

Wheelrights Routes Group

Notes of meeting on 8th January 2024

On line by Teams.

Present: John Britton (JB), David Judd (DJ), David Naylor (DN), John Sayce (JS).

Apologies: Nick Guy (NG), Joe Muldoon (JM), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), Patrick Tribe (PT).

JB chaired the meeting.

1. Matters arising from 13 November meeting and not on agenda:

Fabian Way corridor (Item 3). NG and DR not being present we await information about getting support from Vale of Glamorgan/Cardiff cycle groups. **[Action: NG, DR]**

2. GAP.

DJ reported that at a recent meeting the Commoners had indicated they would accept a path across the Common but on the south side of the fence rather than between the fence and the road as planned by the Council. This was not acceptable to us – multiple concerns were voiced including the need for at least two additional gates for cyclists to negotiate, which could additionally create significant barriers for other wheeled users such as mobility scooters and parents with children in a bike trailer. We noted that the existing plan, which had been modified from an earlier version to provide a berm between the path and the road, met the guidelines and had our support. We were not clear how the issue can be resolved and decided to ask PT to arrange a meeting with him, Cllr Lyndon Jones and somebody with the appropriate authority from the Council to try and find a way forward. The four of us should attend it. JB and DN agreed to contact PT. **[Action: JB, DN]**

3. Penclawdd-Gowerton Missing Link.

At our last meeting we reported on the stakeholders 13 November meeting about this. (Item 5 of the notes.) The next step is that the consultants will report to the council regarding the feedback they have had on path routing options. We noted the need to keep up the pressure to get the matter resolved and that more use should be made of Facebook.

4. Closure of Kingsbridge to Gowerton path.

The temporary diversion to the east of the northern 300m of this SUP upgrade appears to be unsuitable, at least for some users. DJ offered to check it and, if found necessary, will either take or suggest the action needed. The work is expected to take 15 weeks. **[Action: DJ]**

5. 29 November meeting with CCS.

This was a Teams meeting, called by JS, chaired by Ioan Brannigan (who it seems is standing in as Active Travel Officer pending Jack Palmer's replacement) and attended by DN, DR and JS. IB outlined the Active Travel work planned for the coming year. He also commented on how the Council would address the GAP planning refusal and noted that there would be further consultation on the Blackpill plans. (A public consultation in January?)

JS raised a concern relating to the Morriston Hospital – DVLA SUP (Route MD on our NE Swansea map. Its alignment on the map has recently been corrected.), namely that those accessing the path from Llangyfelach via Pant Lasau Road would have to make a dangerous crossing of that road immediately south of where it goes under the M4. DN noted that the situation was similar to the crossing of Jersey Road by the Trallywn – Llansamlet SUP (Route TR) where a signalled crossing has been provided. (A post meeting thought: would not a SUP on the south side of Pant Lasau Road to link Llangyfelach to route MD obviate the need for a crossing?) DJ felt that the DVLA should be involved. JS offered to contact them. **[Action JS]**

6. AOB.

JB wondered how we might better keep the membership informed about what's happening.

He noted that www.swansea.gov.uk/activetravel/ was a useful source of information. DJ highlighted Climate Action Wales's website which provides information on the Welsh government policy context for environmental issues including active travel:

<https://www.climateaction.gov.wales/green-travel-choices/active-travel/>..DN offered to put the link to it on Wheelrights website. **[Action DN]**

7. Next meeting.

7.00pm on Monday 19 February by Teams.

Notes prepared by
David Naylor