

Minutes

South Gloucestershire Cycle Forum

Location: Rolls Royce, Gipsy Patch Lane, BS34 7QE

Time & Date: 12pm on Thursday 11th July 2019

Attending:

Lee Lodder (SGC)
Verity Britton (SGC)
Alexa Britton (Sustrans)
Beccy Jesson (SevernNet)
Alan Morris (Bristol Cycle Campaign)
Andrew Gough (Bristol Cycle Campaign)
Keith Marsh (Consultant for Highways England)
Ian Cole (Highways England)
Lynette Hutchins (Rolls Royce)
Stefano Marazzi (Rolls Royce)
Ben von Bertele (Rolls Royce)
Martin Collier (BT)
Tom Willmott (GKN)
Kate Royston (SevernNet)
Simon Tomlinson (Airbus)

Updates from last meeting

Travel to work survey information is not yet available for circulation, but will be shared by email once it is. **[post meeting note:** The Survey results will be circulated along with these minutes].

At the last meeting it was asked whether details of the usage of the Join my journey website could be shared, currently there are 1263 users signed up to the site across 10 employers, however only 1% of those users have confirmed that they are currently car sharing. This may not be representative of the success of the site as once someone finds a car share partner, there is no incentive for them to tell the Join my journey website that they are sharing.

The issue of the poor condition of a number of quiet roads in the Chipping Sodbury area, which are well used by local cyclists was raised, at the last meeting. The SGC

maintenance team have responded directly to the forum member who raised the issue, and a number of the roads in question are due to be resurfaced later this year, the others will be regularly inspected and prioritised accordingly.

It was also requested that the maintenance team attend a future cycle forum meeting to talk through their prioritisation for resurfacing cycle routes, they have provisionally agreed to attend the October meeting.

Forum members also asked at the last meeting whether the footway under the gipsy patch lane bridge could remain open during the 4 week closure in June, rather than be fully closed as originally planned, following discussions with BT who were undertaking the work, it was agreed to allow the path to remain open for this phase of the works.

LCWIP Update

LL provided an update on progress with the West of England Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan. The document will be owned and promoted by WECA, but the 4 West of England Unitary Authorities, with support from consultants, have undertaken most of the work to identify priority routes in their areas. Within SGC, the LCWIP is focussed on the North and East fringe, and the towns of Yate and Thornbury. Audits of prioritised Walking and cycling routes have been undertaken, and work to determine a recommended list of improvements on each route is well progressed. A consultation on the LCWIP document is planned for the Autumn.

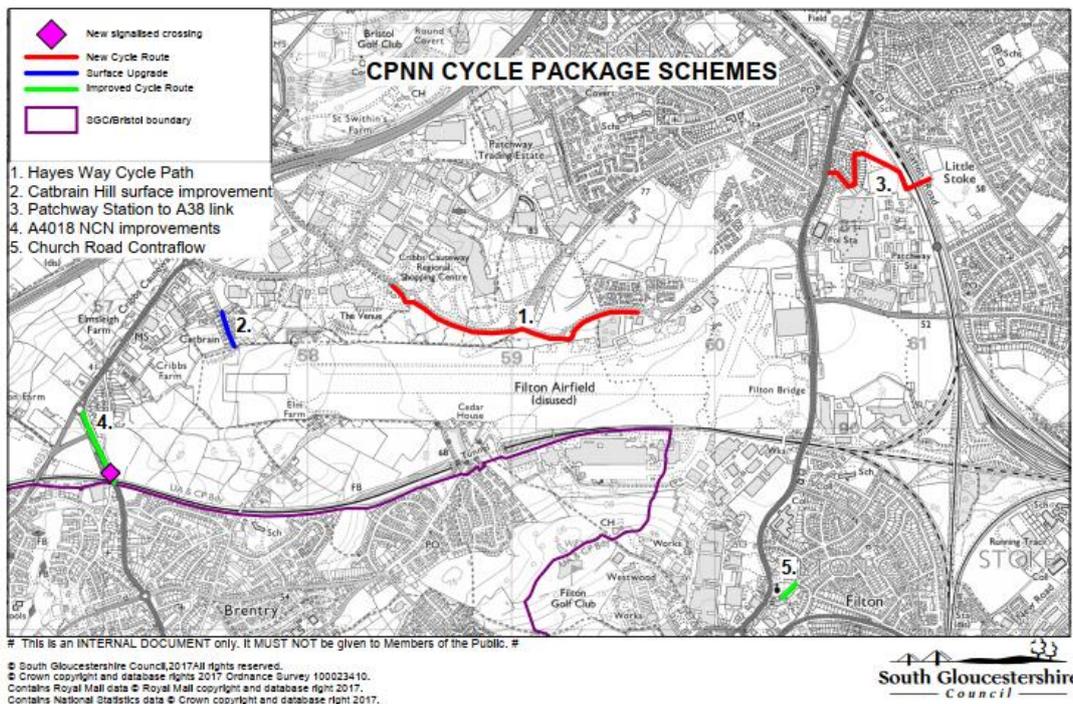
It was asked why other areas of South Gloucestershire, such as Severnside, were not included in the LCWIP. LL responded that it was envisioned that further areas could be included in future iterations of the document, and that whilst it doesn't cover all areas, the West of England LCWIP is a lot wider focussed than many others as a number of authorities have chosen to focus purely on one town or city within their area.

