

Cycle Advisory and Liaison Group Meeting Minutes

Monday 22nd January 2024

Attendees:	INITIALS	STATUS
Moor, Nigel;	NM	Chair
Smith, Roger;	RS	Forum rep
Taylor, Malcom;	MT	Forum rep
Gray, Cllr David;	DG	Member
Morris, Cllr Dominic;	DM	Member
Cody, Cllr Cate;	CC	Member
Bloxsom, Cllr John;	JB	Member
Bullock, Alan;	AB	Officer
Excell, Simon;	SE	Officer
Williams, Sarah;	SW	Officer
Ollie, Hazel;	OH	Officer
Atkins, Jo;	JA	Officer
Chick, Danielle;	DC	Officer
Chick, Colin;	CCh	Officer
Davis, Nathan;	ND	Officer
Davies, Petula;	PD	Officer

Apologies

Willingham, Cllr David;	DW	Member
Williams, Philip;	PW	Officer
Humm, Jason;	JH	Officer
Marshall, Tracy	TM	Officer
Haworth, Kathryn;	KH	Officer
Senft-Hayward, Luisa;	LSH	Officer
Ainslie, Imogen;	IA	Observer
Ward, Christopher;	CW	Observer

1.0 Welcome and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and read apologies.

Cllr Willingham sends apologies. Cllr Bloxsom joining late.

2.0 Actions and minutes of 25th October 2023

Minutes agreed and actions discussed. Previous actions:

Action: KH to look into Charlton Hill cycle details and follow up with DW.

- This has occurred.

Action: SW to speak to Highways regarding lighting issue at Elmbridge.

- SW contacted but no response received yet.

Action: SW to add maintenance project review to forward plan.

- We're in the process of developing a checklist for this process. Partially actioned, to be followed up in March CAG meeting.

Action: JG to write a report regarding maintenance project at the end of winter.

- Pick up in March CAG meeting.

Action: all to promote ThinkTravel <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/thinktravel>, Love to Ride [Lovetoride/Gloucestershire](https://www.lovetoride.co.uk) and Bikeability training and cycle instructor recruitment

- Higher level of bike competence required for older children leaving primary school.

Action: AB to provide JA with a contact re NHS cycle ride.

- AB emailed to say Paul Morris (Cycle Forum member) has kindly volunteered to mobilise NHS staff to undertake a cycle ride once the B4063.

3.0 November Cycling Forum

MT noted a few maintenance items had been discussed. MT has noticed a leaf sweeper on Metz Way cycle path and new cycle spine appears to be kept clear. The rail trail Nailsworth to Dudbridge also seems to be swept, although is covered in wet leaves. Charlton Hill is not officially a cycle lane. FixMyStreet has now launched although it appears issues can be marked as fixed when they have not been fixed. Issues include the Castle Meads cycle path and alignment that couldn't be put on the system as it is not on the map. Another issue was a street light on West Gate Street. 'Fixed' doesn't mean the work has necessarily been fixed. SW to look into the logistics of this.

MT noted active travel – can we link buses and bikes by taking cycles on buses? SW confirmed that GCC are working on this through the BSIP currently, however we have not been able to find an operator who has been able to accommodate this so far.

RS has been promoting the FixMyStreet app and amongst cycle club members. RS has been using cycle track from Arle Court to Gloucester. Ride time is quicker when not on a road, seems to work well and is more convenient. RS noticed more people using the track. Issues raised with two-way cycling, particularly with cycle lighting in dark evenings. RS suggested a maintenance sweeping trial to take place on some sections of the cycle track to see how regularly sweeping will need to take place. SW has confirmed that a sweeper and a gritter has been trialled. RS to feedback sections that appear to be un-swept. Positive feedback regarding gritter.

Previous presentation by Sustrans on quiet ways - RS noted that it appears they are proposing a shift from cycle paths to quiet roads. SW explained that her experience with Sustrans is that they would like all cycling to be off-road.

