

Horsham District Cycling Forum: Minutes of Meeting 5 January 2015

Present: Neil, Francis, Peter, Ruth. **Apologies:** Mark, Philip

Discussion on Future of West Sussex Cycle Forum:

WSCF members have been working hard to engage constructively with WSCC to improve conditions for cycling. November's much-delayed meeting between WSCF and WSCC to discuss proposals for a cycling strategy was deeply disappointing: the WSCC officers/members present declined to attend future cycle forum meetings; WSCC will not allow WSCF to meet on their premises and WSCF proposals for the cycling strategy were not discussed. The next WSCF meeting on 7/1/15 will consider the future of the forum.

Possible approaches were discussed including disbanding and publicising why; becoming a more formal group with representatives from various bodies; becoming a campaign group; acting as a knowledge base and contact network. Ruth agreed to attend WSCF on Wednesday and put forward the various HDCF views.

Ruth

Horsham-Crawley cycle route

The latest reply from WSCC says that although they would like to complete the route via the railway subway, there is no money and no plan to do so. They suggest that HDC would need to be convinced there is a 'community desire'.

We agreed that we need to fight this one now. Work towards a photoshoot at the underpass.

Continue contact with WSCC and HDC

Ruth

We need a publicity pack with map, short explanation of the need, example of the real road safety issue: a man cycling on Kerves Lane was killed just the other day.

Peter

Talk to possible supporters –local councillors, Jane Apostolou, Horsham Cycling club, Horsham Cycle Companions, The Cycle Room, AD Cycles (Andy has already agreed he would be happy to have info/a petition in the shop), Freeborn, Transition Horsham, Ramblers, NH Parish Council etc etc.

All

A more formal approach for the cycle forum

Agreed that we will publish minutes and other documents and improve our online presence so that we can be more transparent, more effective at representing community views, more widely heard and give more people the chance to contribute to the forum.

We need to have a system that is simple to maintain. Peter confirmed that the website is still up. Discussed relative merits of the existing website, a blog, Yahoogroups, Twitter. Peter and others to look into the options

Peter

We need more people to be able to tweet on behalf of the group on @CycleForumHorsh. Mark, can you sort this?

Mark

As previously agreed, Neil will fill in the forms for us to join the Horsham Town Community Partnership. This will make

HDC Parking consultation

Briefly discussed –the changes proposed are relatively minor and although they do not take advantage of the opportunity to improve cycling conditions, it was agreed that the forum would not make a formal response.

Next Meeting: Monday 2nd Feb, 7.45pm, 30 Ashleigh Rd, Horsham RH12 2LF. If you have any agenda items or wish to change the time/date of the meeting, please email.