



**CITY & COUNTY OF SWANSEA  
DINAS A SIR ABERTAWE**

**SWANSEA CYCLE FORUM**

**Minutes of Meeting – Wednesday 20 January 2010 at 10:00  
Committee Room 5, Guildhall**

**Present:**

Rob Wachowski	RW	CCS Environment Transportation Group
Ben George	BG	CCS Environment Transportation Group
Amy Crampton	AC	CCS Environment Planning Services
Nerys Lewis	NL	CCS Culture & Tourism
Ellie Plenty	EP	Sustrans (Sust)
Eifion Francis	EF	Wheelrights (WR)
David Naylor	DN	Cyclists Touring Club (CTC)
Richard Byrne	RB	South Wales Police
Roy Jones	RJ	Friends of the Earth (FoE)

**Apologies:**

None	
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Item		Action
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
1.1	Apologies as above.	
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>	
2.1	None.	
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b>	
3.1	Agreed.	
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
4.1	RW. 4.1 – A copy of the City Centre Metro audit is not yet available because it is awaiting a formal response from the CCS design to items contained within it. The Forum will be advised when it becomes available.	
4.2	RW. 4.2 – A meeting has taken place with the Gorseinon Development Trust (GDT) and various representatives of groups with an interest in the Kingsbridge to Gowerton link route. The GDT will be taking a leading role in taking this forward and RW will circulate notes from the meeting and keep the Forum informed of progress.	RW
4.3	RW. 9.3 – Funding has been secured from the CCS budget for design work to be carried on the route from Gowerton, through Penclawdd to link up with Llanrhidian. Some of this will be on road until a possible off road route can be identified in the future.	

Item		Action
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Wheelrights Wish List</b>	
5.1	RW – At the meeting with Chris Vinestock and key CCS staff in November most of the items were discussed in detail to determine their priorities and some were identified as having since been completed. RW is now in the process of working through the list and tabulating them in priority order rather than by location. It was agreed that this was a matter for the Technical Sub Group (TSG).	RW
5.2	BG – RW will be meeting with Mark Thomas (MT), Group Leader for Traffic to discuss the issues raised such as the use of Elephants Feet markings at minor road junctions and other items and WR will involved through the TSG. RW will be coordinating this and reporting back.	RW
5.3	RJ – Concerned that there was a large population area in the north east that is not being catered for in the provision of cycling facilities. RW pointed out that a lot of infrastructure came off the back of private developments that didn't happen in these areas but they are still part of the CCS aspirations for a county network. BG added that there was current transport review of the Swansea Vale area that is looking at links with the surrounding areas including Llansamlet rail station.	
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Gower Cycling Festival</b>	
6.1	DN – Outlined the proposal and said that there was a well attended WR meeting on Monday night and the date is now fixed for 18 – 25 September. They are aiming for 2 rides per day that would mainly be around Gower but some will be to the north west and north east.	
6.2	DN asked about the necessity for police involvement and RW said that he would be representing CCS on the WR festival committee and will pass on details to the council Safety Advisory Group who will liaise with all the emergency services and advise on actions required.	RW
6.3	BG asked what the proposals were for advertising and promoting the event. DN has been working on the design of flyers and leaflets and that it was going to be in the Swansea What's On guide and is on the CCS Tourism website. It will also be advertised on cycling websites such as the CTC. NL added that it will also be in the 2010 Holiday Guide that listed major events in the Swansea area and has a print run of 100,000. DN hoped that there was funding available from CCS Tourism and NL explained about the Events Marketing Grant from Swansea Tourism who are an independent organisation that is keen to develop the shoulder season and the Development Manager is Kathy Lewis. BG suggested that Sustrans might be able to promote this and EP will check this.	EP
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Swansea Cycle Map</b>	
7.1	BG – Gave the background to the WAG issues concerning compliance with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) and the prominence of their logo being as they were the major funder of the project. The DDA matter has now been resolved. EP has received a letter from WAG and it has been agreed that labels will be attached to the front cover of the map and these have been prepared by Sustrans. There was a general discussion about who could stick the labels on and the ideas that came forward are; to be done at point of issue; use of CCS survey team, RW to look into this; schools involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme; Sustrans Rangers and volunteers.	RW

