

# WheelRights Routes Group

## Notes of meeting on 25 October 2025

Present John Britton (JB), Nick Guy (NG) (part), Brenda Lillicrap (BL), Joe Muldoon (JM), David Naylor (DN), Jessika Venn (JV).

1. JB chaired the meeting.

Apologies: Caroline Carter (CC), Allyson Evans (AE), David Judd (DJ), Dareyoush Rassi (DR), John Sayce (JS), Patrick Tribe (PT)

2. **Notes of the meeting on 13 September** were agreed.

3. **Matters arising** from 13 September meeting not on the agenda.

(a) Mumbles promenade (Item 3a) BL had emailed Routes Group members a modified draft letter to the council setting out WR concerns about the shared walking/cycling arrangements on the newly reopened section. It was noted that an 'escape' path has now been tarmacked from near the start of the new section up to the road level near the car park entrance; it is less wide than guidance requires for shared use and ends on the footway. There is currently no signage. It will inevitably be used by people cycling.

It was agreed that the letter should be sent to Andrew Stevens (Swansea Council Cabinet Member for Environment & Infrastructure) from WR's chairman. (Post-meeting note: copy to Mumbles Community Council.) **[Action: JB to update, JS]**

4. **Mumbles Promenade – New Development**

Covered by Item 3(a) above.

5. **Kidical Mass – Update**

Preparations well in hand (PT's excellent work noted).

Meet 10.30 at the Vetch for 11.00am start, Sunday 2 November.

Trial ride has been completed, six marshalls in place (BL volunteered, Jon Hand in addition.) and hi-vis tabards available; JS has arranged loan of gazebo from Environment Centre; Jai Fear will transport it; local schools have been told; NG has prepared WR stickers to give out; A4 signs have been posted around the area.

6. **Eversley Road/Frogmore Avenue – One-way Proposal Update**

Not yet implemented, info from local councillor is that they are waiting for the signs. When the six-month experiment has started, alert members via Facebook. **[Action: JB]** and submit WR objection re lack of provision for cycling. **[Action: BL]**

7. **New Housing Proposal: Penllergaer to Gowerton**

JM had circulated local news report of proposed housing developments which, if combined, would connect these two areas (<https://swanseabaynews.com/continuous-ribbon-of-housing-could-stretch-from-penllergaer-to-gowerton-as-new-600%E2%80%91home-scheme-unveiled/>). Discussion covered questions on active travel provision by developers, Swansea's failure to achieve the housing developments proposed in the current Local Development Plan (LDP), the role of congestion-based objections (among other factors), the forthcoming preparation of LDP2 and information from JV that there will also be a Regional Development Plan. Noted:

- Possibility of WR trying to engage with developers
- LDP2 consultation phase will offer an opening to point out that attractive cycle infrastructure and discouraging short car trips would relieve congestion to everyone's benefit.
- Overlap with item 8 below.

8. **Swansea Council Active Travel Network Review (2026)**

Deadline is 20 December but is it for 25/26 or 26/27? (JM)

JS has a meeting Wed. on 29 Oct after which he will be able to share more info. **[Action: JS]**

JM will work on prioritising NGAP.

Discussion produced agreement that WR needs better contacts with Swansea Council. Proposed to ask AT Officer Stephen Williams to meet (some) members; possible topics (a) contribution to AT review, (b) to discuss JS paper on Swansea's underserved areas for cycling (see9b below) and (c) how can WR assist him. **[Action: JS]**

DN noted that the four maps on the Routes page of Wheelrights website show both the ATNM routes and those proposed by us (The former by CCS's number in brackets – a '-' identifies a WR route not on the ATNM.). DR was asked to arrange for a number of copies to be printed. **[Action DR]**

## **9. Any Other Business**

- (a) Items 7 and 8 above need a coherent collective WR view on routes and priorities, possibly updated from the existing WR routes map. Agreed (and supported in emails from JS and DR) to hold a member workshop for input to the AT network review (deadline 20 Dec).

Decision needed on meeting(s) covering AGM/workshop/talks by Ian Walker and Ian Tapp which DR has pencilled in for 5 December. **[Action: JS, DR]**

- (b) JB described a draft paper by JS which sets out how the more deprived areas of Swansea have the least provision for cycling. JM added that a recent cycle road safety training session was cancelled due to low uptake of learners. Only 6 out of 58 Year 6 primary school children opted to take advantage of this free opportunity to learn a life-skill. This was the 3<sup>rd</sup> occasion this school had the training reduced or stopped. It was put down to apathy of learners to uptake this free opportunity, however I suspect otherwise. Working in Carmarthenshire County, who provide a minimum of 6 bikes with helmets to each school prior to training which encourages uptakes, overcoming embarrassment of not having a bike which is common and particularly so in deprived areas. A similar strategy such as 'free school meals' is a positive, proactive and proven strategy that ensure equitable opportunities are provided to all children regardless of the economic position. It is disappointing that having raised this with the Swansea LA they were dismissive of offering this strategy.

## **10. Date of Next Meeting**

Saturday, 22 November 2025 to be confirmed (Same day as the Green Fair, which is at the National Waterfront Museum). **[Action: JB]**

Notes prepared by BL