**S H E F F I E L D C I T Y C O U N C I L**

**CYCLE FORUM**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 15th December

at 5.00 p.m. online

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/ATTENDANCE**

Apologies, - None

In attendance: Cllr Peter Price (Chair), Cllr Ruth Mersereau, Cllr Richard Shaw, William Stewart, Paul Sullivan, Simon Ogden, Simon Geller, Colin McCulloch, Insp Kevin Smith, David Bamford, Tom Collister, Brown, Angela Walker, Peter Marsh, Jo Maher, Rob Wormald, Udit Thakre, Yvonne Witter

1. **NOTES**

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| The notes of Cycle Forum meeting held 18th October 2022 |

**Matter Arising**

Several actions resulting from the Q and A with the Transport Committee Members. **1) Forge Dam barrier to investigate options and detail the programme**
There has been significant consultation, with an even split regarding removal or keep in place. Transport Planning would like to propose is we monitor the impact of the new barriers on NCN627, and then if they positive we go back to those consulted previously to suggest this as an option.

There is no formal programme barrier alteration is undertaken on ad hoc basis when time allows.

We will be working with Sustrans to increase the number of locations we can look at and deliver.

There was a comment that the consultation process, dominated by people from the local friends group/resident group, horse society, small number of cyclists, Unsure how the balance of opinion is arrived at, does it feel like cyclists were under represented. There was no discussion on the range of options.

**2) Creating an Active Travel Forum**Could the cycle forum become an Active Travel Forum, this was discussed pre covid with the rep from each attending each forum.

Concern at the time was one mode dominating the agenda, this happened with Sheffield on the Move. But as a first step the Walking Forum needs to be reinstated
It’s reinstatement is currently with committee member to progress. An officer identified to resource the group. An informal walking group has met to set up walking festival.
Simon Ogden is to be the rep for both.
Could walking not be incorporated as an interim, increase the frequency, this could be fall back if the forum doesn’t restart.
Pedestrians need to be represented **ACTION Cllr Peter Price** to follow up.

**3 ) Ringinglow Road - check on historical petitions and accident record**
There have been two petitions.

The first in 2007 achieved a speed limit reduction from 60mph to 50mph.

A second petition was submitted in April 21 asking for segregated cycle lanes along Ringinglow Road. Unfortunately, there is currently no funding for this initiative. The funding we do bid for from the Department for Transport is around boosting the economy so needs to achieve those goals and have a reasonable benefit to cost ration. Ringinglow Road does not fall into that category so if we bid, we wouldn’t get the funding.
How many killed and seriously injured along that road?

In the ten-year period 2012-2021 there has been one fatal pedestrian casualty, and three serious cycle casualty, two those took place at the Common Lane junction.

Is there no road safety factor? Not currently from the Department for Transport, funding is purely about boosting numbers.
Transport committee members have been talking to management but need a separate funding stream.

**ACTION PS** to discover any outcomes of the above meeting

**4) An update on Bridge Hill (Oughtibridge**)
Traffic Regulation Order has been issued.

Have we the latest on the Oughtibridge paper mill site link into the village?
**ACTION PS** to report back at the next forum.

**5) Do we have any data on Sheaf Valley**to be covered in Item 5. **6) Can the Forum receive an update on cycle parking
Residential Cycle Parking** Currently working with Falco to provide residential cycle parking hangars in Crookes and Walkley. Nine locations to be assessed, another nine requests from the wider area.

A cycle hangar is a secure unit that sits on street – mini shed, stores 6 bikes, key or mobile phone-based access, users pay an annual fee, provider maintains, admin the keys and undertake general admin.

What has come to light recently is that the hangars need to sit on level ground and cannot be placed on hills the tolerance is 100mm. Still a desire to get hangars close to the requested location but some locations will be compromised.
How secure are they?
People do try to get into them but theft levels are low.Being trialled in ATN areas, have a small budget to roll out but need to assess the issues around the tolerance, location, process etc, so further roll outwill happen but later.
 **Destination parking** Moving away from Sheffield stands and aiming to include M stands as they can accommodate all types of bikes – cargo, non-standard, kids
Should be installing a few in the SW LAC area around Spring. **District/Local centre parking** long term to install better secure covered parking. **City Centre Hub** Russells Bike Shed to run the hub, on site contractor now engaged to fit out, we should be open no later than July but could be earlier.

