

**Southampton Cycle Campaign –
Minutes of meeting held Monday 11th November 2013**

Apologies for any omissions / errors. Please bring any to my attention on lizkerans@yahoo.co.uk

Present: 10 – Lindsi Bluemel, Mike Charlton, David Cooper, Pete Davis, Tina Davis, Dilys Gartside, John Heath, Grant Holmes, Liz Holmes, Steve Hudson, Nick Hudson, Kelly Jarvis Chris Jenkins, Jim Probert, Eric Reed, David Thomas, Eleanor Van der Hoest, Tim Wakeley, Ele Wilde

1 Apologies: Chris Bluemel, Jonathan Chant, Barrie & Sue Colborne

2 The Minutes: of last meeting (28th October) were accepted as being correct.

3 Marsh Lane

- Lindsi, Dilys, Pete and Tina did a site view of the proposed new cycle tracks around and on Marsh Lane. The plans are generally supported, but with the following concerns:
 - There is to be a segregated with flow cycle track at Central Bridge, both sides from its junction with Terminus Terrace eastwards for 88 metres. However, what happens after 88 metres?
 - From Central Bridge turning right onto a two way segregated cycle lane on the East side of the road, continuing the length of Marsh Lane. Concerns about how cyclists are to get onto this lane.
 - The Marsh Lane two-way cycle way will only be separated from the road by being 55mm higher than the road, which offers little protection from vehicles; on the inside, there will be a further 55mm step up to separate it from the pedestrian path level.
 - Concerns about signage, which should be clear, not so much for regular cyclists, but people visiting or unfamiliar with the city. (this will essentially be a new and unfamiliar route for all cyclists).
 - Concerns about the nature of segregation (lining) between cyclists and motor vehicles, especially night time cyclists. Segregations should be clearly visible.
- Lindsi will write to express our support of the plans, but outlining the above concerns.

4 Lover's Lane

- Tina reported on the meeting of 22nd October. Attendees included Robert Stanley, acting for the Council, Balfour Beatty, SCAPPS, (Southampton Commons and Parks Preservation Society) some local residents, an ecologist from the council, 4 campaign members.
- The results of the meeting were that 60% wanted existing pathway widened. The council propose widening the pathway to 3.5metres with 4 metres at Burgess Rd

and Furzedown Rd entrances. SCAPPS objected to 4 metres. If the pathway was widened as outlined, 2,000 sq metres would be lost to the common, again objected to by SCAPPS. A bramble hedge along the pathway was also proposed.

- Other problems noted (at our meeting) were awkward exit to Burgess Rd. from the north end and the phasing of the traffic lights there, the fact that the pathway needs to be upgraded in any case; the sudden appearance of 'no cycle' signs, the numbers of both pedestrians and cyclists that use the route.
- The situation is to be monitored, all relevant documents and reports kept for records.

5 **Helmet Camera**

- It was decided that it would be a good idea to purchase a helmet camera, which could be 'hired out' to members, with a deposit and a small fee for usage.
- The camera could also be used during site visits and for campaign work.
- David Thomas offered to demonstrate his camera.
- Nick and Steve agreed to some research on the cameras available, with most people recommending the GoPro brand. They will send out an email with options that can be discussed at the next meeting.
- This led to a discussion about getting a projector. It was agreed that we would see how the camera goes first, and whether we would actually use a projector regularly enough to merit buying one.
- Lindsi suggested making an inventory of what the campaign has access to.

5 **CTC Affiliate Membership**

- This has been discussed many times, and a vote was taken to get this membership. The vote was unanimous. Mike will organise.

6 **Second Avenue**

- Chris outlined the plan to remove part of the contra-flow cycle lane and reintroduce two way traffic for motor vehicles on part of Second Avenue.
- A majority (15) voted to sustain our objection to the Traffic Order proposing to remove the contraflow cycle lane. Mike to sign a letter stating this with the following reasons, drawn up by Tina and agreed with by all present:
 - o Second Avenue is a very well used cycle commuter route and should not be downgraded.
 - o The policy of the Council should be to encourage, not discourage cycling.
 - o The changes suggested will increase the risk to cyclists.
 - o Shared use path / pavement will not be used by commuting cyclists averaging 22mph.
 - o Any cyclists on the shared use path south of the road would be at great risk from lorries and vans turning across it as drivers look along the road.
 - o If lorries and vans are travelling east to west along Second Avenue, they would turn across the path of cyclists; this situation has resulted in the deaths of many cyclists.
 - o If motorised traffic is still restricted west to east, at least cyclists would see vehicles about to cross their path and hopefully make eye contact.

- Some faster cyclists would move to dual carriageway in preference to dealing with turning HGVs and vans.

7 **AOB**

- Minutes of meetings to be sent to David following approval at subsequent meeting to be put on website.
- Cycle path at St. Mary's Stadium was discussed again.
 - A security camera blocks the path.
 - There is no drop kerb from the road.
 - There are chains close to the narrow access for cyclists, across the car access part of the route into the Stadium and several cyclists have come off here as the chains are quite inconspicuous at night.

- We said a fond farewell to Dilys, who is moving to Dorset. We would like to thank her for all her hard work with the campaign over the years, and wish her the best of luck with transforming cycling in Dorset!

**Next meeting:
Tuesday 25th November at 7.30pm
The Blue Keys, Northlands Road, SO15 2LH**

