It was concluded that the cycle parking facility was advertised as being open before it was truly ready. Hugh mentioned that Peter Briggs was trying to arrange an early meeting with EMT to discuss the issues and said it would be very useful if Paul could also be involved in this. He would now suggest this to Peter.

The Hook Foot-Cycle Bridge: Sustrans specialist work on the economic impact

Hugh said that the draft Economic Impact report from the Sustrans Research and Monitoring Unit had now at last been received but that both the Steering Group, and also Keith Morgan from the City Council and Paul Hillier from the County Council thought that it needed strengthening in various ways, even if this meant taking quite a bit more time. Having met to discuss this feedback it was now agreed to hold a further meeting with the two people from Sustrans RMU working on the report, Claire Pagler and Matt Dawes, as well as Gwyneth McMinn from Sustrans, to discuss this feedback in detail and to ensure that they were both thoroughly familiar with the 4 theoretically possible bridge sites and their wider context.

Pedals stall at Nottingham Green Festival on Sunday 11 September:

Andrew sent in an application to erect a 4 square metre gazebo. Hugh and Andrew will definitely be there. It is possible that Susan, Thomas and Ben will join them.

Report on Recent Meetings and Events by People Who Have Attended on Behalf of Pedals

Overall, there was very little to report. In Beeston, there are signs telling pedestrians to be aware of cyclists, and where cycling is permitted, shops are putting signs against the wall as opposed to using A-boards which obstruct the narrow shared path behind the north side of the Chilwell Road tram stop.

Greater Nottingham Light Transit Advisory Committee meeting, 5 July

As the NET trams are relatively narrow and short, unlike those in Edinburgh for example, there will be no trial of cycles being transported on trams, David Lally reported. Susan discussed special services for cyclists.

Finance, Membership, Promotion and Publicity

There was little to report.

No recent orders had been received for the Pedals City County and Forest book, a very important source of income for many years since the last edition published in 2005. With 200 copies available for sale, it was proposed to sell 100 of them on E-bay for £5 each, to include packing and postage.

Forthcoming Meetings and Events

Arrangements for Future Pedals Meetings:-

Monday 15th August: David to chair and Arthur to record the minutes

Monday 19th September: Andrew to chair and Thomas to record the minutes

Monday 17th October: Hugh to chair and Paul to record the minutes

Monday 21st November: Susan to chair

There were a number of topics mentioned for future discussion in these meetings. These are listed below:-

Conflicts between cyclists and other road users

Hugh referred to the offer from Gary Smerdon-White, who had been asked by the City Council to conduct a review of ways in which greater respect between road users could be encouraged, to come along for a discussion at a Pedals meeting.

However, David Easley said that spending too much time on road user behaviour could be a diversion from our main concern, discussing improvements to cycle infrastructure, and Ben Troth said that there was also a danger from such exercises that concerns about cyclists' behaviour could easily get blown up out of all proportion considering the wider and more important issue of getting drivers to be more considerate to vulnerable road users. Instead of Gary coming along to a Pedals meeting it was agreed that Hugh should report back on the discussion on this at the next CDG meeting.

Susan commented on the arrangements for cyclists in London, with a growing network of good quality, segregated cycle lanes.

September's meeting: The Pedals Website

A need to tidy up the website was discussed. Andrew suggested that Pedals pay Larry, our webmaster, to carry out the task. Hugh suggested dividing up the task between members of Pedals, each person having responsibility for a portion of this site. **September's** meeting was earmarked for a discussion on the website, with a screen being used to demonstrate portions of it.

October's meeting: Various items

Ideally, **October's** meeting was earmarked for CCTV related matters. An invitation letter was sent to Andrew Charlton who had a connection with the work of the Police on our highways. In the absence of a speaker, it was suggested that the meeting would act as a follow-up to September's meeting.

A discussion on driver distractions (such as mobile phones) and the safety of driverless cars was also proposed.

Susan suggested a speaker free evening.

Cycle Facility and Traffic Management Matters

There were short discussions on the following items:-

- Public Consultation on strategic cycle routes in West Bridgford
- Upgrading of the subway under the A52 near Sharp Hill, between West Bridgford and Ruddington; one of several trunk road schemes which were the subject on ongoing discussion with Highways England, a very slow process, particularly with their recent reorganisation and consequent changed roles of some of the people with whom we had been dealing.
- PDF versions of County Council cycle maps on the County Council website. There was a remark that this was a good idea because the existing paper versions were becoming out of date. However, the idea had now been rejected by Paul Hillier of the County Council, for legal reasons, explained in his recent email.
- Cycling between the City Hospital and the Queen's Medical Centre. The cycle path. Various safety issues were discussed, including cars standing on the green cycle priority crossing strips where the path intersected streets, and a near accident with a seven and a half tonne vehicle.
- Thane Road track diversion, in the vicinity of the new Enterprise Zone bridge site near the Boots entrance, across the canal.
- TME 7151M Consultation for Carrington Street
- Transport plans and speed limits. Ben supported the case for lower speed limits, including radial roads, e.g. as recently proposed for Melton Road, West Bridgford.

- The need for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists to be considerate towards one-another in a shared space environment.

Miscellaneous Items

Lights on Bicycles

There were favourable comments on the message given on 25th June by Roland Backhouse: City bicycles sold by the Cycle Heaven Shop in York came fully equipped.

Any Other Business

There was a further discussion for the campaign to permit two way cycling on Spaniel Row, off Friar Lane.

Cycle-scape related issues were discussed.

There was a remark that Pedals was misrepresented on proposals for the Victoria Embankment lighting scheme and, in response to a message from John Bann, Hugh had now made clear to him that we were not opposed to this, while also mentioning other issues related to the Victoria Embankment on which we did want action, including speeding and the need for better signing, especially in the area around the west end of the Suspension Bridge and the junction with the connecting paths across the playing fields to and from Wilford Grove etc.