

Minutes

South Gloucestershire Cycle Forum

Location: Bristol and Bath Science Park, Emerson's Green

Time & Date: 6pm 7 September 2017

Attending:

Lee Lodder (SGC)

Verity Britton (SGC)

Mark Youngman (GWR)

Andrew Gough

Terry Miller

Bob Keen

Richard Burton

Steve Frai

Craig Ellis

Margaret Elsom

Alan Morris

GWR - Cycle Policy

Mark Youngman attended to provide an update on GWR Cycle policy, key points included:

- When the new Intercity express trains come into service, cycle reservations will be compulsory on them.
- A minimum of 4 cycle spaces will be provided on each train
- Reservations will not be required on local routes
- GWR are working with Local Authorities to produce Station Travel Plans at 20 station across the network, including Filton Abbey Wood and Parkway, stakeholders, including cyclists have been consulted as part of this.
- an overview of the various types of Cycle hire scheme GWR are considering to improve sustainable access to stations, including, Brompton hire, fixed point cycle hire, and free standing hire bikes (e.g. Yobike)

Cycle Route Map Update

SGC will be updating the Cycle network map for the area over the next few months, and would appreciate input from Cycle forum members to improve its accuracy. Any feedback on additions or amendments should be made by email to cycleforum@southglos.gov.uk by the end of September (This request was also sent to all on the mailing list following the meeting).

M4 Junction 18a consultation

Those present had a brief discussion around the cycle aspects of the current Junction 18a public consultation, concerns were raised about the impact on current national and regional cycle routes, and it was noted that regional route 17 did not appear on the consultation map. LL noted the concerns, highlighting that one of the key aims of the consultation was to protect and enhance access for non-car modes, and that this was just the first round of consultation, if/when funding is secured to further progress the scheme, there would be further consultation, as designs for a chosen option are developed, but also stressed that it was important for individuals to take the time to provide their own response to the consultation.

A38 cycle lane near Almondsbury

LL shared a proposal to remove a section of cycle lane on the Southbound A38 near Almondsbury, which runs through a pinch point caused by an island. The scheme is being proposed by the road safety team, in response to an issue raised through the cycle forum. Those present agreed that it would be better for cyclists if the cycle lane was removed, as it would give cyclists more confidence to "take the lane" through the pinch point. All agreed it would be further improved by the addition of a large cycle symbol in the centre of the carriageway, as per Sustrans guidance. The plan has also been shared with the cycle forum mailing list, with a request for any further comments to be made by 18th September.

Open Forum

There was a question about when the current work on site at near Westerleigh would finish, and when the whole of the Yate Spur route would be complete. Current work scheduled to be complete by spring 2018, and subject to securing further funding the route should be complete by 2019.

RB mentioned that he is due to be taking Cllr Matthew Riddle on a cycling tour in North Bristol on 11th September followed by an interview with Radio Bristol, and asked for suggestions of sites to visit.

The vegetation on Concorde way continues to be an issue, it was requested that it be cut every 2 weeks at this time of year. LL responded that the maintenance team's budgets are tight, and any increase in cutting here would be at the expense of other parts of the network, and advised all to report issues to StreetCare directly (StreetCare@southglos.gov.uk) to ensure a prompt response.

It was requested that cycle dismount signs on the Bromley Heath Viaduct be removed. LL replied that contractors managing the site felt they were necessary, so they will be staying in place, however all users should use their common sense and be considerate to other users as there is enough room for cyclists and pedestrians to travel across safely. The signs on display are standard and advisory only and cannot be enforced.

It was requested that we put a notice on the door to make the location of the meeting clear, if this venue is used again in future.

Dates for next meetings:

Tuesday 28th November 2017

Wednesday 14th March 2018

Thursday 14th June 2018

Meeting closed at 7.45pm