

Notes of Wheelrights Committee Meeting

9 October 2023

Present: Caroline Carter (CC), Allyson Evans (AE), Nick Guy (NG), David Judd (DJ), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), John Sayce (JS), Chris Walsh (CW).

Apologies: John Britton (JB), David Naylor (DN)

1. Matters Arising from last 7 July Committee meeting and not on agenda. (Notes on <https://www.wheelrights.org.uk/wr23jul07nm.pdf>)

- (a) Leaflet Dispensers. NG updated that Jack Palmer was leaving his post, so Nick has not progressed this.
- (b) Penllergaer Estate. The new bike path not yet completed. JS reported that CCS seemed to have chosen the bottom, less satisfactory route, rather than the better “carriageway” route (a pity). We’ll keep monitoring this; JS to request a review of CCS design plans. **[Action: JS]**
- (c) Barriers. JS asked for an update from CCS and Chloe. JS and CW to check if any barriers removed and advise DN if the list of barriers in need of upgrade/removal on <https://www.wheelrights.org.uk/routes.htm> needs updating. **[Action: JS, CW]**
- (d) Diversions. JS has met the Special Events woman, who seemed positive about alerting WR to these in future.
- (e) Signage. NG to report poor ASL signage in Uplands. **[Action: NG]**
- (f) Ramps on stepped footbridges. CC asked about the footbridge opposite Singleton Uni. campus. NG thought there were bike ramps there. CC will investigate, and report back. **[Action: CC]**

2. AGM

Cabinet Member, Cllr Andrew Stephens, will be approached to speak at our AGM. Two other possible speakers were also proposed: Head of Planning and the police. JS and DR to invite these, and arrange a date. **[Action: DR, JS]**

3. Websites.

NG reported progress with a new website. The mock up is almost ready, with on going work on the Home page photo. The Web designer has been paid a £200 fee. The discussions on a new website have helped a consensus around the following ideas:

- Revamp of the existing website.
- Need for a Social Marketing plan.
- Need to improve our social media presence (esp. facebook).
- Need for a new logo.

CC shared the new design of the existing website. She stated that this would meet WR needs, and that a second website would lead to confusion and duplication.

CW and AE supported CC in saying that we should stick with our current, improved website.

DR stated that WR had not seen a growth in membership, and that WR might still be hard to find for people interested in cycling. Also a majority of members who responded to the consultation supported the idea of a new website.

NG suggested, in view of a lack of agreement in committee, a compromise could be that we pilot a new website for 6 – 12 months, and review its impact?

A majority of the committee spoke against this, reiterating wish to keep just the one existing website. CC spoke about a momentum of volunteers willing to help with the website, and facebook, etc. She also suggested a competition to design a new logo, which might involve colleges and schools.

DR to arrange a follow up meeting with interested parties to discuss the existing website and other ideas incl. facebook and new logo. **[Action: DR]**

4. AOB.

(a) Public Health. CC stressed the importance of Public Health in promoting active travel. She will explore the possibility of a speaker from Public Health at a future WR meeting.

[Action: CC]

(b) Future WR meetings. Future speakers: CC will contact Head of Planning to invite to speak at a WR meeting. We all agreed the importance of Planning in future Active Travel infrastructure plans. **[Action: CC]**

NG suggested a future WR meeting without a speaker to have maps of existing routes available, and ask members to indicate new links to these routes and new routes.

(c) BikeAbilityWales. NG announced two cycle job vacancies at BikeAbilityWales – see their website for information.

Notes prepared by Nick Guy.