

# South Gloucestershire Cycle Forum - Minutes

## Location:MS Teams

**Time & Date: 12pm on Wednesday 18th May 2022**

Attending:

Alan Morris  
Andy Whitehead (SGC)  
Ann O'Driscoll (SusCom)  
Andrew Gough  
Bob Keen  
Chris Carter (AECOM)  
Gary Meddick (SGC)  
Jackie Lower (SGC)  
Jon Lean (Councillor)  
Jon Parker  
Nick Pashley  
Nigel Sloan  
Steve Cox  
Rob Bushill - RBu  
Rebecca Bennett  
Stephen Reade (Councillor)  
Steve Cox  
Tony Sharp  
Will Nelson (SGC)

## Updates From previous meeting

The signage improvement works to the Concorde Way are still outstanding due to staff resourcing issues. NS expressed his disappointment on the continuing lack of progress (almost 2 years) and said he had written to Mark King about it. **Action AW to enquire further about the status of the response.**

## Grounds maintenance of cycle routes

GM updated on the current cycleway's maintenance approach. There is approximately £80k per annum available for cycle track maintenance with most of the attention and resources focussed on A4174 ring road cycle track, Bristol Bath Railway Path, and Severn Beach. The council have invested in a narrow machine to cut back vegetation. With new requirements for segregated cycle facilities the council are looking at options for narrower more flexible machines.

RB raised the issue of sweeping paths expressing concern that the central reporting system can be too reactive and take a while to get a response when there are known issues that can be planned for in advance. For example, routes under Horse chestnuts which need regular sweeping in September. In addition, the new facility currently under construction on the A432 between Coalpit Heath and Nibley needs sweeping, and a request made that the contractors could do this as part of the construction.

GM asked that in this instance any known sites that members notify him of any known sites that need regular attention.

NS explained that the Sustrans Rangers can help to support the maintenance work of the Council and agreed to contact GM and colleagues to discuss opportunities. JP commended the arrangement with community volunteers working with the council on the Railway path and on Keynsham Road to respond to issues proactively.

JL raised the concern about the Yate Spur at Coxgrove Hill which has suffered from water erosion making it unpassable. Issues raised with maintenance colleagues for reporting back.

RB raised concerns about the prevalence of access barriers and A-Frames and requested an update on the council's position in this. Officers were unsure but feel that currently dealt with reactively an individual request. Group felt strongly that the Council should be proactive position in starting to remove all access controls and allocating funding to do so. The feeling was that access controls were put in based on perception of motorcycle misuse that other modes of transport such as e-scooters are now more prevalent which are not prevented from using routes. Access Control are therefore only serving to inconvenience legitimate use of routes.

## Filton and Brentry consultation

CC presented materials currently being used for consultation of the proposed transport improvements in Filton and Brentry available [here](#).

AO'D asked if a desire line across the golf course south of Airbus and GKN was considered as Station access. CC responded that this was not considered appropriate 24/7 365 day a year route. Main access therefore via Charlton Road but with high quality infrastructure suitable to accommodate the projections in demand.

AG and TS raised concerns about the boundaries of the scheme to ensure that it doesn't stop abruptly and abandon users. Examples given were Southmead Road and Elm Park. CC explained that the boundary of works must stop somewhere but the treatments outside the scope of this work needs to be considered as part of the next stage and the project team would bear this in mind.

AO'D asked that existing shared use remain on the other side of the A38.

NP – General support for the opportunity and keen to see proposals progressed.

## Open Forum

SC raise issue of managing temporary cycling access as part of road works and shared [the Transport for London Approach](#). If not actively considered I can be off putting or inconvenient to people cycling. AW to pass on to Network Management colleagues.

SC raise the BBC announcement of Bristol and South Gloucestershire Council benefitting from £6m new funding for cycling and walking. AW reported that the South Gloucestershire proportion of this was £1.6m for Kingswood. The council's expression of Interest for Yate a 15-minute town as a Mini Holland was shortlisted nationally to one of 19 projects to receive feasibility study funding. The guidance on what the feasibility study requires is still to be received. RB suggest need to communicate this good news which was a little lost in the West of England Combined Authority announcement.

RB – Expressed concern about the proposed changes to Heron Way which have challenges for cyclists and feels that they do not comply with LTN 1/20. RB made the point that if we secure the funding for Yate mini-Holland, we need to look at overcoming these barriers by bicycle using every opportunity to add value to cycling.

AG – raised a point that he has previously made about the number of schemes that are currently being delivered which do not conform to LTN1/20 because they were designed before it was published and raised the need to undertake a review to see if adaptations could be made.

AO'D raised the example of Cribs Patchway Metrobus Extension and asked if the council could see if any adaptations could be made to bring it in line with the guidance.

AM raised the example of A4018 at Henbury, works which we identified as being undertaken by developers which are shared use. Discussion around the WECA Bus corridor work which is currently being developed to Strategic Case Improvements to the [number 2 bus route \(A37/A4018\)](#). Nothing is currently identified for the WECA work in South Gloucestershire, but AM made the point that it will deliver a compliant route for the rest of the corridor but may have to be revisited at public expense in the future. Therefore, better to adjust now if possible. AW to raise with Principal Engineer overseeing developer works.

TS- asked why more schemes such as the recent engagement on A432 were not coming to the group. AW explained that the timescales for the engagement didn't align with the cycle forum meeting but said that all members should receive notifications of new engagements if they had been asked to be kept informed of schemes. AO'D suggested signing up to the sign up to the online consultation portals on South Glos and WECA too.

RBu – Asked that for all new opportunities we need to proactively engage with people who currently don't cycle and understand why not, then align our messages to make them relevant and attractive. SC emphasised the need to design to encourage rather than design to enable.

JP – Asked about the opportunities for funding on the A4174 ring road improvements where the community have identified opportunities for enhancements. AW advised that the request is being actively considered against upcoming funding opportunities.

AG- Asked that the Cycle Forum thanks be passed on to SR who had left by this point to say that his attendance and support was very much appreciated.

RB – Re-emphasised previous request for a local Cycle Champion in the local authority. There are opportunities for systematic improvements for cycling if it can be embedded in different services if the Council.

## Proposed Dates for next meetings:

The next meeting will also be on Teams, no decision on format of future meetings has been taken

Provisional dates for future meetings are as follows:

Thursday 25th August 2022

Wednesday 23rd November 2022