

**Minutes of Derbyshire Cycling Liaison Group
Held on 18 January 2007 at County Hall, Matlock**

General Strategic Meeting

Present:

Dave Waldram (Derby Cycling Group) **DW**
John White (CTC Alfreton) **JW**
Terry Williams (CTC Right to Ride) **TW**
Peter Davey (Peak District National Park Authority) **PeD**
Mark Shewring (Chesterfield Borough Council) **MS**
Richard Groves (South Derbyshire District Council) **RG**
Scott Nicholas (Bolsover District Council) **SN**
Les Sims (Sustrans Ranger) **LS**
Jeremy Taylor (Sustrans Ranger) **JT**
Alastair Meikle (Chesterfield Cycle Campaign) **AM**
Barry Kay (Chesterfield Cycle Campaign) **BK**
Harry Gould (Matlock Cycling Group, Derwent Valley Cycle Group) **HG**
Liz Pasteur (Derwent Valley Cycle Group) **LP**
Martin Pape (Derwent Valley Cycle Group) **MP**
Claire O'Reilly (DCC Countryside Service) **COR**
Wayne Bexton (DCC Countryside Service) **WB**
Peter Storey (DCC Reclamation) **PS**
Isobel Mulligan (DCC NW Area Traffic & Safety) **IM**
Neill Bennett (DCC Data Team) **NB**
Rebecca Pennyfather (DCC Public Transport Policy / Accessibility) **RP**
Marc Owen (DCC Transport Policy and Programmes) **MO**
Jim Seymour, Chair (DCC Transport Policy and Programmes) **JS**
Reuben Brown, Minutes (DCC Transport Policy and Programmes) **RB**

Apologies for absence:

Irene Hayward (Derwent Valley Cycle Group) **IH**
Tom Fox (CTC Alfreton) **TF**
Ian McNeill (CTC Erewash) **IMc**
Philip Bithell (Groundwork Creswell) **PB**
Patrick Davis (Sustrans) **PaD**
Pete Leigh (DCC SE Area Traffic & Safety) **PL**
Dawn Bryan (DCC North Eastern Area Team) **DB**
Dave Connell (DCC North Eastern Area Team) **DC**
Philip Smith (DCC Road Safety) **PSm**
Lyndsay Jones (Local Access Forum) **LJ**
Mike Hase (Derbyshire Dales District Council) **MH**

JS introduced the meeting.

2. Minutes from the last strategic meeting, 12 July 2006, for accuracy

Page 6: TW had not visited Lancaster(!), but had received information on the town whilst in York. Other than this the minutes were agreed to be a correct record of the meeting.

3. Matters arising from above meeting not on agenda

Chesterfield Station Forecourt

BK said that the issue of locker relocation was still current.

Cawdor Quarry

JS and RB had investigated the Cawdor planning consent – a cycle route through the quarry is a condition of the development. JT asked whether there would be a link to Sainsbury's and was told by WB that this would be the case with access over the station footbridge as for pedestrians. LP asked whether there would be parking in Cawdor Quarry and WB confirmed this, although exact details were not known.

Rother Washlands

AM told the group that progress was being made, with the possibility of an appropriately located toucan crossing.

Sustrans Route Stickers

WB said that PaD had forwarded stickers as promised, and that the Countryside Service are consulting internally, including with the DCC sign shop.

Bikes on Buses

JS said that DCC have contacted Trent Barton but had no firm response. RP agreed to take this further at bus operators' meetings. **Action: RP**

The importance of information on bike carriage was commented upon, and there was a discussion of the available space for bikes on coaches.

Safe Routes to Schools

PS told the group that a bid had been made for SRTS funding for the Tibshelf and Five Pits trails.

Cycle Derbyshire Map

WB announced that the updated map should be published this year, hopefully before the summer.

Cycle Benchmarking

JS told the group that this is being followed up by DCC, although there is little to report

currently; action point to be maintained. **Action: DCC**

RoWIP Update

Members of the group confirmed that they had received a RoWIP consultation summary by post. COR said that a full document is available from her or from HYPERLINK "http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk" www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/consultation

COR drew attention to the statement of action (section 5 of the main document and also summarised in the leaflet). This reflects the outcomes of the earlier consultation, and includes 5 aims: making the existing network easier to use; making the definitive map more accessible; increasing network connectivity; encouraging community involvement; and promoting the network.