Is the hub closed in the evening, the plan is that storage will be open 24/7 as per the rail station, workshop will open on shorter hours.Jaguar site modelling of the junction, can we have the outcome of that modelling
ACTION PS to update the next forum.

**Notes of the last meeting agreed**

1. **FUTURE HIGH STEETS FUND (FARGATE PROPOSALS)**

Since the last cycle forum there has been a Request to get a more detail and clarity on these proposals.
Will Stewart introduced himself as director covering transport amongst other things.

Would like to be involved a little more in the cycle forum, understanding the issues, understand what is being discussed etc.

The Future High Streets Fund will fund public urban realm improvements, building modification, investment in the urban realm plus new walk and cycle routes around the city centre. Fargate is a key part of this.

Originally cycling was being included, route set down following the line of the service route. Subsequently it has been indicated that through a Traffic Regulation Order cycling was to be prohibited.

This is contrary to our aims to promote cycling, requested more detail and to understand the rationale. Position we are at though is that through design and value engineering a separate segregated route was proving unviable, not helped with cost inflation

Have discussed further and going to recommend we don’t prohibit, and we do provide a route to link between the High Street and Penistone Street.

Design needs to be examined, current proposal is it as good as we can get it with the current funding level. Could it be improved? Bottom line Cycling won’t be prohibited, and we also need to increase cycle parking alongside. There are proposals to run from the bottom of Fargate into Angel Street and onto Kelham - the design needs to factor this in.
The design needs to discourage random cycling given pedestrian levels, needs to be clear well signed, but won’t be a fast segregated route, more of a destination route.

To be clear cycling is now included, design being reviewed.

Will S to bring back any developments to a future forum.
Can we ask that comms need to be clearer as mixed messages received at the one-day engagement event. Cyclists don’t want conflict, nor do peds. It is a key piece of the jigsaw tying into Angel Street and Pinstone Street. Cyclists will use it.

Will the final proposals go to council committee, no, it’s a delegated decision to officers, but members will be briefed.

Suggestion to look at Leicester as they have allowed cycling in retail areas.

A good and successful scheme, officers and members will be going to look and visiting Nottingham.

Will the service corridor have restricted hours to reduce conflict, there will be restricted hours, probably to 8am. Vehicles will be travelling slowly and visibility is good, all will need to be aware of the need to share, but we will look at options to mitigate conflict.

The future of Fargate is to be evening economy, scheme will also include event space and opportunities for pop ups so restriction does need to be reflective of this
**ACTION WS** to provide serving hours at a future update.

**Other questions for Will**

Question about Road safety within the remit of officers present. Sheffield currently has Two officer visiting schools to promote road safety.

There was a job advertised within road safety, but position withdrawn with no information as to why. This raises concerns about the process, but also flags that not enough is being invested into Road safety.

Will to investigate it and aim to get a fuller explanation about the withdrawal and future plans

Insp KS to work with Will on close pass, with Will going out with the police on one of their operations as a first step.

1. **SCHEMES UPDATE**Connecting Sheffield schemes.

Transforming Cities programme every scheme on the list on the website, are all in design, it is a slow process. Approvals process with SCC and SYMCA doesn’t run in parallel. Nether edge will be the last scheme to start on site.

These schemes need to be staggered to allow a greater number of tenderers
Sheaf valley – Asline/Shoreham – significant road safety issues, to reduce conflict between peds and cyclists, pedestrians crossing and car parking, Asline Road should be on site January.

Shoreham Street Traffic Regulation Order to be advertised, delayed by lack of resource in the relevant team, this is a nationwide issue.

