

Cycling Steering Group 25th June 2009

The Guildhall Cambridge

Minutes

Attendees:

Councillor Reid (Chair)
Councillor Nimmo-Smith
Councillor Taylor
Councillor Bick
Councillor Todd-Jones
Councillor Miriam Lynn
David Roberts (Head Policy and Projects)
Clare Rankin (Cycling and Walking Officer)
David Bradford (Cycling and Walking Officer)
Mike Davies (Cycle Cambridge Project Manager)

Apologies:

Councillor Al Bander

1. **Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

Minutes agreed as an accurate record.

Cllr Miriam Lynn has replaced Cllr Lucy Walker on the group. Cllr Smith will not be attending future meetings.

DB has requested that the County Council Road safety team look into the possibility of offering Bikeability cycle training to foreign language students, which could possibly be achieved by training Language School staff to enable them to train students in-house.

2. **Cycle Cambridge update**

MD gave an update on the Cycle Cambridge initiative including:

Bike Week

A whole week of promotional events included guided bike rides, free breakfast for cyclists, cycle try-out sessions, and a bike fair on Parkers Piece as part of the Country Fair. It was found to be useful to have the bike fair as part of a bigger event as a larger and more diverse audience were reached who may not have necessarily attended a dedicated bike fair. Many people were interested in general cycling info in Cambridge and in adult cycle training.

Bikeability Training

A new dedicated full time bikeability cycle trainer has now been employed and lessons have been subsidised to £5 per hour whilst Cambridge has demonstration town status. A full time bikeability co-ordinator has also been employed and bikeability training for schools will commence in September 09.

Monitoring & Survey

New counters have been placed around 8 new sites mostly in Cambridge City with possibly more to follow. The data from the counters will be used to monitor cycling levels and patterns related to weather, times of year etc.

CR suggested a counter could be placed in a prominent position within Cambridge, which would display the number of cyclist passing. SR suggested this should be linked with public art objectives. The recent cycling survey will be used to establish barriers to cycling.

Cambridge will be hosting the regional meeting of cycle towns which 17 cycle towns will attend to share information including undertaking a tour of cycling facilities in Cambridge.

Initiatives to increase cycle parking in and around Cambridge on street, in schools, in colleges and doctors surgeries are underway. Work place cycle parking will be covered by the take-a-stand scheme run by travel for work and supported by Cycle Cambridge.

All infrastructure schemes as approved by Cycling England are underway with various levels of progress. A full report on the schemes will be presented to the Cambridge Traffic Management Area Joint Committee in July.

3. Cycle Hoops

CR explained that a trial of cycle hoops www.cyclehoop.com has commenced with hoops being placed around various locations within Cambridge. The cycle hoops are attached to existing posts that cyclist use to park their bikes and creates more secure fixing points for the bikes and stops the bike sliding down the post causing an obstruction on the pavement. They also encourage the cyclist to lean the cycle in the best direction. In this way the hoops are a benefit to both cyclists and pedestrians. Also it is hoped that a signal will be sent out not to attach bikes to posts that do not have the cycle hoops attached to them. A press release will be sent out regarding the trial.

Any feed back will be collated and any hoops which are causing a problem at a particular site can be easily removed. If there are no major objections future potential sites will be drawn up in lists and submitted to the relevant area committees.

DR pointed out that the hoops should be black within the conservation area. The group agreed with this and stated that the hoops should be Black or Grey where ever they are installed so they blend in with the post.

Cllr Taylor suggested that the disability panel should be consulted about the hoops. CR confirmed details of the hoops would be taken to the disability panel and also the cycling and walking liaison group meeting.

4. Annual Statement Action Plan: Producing and promoting a code of conduct

CR raised the issue of producing and promoting a code of conduct stating that the City Council already has available a leaflet and a City Council web page regarding good conduct whilst cycling on shared paths which could be updated. Also considerate cycling is promoted via the Cambridge City cycle map, the school and foreign language bookmarks and promoted as part of the bikeability training.

Action: DB & CR to bring current resources that promote considerate cycling to the next meeting

5. Any Other Business

None

6. Date of next meetings

Tuesday 8th September, 1630 – 1800, Committee Room 2, Guildhall.

Tuesday 20th October, 1730 – 1900, Committee Room 2, Guildhall.