COR pointed out that the document is still very strategic, and that detailed local plans would follow. She established that this consultation is not a complete review, and has a particular focus on prioritising actions as not all of these will be realistically achievable in the shorter-term.

Please fill out the questionnaire, preferably on-line (but also available in the summary leaflet). The closing date for responses is 11 March 2007. **Action: All**

LS commented that he would struggle to choose least preferred actions.

JS asked how the actions were to be carried out. COR said that the RoWIP is aligned to the LTP and through this actions will feature in the annual Service Plan of DCC Environmental Services.

Monitoring Update

NB: in the past a number of off-road and on-road sites were monitored manually; these methods were problematic and had low-samples, but gave a rough idea. As an improvement, DCC is establishing a network of automatic cycle and pedestrian counters.

NB talked of early vandalism problems that appear to have been combated. He has figures that are worthy of discussion, but the data has only been collected for one year and therefore no trends can as yet be identified.

NB has some equipment for a trial of on-road cycle monitoring, which has been traditionally problematic. Suggestions for a pilot site or queries can be sent to HYPERLINK "mailto:neill.bennett@derbyshire.gov.uk" neill.bennett@derbyshire.gov.uk.

COR noted that all new greenways are now fitted with automatic counters for pedestrians and cyclists

A discussion into the workings of automatic counters took place.

TW wondered where government cycling statistics come from and was told that these are mainly from the National Travel Survey, which does not use a large sample and is therefore problematic. The Department for Transport is trialling an on-road national monitoring network, which might offer better statistics.

Route Issues/Scheme Progress

LTP Funding

JS announced that 'excellent' ratings (the highest possible) had been received for the second round Local Transport Plans and delivery reports for both the Derbyshire and Derby Joint areas. The authorities had thus been awarded performance funding to the highest level possible.

Funding in 2007/08 will be roughly £25m in Derbyshire; much of this will be spent on maintenance, and road safety is the top priority for the remainder. The Service Plan, which says how the money will be spent, will be available on the DCC website when it is approved, in the near future.

Current Schemes 2006/07

WB and PS provided brief details of schemes that are going ahead this year:

Trent Valley Greenway Phase II

This will provide a further link with Notts; tenders for work are being taken. There was some additional discussion of possible bridge widening over the Trent.

Golden Valley – Codnor Park Reservoir

This avoids Coach Road; work is underway.

Crags Road, Creswell

Downgrade of former main road to 3m width bridleway.

Silverhill Line Phase I

Link to Notts in the north of the county, including a link to Tibshelf. A footpath extension is planned, for conversion to a greenway in time.

Five Pits Trail

Removing an underpass at Tibshelf high street, for replacement with a cycle crossing.

Rother Washlands to Five Pits Trail Link

Via Mill Lane and Grassmoor. WB is working on this with landowners.

Rowthorne Trail

Improvements to car park to discourage anti-social behaviour.

Cemetery Lane to Five Pits Trail Link

At Poolsbrook.

Shirebrook Station to Warsop Trail Link

Connecting to Notts.

Renishaw Canal Restoration

On the Five Pits Trail.

Creswell Greenway

Creating 100m extension to Hazelmere. Some concerns over motorbike use.

Pennine Bridleway

WB offered to provide an update on this to anyone interested: HYPERLINK "mailto:wayne.bexton@derbyshire.gov.uk" wayne.bexton@derbyshire.gov.uk

Network Map

MP asked whether an updated map of the greenway network could be made available on the DCC website, as development is ongoing and current mapping (Cycle Derbyshire) is infrequent. WB agreed to investigate the possibility.

Action: WB

Hipper Valley Greenway III

BK asked about progress on this scheme. WB said that Gemma Gregory was meeting landowners to try to make progress.