4.0 Funding opportunities

Cotswold CIL:

- Two requests to Cotswolds for CIL projects. One was the western spine road crossing (NCN alignment). Cotswolds said they couldn't fund feasibility work but their management fund will fund investigations. CIL bid can be put in for construction work. Another bid was for the Cirencester to Kemble corridor. Cotswolds have asked for focus on Cirencester section of the route.
- Cotswolds local plan under review.

Stroud CIL:

- Bid for improvements to Merrywalks in Stroud to provide a transport hub – this has been received positively and includes improving bus shelters, improve cycle storage and brighter lighting. Shopping centre will maintain the cycle storage.
- GCC are going to bid into Stroud walking and cycling budget to improve the Wayfinding, rail station, transport hub and connection into the town is better coordinated.
- JB asked about real time bus times. SW confirmed that this will be included in the improvements.
- MT raised issues with cycling near bus station and lower side of Merrywalks. Merrywalks is not used as a corridor within the Stroud LCWIP.

Action: SW to prepare a report/ update for the next CAG meeting.

5.0 Traffic lights that don't detect cyclists

National Highways have had regular issues with the lights at Over, these are not under our control but we report issues directly to NH.

Detection of bikes can be tricky depending on what the bike is made of if they are relying on loops in the carriageway to detect them, as sites are being upgraded we are making use of overhead detection and the latest technology to help solve this.

ND introduced himself and his team. Transition period between AJ work and ND. ND to update for the next CAG meeting. SW to include on next agenda.

6.0 Summary of current projects

Initiative/ Scheme	Update
Major Projects	
B4063 Gloucester to Cheltenham Cycle Scheme	- M5 Overbridge, Staverton to Brickhampton Golf Course – complete late December 2023 - Golf Course to Elmbridge Court – On target to be complete in late Spring 2024/Early Summer 2024 - Elmbridge Court to Estcourt Roundabout – Due to start in February 2024 - Contractor share event planned Wednesday 31st January at Chamwell Centre, Longford Lane, Longlevens. Wills Bros and GCC staff will be in attendance to discuss the project. - Estcourt Roundabout – Scheduled for Autumn 2025 works. Detailed design ongoing. -
Gloucester City Cycle Spine	- Public share event held Summer 2023 - Llanthony Road cycle works - starts early February 2024 - Southgate Street and Northgate Street – Expected early Summer 2024 start - London Road/Great Western Road and Black Dog Way – On hold
Gloucester to Stroud	- Consultation planned in early 2024 preliminary design progressing
Cheltenham to Bishops Cleeve	- Phase 1 Racecourse Roundabout to Honeybourne Line – works started late 2023 - Phase 2 Section 1 Rail Bridge to Bishops Cleeve - Public Share Event to be held Thursday 25th January, Cheltenham Tigers Rugby Club, Southam

Cycle Improvements	- Phase 2 Section 1 Rail Bridge to Bishops Cleeve – Hedge preparatory works February 2024 - Phase 2 Section 1 Rail Bridge to Bishops Cleeve – Works start summer 2024 - Phase 2 Section 2 Racecourse Roundabout to Rail Bridge – Works start summer 2025
Cheltenham Cycle Spine	- Early engagement undertaken and preliminary design progressing
Highway Improvement Projects	
Minor Improvements	- Concept plans received for Cainscross Road and to be developed further by SW and AB as part of cycle spine. Have also been shared with JB as per request at previous meeting - Cam and Dursley Greenway concept plans received – funding options available have been discussed with the highways development manager. Liaison with the C&D Greenway group continues to establish any other opportunities for funding and development of the scheme. - Safety scheme programme – speed limit reductions to help with walking and cycling in key areas including Bath Road in Cheltenham and Bristol Road in Gloucester. Review of 24/25 Programme underway and will consider improvements for active travel where this meets with the data. - Use of S106 funding for Longford and Kingsway cycle routes to provide better signage to link up to canal and existing routes – Kingsway route to be aligned with Cycle Spine - SE and SW have put a bid in to CDC for a crossing along Spine Road in the Cotswolds to make sure NCN 45 has a full crossing. Concerns from CDC about levels of funding required – design review underway with Atkins to ensure we can meet the criteria set out by CDC - Working closely with the Transport Planning team to look at smaller schemes that will link into the cycle spine such as Stroud Town Centre linkages and options to bid for smaller pots of money - Coleford Town Centre Review – highways input into redevelopment to ensure that walking and cycling are catered for in any revised layout - Berkeley Town Centre – Town centre regeneration project that will look at improved links for walking and cycling and improvements to the cycle provision in the town centre e.g. cycle storage
ThinkTravel	
Cycling/ Bikeability	- Changes in policy through Active Travel England and funding. Targets set in Oct 23. - Currently deliver: Thinktravel are currently the Bikeability provider for whole county. 31 Instructors currently and funded for 4870 places for level 1-3 training. 5000 pupils currently trained in level 1-3. 4500 places part-funded through school contributions (FSM pupils are fully funded through GCC). 200 Bike Fix sessions proposed funded through GCC 20 transition rides proposed funded through GCC/ATE - New targets: deliver up to 80% primary school pupils training in level 1 and 2 by April 2025. - Deliver new targets: Increase Recruitment for new instructors and increased communications. Increase delivery to schools and numbers per existing school sites. Trial training centres at community hubs across county. Set up sustainable deliverables post 2025. - Audited by Bikeability Trust in Nov 23 and passed. Team has been asked to present at the Bikeability conference.