Measures on Little London Road will stay in place through to the summer until a decision is made on the future of the scheme.

New materials and pavement protection due for Crookes in the new year (Feb).

Working with South Yorkshire Police regarding an enforcement camera for Springvale.

Darnall mini holland -feasibility study on going – deadline for submission end of March. Need budget circa £30m.

East Bank Road Active Travel Fund 3 – in discussion with central Government and combined authority around extending deadline from March 23.

City Region Sustainable Transport Settlement – developing a route from city centre to NGH, paperwork and feasibility to sat in the new year.

Active Travel Fund 4 still no detail from central government, but we do have a shortlist of schemes.

Active Travel England have asked for an outline of future schemes, we’ve put forward 12 schemes

Questions/Comment
Nice to see some political leadership and investigating options to accelerate schemes.

Any more clarity on the city centre to northern general hospital route?
Currently a blank piece of paper, discussion on going, we have protected some land in proximity to Bridgehouses.

There is also a separate proposal split into different phases to connect the central hospital/university campus with the northern general within the ten year programme but currently unfunded.
Need to look at parks routes to help connect, but routes need to be safe for all so parks might not be an option if unlit.

Will there be a return of e cargo bike grants for businesses?, and plans for a subsidy for residents to buy e bikes?

If the funding becomes available then yes we would be looking to run a grant scheme.
We’ve never subsidise individuals to date -options around loan scheme and cycle to work.

**Stocksbridge Towns Fund**

What is the status of the active travel route as it feels like it’s been, halted. No communication from the project managers Schemes can be altered to become affordable rather than cancelled.

**ACTION PS** to update the next forum

1. **DATA**

**Update on data.**12 automatic cycle counters on the highway
It’s only been since 2017 we’ve been counting regularly, focused on routes being built or in planning.

Main headline we are back to pre-covid levels of cycling, 1% up on 2019 levels

For info there was a 30% reduction in cycle trips in 2020

With the latest figures we need to factor in amount of people now working from home whether that’s full or part time.

Clarkehouse Road is the busiest counter, 124,000trip per year.

Penistone Road we have data going back to 1984
Blackburn valley route leisure routes boomed 70 and 200% respectively during lockdown.This year we’ve a significant increase on the Sheaf Valley route up 35% on last year

Crookes and Walkley Active Neighbourhoods
Slight increase in traffic on the periphery of the area, traffic through Crookes has dropped slightly. An extra 12 vehicles per hour where increases have taken place.

South Road/Walkley lot of feedback stating traffic was significantly worse however the counts show just a 1% rise in motorised vehicles.

Need to factor in that traffic volumes are increasing in general.
Can we see some press releases to highlight increases.
Please see attached paper for more detail on cycle count data.

1. **CYCLE MATTERS**

Two maintenance issues raised, should be raised through streets ahead, will be a much quicker process.

Cycling UK e bike loan scheme much delayed, called in by various transport ministers.
Now– one day loans, long terms loans, community based scheme to start in the new year.
One community hub at Shipshape, struggling for a northern community hub

Is SOAR an option?

TCF2b 200 ebikes purchased 185 standard hybrid, of which half in storage half on loan, still need funding for the social prescribing scheme itself, then there are hybrid bikes for the police, trikes for cycling for all, e cargo bikes for try outs.

1. **AOB**Five weirs walk meeting - SO reporting back – issues discussed in the open
looking at Environment Agency issues, and options to repair in an affordable manner

Can we get a follow up meeting arranged.

Notes are available for the above meeting if anyone would like to see them.Have we had the budget for the repairs, breakdown of the £1.5million.
**ACTION PS to chase**

Sustrans rangers welcomes the removal of the access barriers on NCN627, be nice to see some increased police patrols in the area.

Proposal to extend route 627, signs to be placed as a first step to get it to Waverley.

Focusing on clearance of litter at kettle bridge and Tinsley park road.

Can we add Bike buddies/Bike buses to a future forum as an item.

**Date of next meeting: Online 5pm 16 Feb 2023**

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