

ROMAN FORUM NOTES

Meeting Held on Thursday 16 Nov 2017

Present: Dick Skelton (SCC) – Chair
Magid Magid – Councillor*
Richard Shaw – Councillor
Dexter Johnstone – Cycle Sheffield
Ian Carey – Cycle Sheffield
Rob Wormald - Sheffrec
Adam Rose -Ofo
Paul Sullivan – SCC

*Departed meeting after item 3

1. Apologies For Absence

Peter Marsh, Steve Wilson

2. Minutes of Last Meeting (Sept 2017).

Agreed

3. Ofo Dockless bike share Scheme

Adam Rose Ofo's operations manager for Sheffield presented to the forum.

The summary of which is as follows, some of the points also answer questions posed by the forum

Ofo will be providing an app based bike hire scheme for Sheffield

They plan to keep expanding in the UK, Sheffield will be the first Yorkshire City and the launch will be the single largest in the UK.

The scheme will launch in January 2018 with a 1000 bikes operating in a designated geo fenced area (Area).

Over time the number of bikes will be increased (potentially to 3000 within the first half of the year), and the area of operation enlarged and altered if needs be to reflect demand. All bikes are tracked so Ofo will be able to determine hotspots and places visited outside of the Area.

In some locations bikes will be designated for specific use – Meadowhall, Northern General Hospital for example

The bikes do not require a stand to be secured, however a number of hubs at popular locations will be set up - this helps to reduce the number of poorly parked bikes and gives users confidence that, where there is a hub, there will be a bike

Other than that bikes can be parked anywhere **sensibly**.

Bikes can be ridden anywhere outside of the Area, but must be parked back within it, otherwise charging will continue, and users will receive a text reminding them to bring the bike back into the Area.

In order to use the scheme users will be required to download the app to their smart phone and upload bank card details. The scheme is restricted to 18s and over (and smart phone owners). They can then use the app to search for bikes, get more information about the scheme, manage their account and unlock the bike.

All users get credit points, points will be reduced if bikes are damaged by the user, abandoned etc, loss of all points means loss of privileges. Users will be rewarded with points for things like riding up hills, and as we know points make prizes.

Ofo will employ a small team 12-20, this team will be responsible for bike deployment, relocation, recovery and general maintenance.

The bike itself will be the latest version built for the European market, have 3 gears and be lightest bike hire bike on the market. Modifications can be made to the bike if feedback suggests that is needed from users, particularly with reference to ability to climb hills.

Ofo currently operate in Cambridge, Oxford, Norwich, and three London boroughs. In each they have experienced a small level of vandalism; this tends to drop off in the first six months and is a common problem with all bike share operations in the UK.

Ofo hope to work with pedal ready to ensure users are competent and will, via the app, make users aware of issues like the tram tracks.

The group also suggested ways of promoting through events etc

4. Cycle Sheffield issues

1. Five Weirs Walk – The locked section. Will the council negotiate with the landowner to ensure 24 hour access? The section is being locked up outside the advertised hours.
Meeting in January to discuss flooding scheme and this issue will be raised to be discussed with Transport Planning after that.
2. Cycle to Schools exemplar.
Work will start on this once resource is identified. Currently all resources that would work on this are concentrating on delivering STEP schemes as there is a pressing deadline for these to be completed.
3. Clear Channel advertising (3 troublesome locations).
West side A61, oversight on our part. However the signed route is in front of the Electric Works and not along this particular section. The Sheaf Street route was just a temporary intervention while development took place. Said development is also contributing to the build of the contra flow on Pond Hill.

East side A61 and A57 Brook hill is not a shared route, so we were not consulted.

4. Cycle routes on Arterial Roads

Do we have plans? There will be, but the vision and strategy have to come first. In essence there will no doubt be some routes that have segregated cycle routes and others that do not, but there will be an alternative.

5. Oughtibridge.

Concerns have been raised over the number of accidents at the Low Road /Station Road /Bridge Hill junction. Does this area qualify for a road safety scheme?

No, as its nowhere the near the worst, any available and relevant funding will be used elsewhere in the first instance.

Is there any developer CIL money to improve facilities?

Limited, there has not been much development in this area.

What was Pedal Peak money (Little Don Link) used for in Oughtibridge?

All the Pedal Peak money allocated to Sheffield was used to fund the Stocksbridge section - phase 1, phase 2 Deepcar is STEP funded. There is no current funding for Oughtibridge which is phase 3. However, will be looking for developers to provide some of the route, and will bid for funds as they become available to complete the route.

What was the result of the desk top study for the area?

As part of the Little Don Link there are proposals to run a route (phase 3 as above) from Coronation Park through to the development site at the paper mill (this development is required to build a cycle route through it) and then north using an existing rail crossing to take the route into Wharncliffe Woods and the TPT.

6. Cycle parking at developments,

Are they requested? Are standards enforced?

Yes where we can, but that won't determine the application or any enforcement procedure.

Change of uses are very rarely conditioned to put in new cycle parking and sometimes there is no space in what would be appropriate locations.

7. Cycle Audit issue that they can look more like a RSA.

This is not applicable to all but CAs are similar to RSAs but from a cyclist viewpoint so they can look similar

5. AOB

There was none

6. Date of next meeting:

Thursday 18 January 2018 5pm