

**Minutes of Derbyshire Cycling Liaison Group
Held on 11 July 2007 at Derbyshire Dales District Council Offices, Long Eaton**

North West Area Meeting

Present:

Dave Waldram (Derby Cycling Group)	DW
Terry Williams (CTC Right to Ride)	TW
Catherine Rossall (Chesterfield BC Air Quality)	CR
Irene Hayward (Derwent Valley Cycle Group)	IH
John White (Alfreton CTC)	JW
Ben Sandover (Derbyshire CC, Work Experience)	BS
Wayne Bexton (Derbyshire CC, Countryside Service)	WB
Rebecca Pennyfather (Derbyshire CC, Accessibility)	RP
Jim Seymour, Chair (Derbyshire CC, Policy & programmes)	JS
Reuben Brown, Minutes (Derbyshire CC, Policy & Programmes)	RB

1. Apologies for absence:

Patrick Davis (Sustrans Ranger)	PaD
Peter Davey (Peak District National Park Authority)	PeD
Peter Storey (DCC, Reclamation)	PS
Isobel Mulligan (Derbyshire County Council, NW Area Team)	IM
Hilary Senior (High Peak Borough Council)	HS
Mike Hase (Derbyshire Dales District Council)	MH
Harry Gould (Matlock Cycling Group)	HG
Alastair Meikle (Chesterfield Cycle Campaign)	AM

Everyone introduced themselves.

1. Minutes from the last NW area meeting, 9 May 2006, for accuracy

Two mistakes were found within the apologies for absence: Mike Hase's name was misspelled, and the Derby Cycling Group was labelled the Derby Cycle Campaign. Apart from these errors, the minutes were accepted as a correct record of the meeting.

1. Matters arising from above meeting not on agenda

Cawdor Quarry & Derwent Valley Cycle Route

WB provided information on progress at Cawdor Quarry. The development as a whole is on track, including a cycle lane beside the new section of the A6. Creation of a route between Matlock and Oker has been examined by DCC, but cost is a problem and no external funding is available. Because of this, and as other greenway priorities exist, this route will not be given officer time within the next two/three financial years.

IH responded with frustration, noting that a report on the route had originally been published in 1999 (Sustrans/DDDC). WB said that this original report was not detailed, and left enough work for a full-time project officer. There is only a very small financial contribution from Sainsbury's: £8k out of the required ~£200k. He also made it clear that this is just one high priority scheme in many, and that others have more funding and partnership support in place. Nevertheless, he also stated that a timescale for consideration of the scheme had been set and that for this scheme two/three years should be considered the shorter term.

Members of the group noted that DDDC again had no attendee at the meeting. Their perceived lack of active support for and/or involvement in the scheme was discussed, although the resource difficulties faced by local planning authorities were acknowledged.

JW asked whether bridleway designation could be given to the existing footpath as a short-term measure. WB said that this was not possible as paths would need upgrading to bridleway specification, and statutory procedures must also be undergone.

IH was clearly disappointed by the situation and expressed regret that finance played such a key role. However, RB thought that the Derwent Valley Cycleway Group had achieved a lot, bringing a forgotten route forward to become a timetabled scheme in very little time.

High Peak Trail Extension North

WB said that extension of this route depends upon the working of quarries in the Harpur Hill area as some of the route cannot be completed before extraction has finished and restoration is undertaken. Rick Gillings (DCC Countryside, West Area) is monitoring the situation. Although PaD had suggested a project officer might be employed (with Sustrans funding), the dependence on quarry operations has rendered this unnecessary.

Trails Triangle

TW had been to look at the route which he said was nearly finished and would be very useful when complete.

Bridleway Upgrades (Cycle Trails+)

TW noted that an application has been submitted for the bridleway between Beresford Ford and Hartington to be upgraded to a BOAT. WB said that rights of way disputes are common in this area. He was not sure whether a decision had been made in this instance.

Long Horse Bridge

WB said that compulsory purchase of the bridge was being pursued. He went on to stress the need for a swift conclusion to maximise use of the project budget.

Gamesley Sidings

WB said that BRBR are consulting on the future usage of this site, which forms an important link in both the Transpennine Trail and the Pennine Bridleway. WB is inputting.

West Area Greenways Strategy

WB told the group to expect to see a consultation document soon. This is expected to include roughly 100km of proposed route in the area. He also outlined an unresolved issue – whether to include routes which are not of greenway specification e.g. the Pennine Bridleway. This is pertinent to the area because of its topography, which often precludes the installation of greenways.

After the West Strategy, it is intended that the East Strategy will be reviewed.

East Midlands Cycle Forum

DW confirmed that this group is still “going strong”, and that its next meeting will be held in Chesterfield. He confirmed to JS that this was a forum for campaign groups to share news and ideas, and does not require input from local authorities.

1. Cycle Schemes 2007/2008

Strategic Cycle Network

WB ran through the current year’s Strategic Cycle Network schemes. See attached table ATA4 for complete list.

Cycle Parking Improvements

RB provided further details of two cycle parking improvement schemes, for New Mills and the Derwent Valley. See attached table ATA8 for complete list.

Senners Lane near Chelmorton

WB: A right of way is to be reinstated over this former highway now that tipping works have finished. A bridleway should be in place within the next twelve months.

Sett Valley Trail: New Mills

WB: The termination of the Sett Valley Trail in New Mills will shortly be improved, with steps replaced by ramps.

Hayfield

WB: the Pennine Bridleway through Hayfield will be improved, with green acorn signage indicating the route through the town.

Pennine Bridleway: Cottage Lane – Glossop Rd

WB: This section of the Pennine Bridleway is expected to be constructed this year.

Pennine Bridleway: Glossop

WB: The route of the Pennine Bridleway around Glossop has been approved by DEFRA. Compensation and formal design needs to take place before work begins.

The earliest possible start date will be Autumn 2008.

5. Issues in the North West Area

Rumble Strips

JW expressed concern about the use of rumble strips, which have been used across the full width of the road in locations such as the A515 at Parsley Hay. These can be awkward for cyclists, especially when preparing for junctions e.g. signalling. Although he was sympathetic with the reasons for their use, he suggested leaving a space for cyclists rather than covering the whole road with these strips. This view received sympathy, and RB agreed to raise the issue with area engineers.

Action: RB

6. Bike Week

RB told the group about the biker's breakfast run by DCC, where those employees who cycled to work received a free healthy packed breakfast. There was some discussion of the details. IH suggested that an accompanying walk to work day or week might be sensible, this was greeted with some favour. DCC now have a very small budget established for the running of these events in future years, the stability of which should aid marketing activities.

7. AOB

Future Maps

WB told the group that a map of the Greenways network and a "Horse Ride Derbyshire" map are both due to be prepared.

Cycle Derbyshire

DW pointed out that the Derby Cycling Group web address on the new Cycle Derbyshire map is wrong (www.derbycitycyclinggroup.org.uk). WB made a note of this, although it was acknowledged that it was too late to change the 80,000 maps that are being distributed.

Cycle Hero/York Cycle Rally

TW provided DCC with a copy of the Government funded 'Cycle Hero' DVD that promotes cycling for transportation. He also spoke about the "Flying Scotsman" film that has been released at mainstream cinemas.

RB Leaving

RB announced that he has taken up a position at the Peak District National Park Authority and will therefore be leaving Derbyshire County Council in September.

8. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be strategic (not area-based). It will be held at 2:30pm on Tuesday 16 October 2007 at County Hall, Matlock (Derbyshire County Council

Offices), Room 166a.