Love to Ride	- Winter Wheelers campaign in December – prize draws for walking and cycling. 43% more people used Love to Ride in Dec 23 compared to Dec 22. Barriers to cycling to work noted in the report. - Sustrans Big Walk on Wheel campaign in March – doing a series of built-up events in schools to encourage active travel to school. Training and confidence sessions provided for families. - Access to e-bike scheme – funded by Active Travel England capability fund (also funds Love to Ride). Scheme provides trials for e-bikes to adults in the county. Scheme rotate bikes to different businesses and this is to be extended to NHS.
Capability & Ambition fund	- Travel plans with employers across the county.
Strategic Planning	
LCWIP development update	www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/lcwip - All LCWIPs have been published excluding Newent and this is to be published end of the financial year. - Next financial year – looking at reviewing Central Severn Vale plan. Primary corridors in plan have been delivered or in construction. - Internal groups formed to ensure vision for cycling is coordination with vision for public transport.
Cotswold	- CDC CIL EOIs submitted (refer to earlier notes)
Stroud	- SDC CIL bids submitted (refer to earlier notes) - Dudbridge steps feasibility report underway

CC requested map and details of discussed updates. AB confirmed to include within the minutes.

MT noted that there has been a shift from negative to positive comments received regarding Glos Cycle Spine.

JB noted continued access restrictions to Sharepoint. AB noted that his colleague is in the process of resolving this.

CC asked about schools that are hard to reach (Bikeability). OH noted that Stroud/ Cotswolds and villages are hardest to reach. Previously used summer holidays to provide services to these areas, but the uptake is much lower than term time. Looking to work with more schools to expand the scheme. Also looking for more instructors but this is also difficult within the more rural areas of the county. CC noted that school streets seem positive so far.

JB noted issues with school streets website and information that is displayed on there. JA to update the website. Permanent schools are Warden Hill primary school and Tewkesbury C of E primary school.

CC noted that GCC are reluctant to take any more permanent school street as out turn is not as high as the resources. Schemes are not able to be put in in areas that impact road traffic. Data led approach is now needed to find out where exactly road safety issues are occurring.

JA noted that the main priority is to support people to actively travel every day.

CC noted that funding is available for new roads but not for maintenance for cycle storage, for example.

NM suggested that local plans could be updated on in future CAG meetings.

Action: JA to update the website with correct school street information.

7.0 AOB

Public share event Thursday 25th Jan – A4035 Cheltenham to Bishop's Cleeve Cycleway

Agenda items for next meeting:

- Maintenance
 - o Nailsworth to Dudbridge and Dudbridge to Stonehouse cycle route.
- Traffic lights
 - o How responsive are they?
- Cycle spine site visit with the group in the summer months

Date of next meeting: Monday 4th March 12-2pm

Date of next forum: Monday 13th May 2-4pm