Item		Action
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Connect 2 – Clydach and Penclawdd</b>	
8.1	<p>EP – Clydach. There will be a Planning consultation in March with displays about the scheme in the Forge Fach Centre.</p> <p>Work is due to start this year on the link from High Street down to the canal. Inco have agreed the route alignments across their land and this is in the process of being formalised.</p> <p>An agreement is being sought with Network Rail (NR) for the route over their bridge.</p>	
8.2	<p>EF – Works are being carried out by Neath Port Talbot (NPT) to improve the route alongside the canal from Coed Gwilym Park to Pontardawe. RW added that this was being funded by NPT's Transport Grant allocation and the works were being carried out by British Waterways (BW) staff.</p>	
8.3	<p>EP – Helen Davies' role with Sustrans has now changed and she will be the Project Manager for Connect2 only and working on a part time basis. Helen was initially going to stop working altogether for Sustrans and the group was pleased to hear that she is now staying and that this will benefit the project. Her post as Area Manager South West Wales is being advertised as a separate full time post.</p>	
8.4	<p>EP – Penclawdd North Gower Trail (NGT). This project is still on the reserve list. David Williams from the Crofty Llanmorlais and Penclawdd Development Trust has registered an expression of interest for funding a route from Cheriton to Gowerton with the CCS Rural Development Plan Business Plan 2. Chris Dale from CCS Countryside Access team has confirmed that funding is available from the All Wales Coastal Path initiative. Along with the previously mentioned CCS design funding it is hoped that all this will assist the NGT in becoming a full Connect2 scheme.</p>	
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Gower &amp; Mawr Walking and Cycling Map</b>	
9.1	<p>NL – The target dates for this project have changed and are now, draft design by 8/2 and printing by 16/2. Routes are being plotted based on those supplied by WR and others. An example layout format was shown to the group indicating maps and route descriptions. Pointed out that this will be a guide with an overall geographic spread to give a taste of what's available in the area and will give links to further information available including the GCF. A distribution agent has been appointed and will cover south Wales and the M4 corridor.</p>	
9.2	<p>RW asked what the map title would be and NL said it hadn't been finalised yet but could be the Rural Swansea Walking &amp; Cycling Guide.</p> <p>DN wanted to know if any consultation would take place and NL confirmed this will be at the first draft stage.</p>	
<b>10.0</b>	<b>Traxeyes</b>	
10.1	<p>RW – Traxeyes™ luminous discs have been installed on both sides of the track at 5 metre intervals from Blackpill to Dunvant Square and the feedback so far has been positive. Sample of the discs were circulated and there was a general discussion in which BG added that he had received a positive report from English Heritage who had installed them on Berwick Ramparts saying that they worked well and none had been damaged since installation.</p>	
10.2	<p>RB – Asked about the fixing method and resistance to vandalism. RW said that it was with high grip adhesive and a stainless steel centre nail and the discs were a low profile and do not look as though they are of high value.</p>	