Greenway Surfacing & Maintenance

BK asked what sort of surface might be used in the proposed Hipper Valley Extension. WB could not be certain as this depends on local circumstances, but suggested that it was likely to be a recycled hardcore product, as used on many current greenways. AM said that the surface of the Holmebrook Valley Greenway, which used a different surface material, was not in good condition. Other trails with poor maintenance were identified. JS noted that a maintenance pot for infrastructure (including greenways) has now been made available, although WB pointed out that strategic and local priorities must be distinguished, as there are many of the latter. It was noted that the recent wet weather had created problems for all trails, even with the higher specification construction now used.

Long Horse Bridge

TW asked about this drawn-out project, and was told that it is still being worked on.

Peak District Maps

TW had used new maps of the Trails Triangle and Cycle Trails Plus, and reported them to be potentially tricky to use by the uninitiated. PeD reported that signing is intended to supplement the maps, although some of this is yet to be installed. It is hoped that off-road signing will be finished by March or April, with on-road signs to follow as work with the highway authorities allows.

NCN 54

TW announced that NCN route 54, which runs along the A38, is being resurfaced by the Highways Agency. Although currently unusable, he expressed satisfaction at the amount of effort and cost that is evidently going into the works.

Swadlincote Retail Development

RG reported that a retail development proposal had been submitted to SDDC. Although Council officers had hoped to see NCN route 63 feature in the proposals, particularly as this route forms part of the South Derbyshire Greenways Strategy, this was not the case. The proposals are available to view at the District Council offices and any written representations received would be taken into consideration.

Greenway Definition

BK asked about the definition of a greenway. WB told him that these are off-road routes designed for shared use by people of all abilities on foot, bike or horseback.

Any Other Business

Bike Week

JS said that DCC staff are considering actions for the authority, with a possible event for staff. BK was hoping that the CCC might put up posters in Chesterfield, and JS confirmed that such activities would not clash with DCC promotional efforts. Any queries for DCC about Bike Week should go to RB. **Action: Any**

BK asked whether money might be available. JS said that it would be in principle, but specifics would need to be examined.

Accessibility Strategy

RP: The Derbyshire Accessibility Strategy forms part of the LTP (available online; full document at Annex A3), and seeks to address problems that those without cars have in accessing facilities, this includes efforts to promote healthy travel and alternatives to the car. Actions in the strategy include installing secure cycle parking facilities; providing information on e.g. cycle routes; improving cycle access to transport interchanges; and improving links between urban centres and the strategic cycle network. There is an allocated pot of LTP money for these actions and so BP asked to be contacted with any suggested actions: [HYPERLINK](#)

"mailto:rebecca.pennyfather@derbyshire.gov.uk"
rebecca.pennyfather@derbyshire.gov.uk **Action: Any**

Bolsover Cycling Strategy

SN told the group that BDC are intent on creating a planning policy on cycling. Any routes for inclusion should be sent to HYPERLINK

"mailto:scott.nicholas@bolsover.gov.uk"scott.nicholas@bolsover.gov.uk. **Action: Any**

WB noted that the East Derbyshire Greenways Strategy should provide a useful starting point.

Ashbourne Facilities

DW had visited Ashbourne, and was disappointed by what he considered to be a lack of facilities, including not being able to find a suitable site to lock his bike. He suggested that the next meeting (which has a NW area focus) might include some discussion of the situation – RB to include on the agenda. Pre-empting this, WB noted that links to the town were being considered as part of the West Derbyshire Greenways Strategy, and PeD suggested that dialogue with PaD over the redevelopment of the Nestle site was desirable. JS mentioned that this should also be looked at in relation to traffic management measures that might be used to alleviate congestion within the town. **Action: RB**

West Derbyshire Greenways Strategy

JW queried progress on this. WB said that the second phase of consultation should be going ahead in March.

Dates and venues of future meetings

Future meetings are organised as follows:

18/04/07	Wednesday	2.30pm	SE Area Meeting	Long Eaton Town Hall
11/07/07	Wednesday	2.30pm	NW Area Meeting	Matlock Town Hall
16/10/07	Tuesday	2.30pm	Strategic Meeting	County Hall, Matlock