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10.3	DN – Asked what effect vegetation and other detritus would have and was told that even during the recent bad weather they are still effective but the situation would be monitored and appropriate action taken.	
10.4	<p>EF – Asked if the discs would be installed at other locations and if they had been used on any other cycle tracks in the UK. RW said that it would depend on the success of this trial project and BG added that the promenade track alongside the pitch and putt course could be a possible area.</p> <p>RW will check if there were any cycle track schemes elsewhere but BG thought Clyne Valley would be the largest. DN thought this might be worth reporting to the various UK cycling organisations with a view to publicity.</p>	RW
10.5	<p>EF – Asked what the cost was and RW said they were around £2.50 per unit plus installation but when spread over 4 kilometres they were by far the most cost effective compared to thermoplastic white lining which had been trialled before but failed because of the damp conditions in the Clyne Valley. BG added that the life expectancy was 10 years and this is very cost effective compared to electrically or solar powered systems.</p>	
<b>11.0</b>	<b>Sustainable Towns</b>	
11.1	<p>BG – CCS had put a bid in to WAG the outcome of which was that Other SWWITCH member bids</p> <p>At the moment Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire could put in a joint scheme for funding over 2 years. After this Swansea would be next in line but this would probably depend on future funding being available. Swansea's bid was considered to be strong, linking the Metro, Quadrant Interchange and other schemes.</p>	
11.2	<p>RJ – Wanted clarification that this initiative covered all forms of sustainable travel. BG confirmed that it included public transport, Park &amp; Ride and other modes and added that Personal Travel Planning also plays a key part.</p>	
11.3	<p>EF – Asked if solar power issues were being considered as part of the scheme but BG said that this was not part of the remit.</p>	
11.4	<p>BG – Consideration is being given to CCTV being used for bus lane offence enforcement but there were issues about the legality of conviction by this method. CCS currently use civil enforcement for parking offences and WAG have been talking about the possibility of civil enforcement of moving traffic offences. RB added that these sort of issues could be part of the remit of the Safer Swansea Partnership (SSP).</p>	
<b>12.0</b>	<b>A.O.B.</b>	
12.1	<p>AC – Described the latest situation in the Swansea Local Development Plan process and tabled hard copies of Delivery Agreement. There is a candidate sites process that can be used for identifying areas that have the potential for future cycle track development. CCS are also working closely with neighbouring Local Authorities to ensure good cross boundary links.</p> <p>All this information is on the CCS website and RW will circulate the links to the group.</p>	RW
12.2	<p>DN – Wanted to know why the Swansea A-Z map does not show cycle routes as on the equivalent for NPT. He also suggested that the routes should be shown on all Swansea Tourism publications that feature maps. RW suggested that the map producer would be best placed to answer this if it is a commercial product.</p>	

Item		Action
12.3	<p>BG – The CCS Transportation Group survey team have conducted a photographic survey of all the cycle parking provision in the city centre area. This will be used in conjunction with a new cycle parking map being produced for the web site that will be interactive so that when a user clicks on a location the photo and description of the parking facilities will be displayed.</p> <p>RW – Is tabulating the information and checking for accuracy before passing to the CCS Geographical Information System (GIS) staff for production of the map.</p>	RW
12.4	<p>BG – Councillor Rob Speht had been appointed to replace Councillor Ioan Richard on the forum. He will be invited to Chair the next forum meeting and his response will be reported back.</p>	RW
12.5	<p>BG – European Boulevard. Cycling is still on the agenda. There was a general discussion about permeable links.</p>	
12.6	<p>EF – What are the cycle parking facilities for the Quadrant Interchange? BG said there were plans for 6 in Plymouth Street, 5 near the Wellington Street entrance and 3 in Garden Street. The stands in Garden Street (the tunnel) and any other provision installed will be monitored to judge whether more are needed.</p>	RW
12.7	<p>BG – High Street station cycle parking. WAG representative has said that stands will be doubled to cater for 40 bikes on the platform and outside the concourse. Will be seeking further detail from CCS Redevelopment team.</p>	BG
12.8	<p>RW – Asked RB about the latest information on the illegal use of off road Motor Cross Bike (MX) around the Swansea area and if there was police motorbike unit available. RB said there was such a unit and it would be best to liaise with the SSP for an update. RW to follow this up.</p>	RW
12.9	<p>DN – Asked about future TSG meetings the foreshore link and other issues. RW thought that these would naturally come about as a result of the WR wish list following the intended meetings with MT. BG suggested a TSG meeting towards the end of February. RW to arrange.</p>	RW
12.10	<p>RW – Bike Week. According to the official BW website the date has not yet been set but an announcement is due on the 27<sup>th</sup> January.</p>	
12.11	<p>RW – As previously mentioned, funding was available as part of the All Wales Coastal path to complete the cycle track from Culver Road to Parc William in Loughor. CCS Legal are still waiting for a response from Elan Homes about the transfer of land for the track as part of the planning consent. BG will be pursuing this on a weekly basis.</p>	BG
12.12	<p>DN – Reported that in the forthcoming Gower Walking Festival the event on 19<sup>th</sup> June combines a cycle ride with a walk, the ride being organised by WR. This is a 'first' for the Walking Festival.</p>	
<b>13.0</b>	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	
13.1	<p>Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010, 10:00 Meeting Room 3 – 2.2.7, Civic Centre, Swansea.</p>	