Ride & Stride Project

Alexa Britton and Beccy Jesson presented a summary of the new Severn Ride & Stride project, a 2 year collaboration between Sustrans and SevernNet, funded by Highways England, which aims to help people get to work, reduce single person car use and encourage active and sustainable travel. Alexa and Beccy will be working with local businesses and communities, holding events, and producing a walking and cycling map to encourage those working in the area to get out and explore the area.

Funding Bid Update

The CPNN Cycle Links scheme has recently received WECA approval for a £3.125m package of cycling infrastructure schemes, which will see new/improved cycle routes constructed around the former Filton Airfield site. The purpose of this package of schemes is to provide improvements to key walking and cycling routes connecting to the former Filton Airfield site ahead of the planned redevelopment of the site, to enable walking and cycling to be a viable choice from day one for new residents and employees moving into the area. This will see the following schemes delivered by January 2021 (see map below for indicative scheme locations):



1. Hayes Way/Merlin Road - Construction of new shared use path along southern edge of Merlin Road and the Western end of Hayes Way, connecting with the path on Eastern end of Hayes Way constructed with Cycle Ambition Funding in 2017, and providing a continuous path from the A38 to The Venue and The Mall.

2. Catbrain Lane - Surface improvements and construction of a new footway, at the southern end of the Catbrain Hill cul-de-sac, a secondary walking and cycling access route to the Airfield development.

3. Patchway Station Link - A new cycle route from the A38 to Patchway station and Little Stoke, utilising the existing Network rail overbridge north of the station, and Rolls Royce land to the north of their carpark. It is intended to deliver this scheme in time for it to be used as an alternative pedestrian and cycle route during Gypsy Patch Lane bridge closure planned for next year.

4. A4018 - Construction of a shared use path on the A4018 from the Bristol boundary to its junction with Station road, and installation of a new signalled crossing of the A4018.

5. Church road contraflow - Building on the recently implemented Airbus to Concorde Way route, this link will improve east/west access to Airbus and the A38, and legitimise a route that a number of cyclists are already using. The scheme will also provide public realm improvements, removing disused bus stops, and much needed additional parking.

These schemes have all successfully been through public consultation and we will keep you updated once construction start dates have been confirmed for each of the schemes mentioned above.

In addition to these five schemes, two further schemes developed as part of this project have already received confirmation of funding through the Local Growth Fund Sustainable Transport Package, and are to begin construction later this year, these schemes are an upgrade to the A4174 Station Road signalled crossing near Shellard Road (part of the Airbus to Concorde Way route), and improvements to the cycle route on the southbound

side of the A38 between The Grove and Sandhurst Close, to allow cyclists to safely bypass the A38/Stoke Lane junction.

These schemes are focused on links within the South Gloucestershire area, Bristol City Council will be pursuing their own package of improvements to walking and cycling routes to the south of the airfield site.

Gipsy Patch Lane Bridge closure - feedback

General consensus was that the 4 week closure in June was managed well, particularly as the footway remain open for use by pedestrians and dismounted cyclists. Rolls Royce saw an increase in the use of their bike sheds during the closure, and it is believed this was primarily due to those living nearby choosing to cycle rather than drive around the diversion route, as there was no corresponding increase in shower use, indicating the extra users were traveling short distances.

It was stressed, that have the alternative route via the rail bridge north of Patchway station in place ahead of the main closure next year (see scheme 3 above), would be crucial to encouraging people to walk and cycle, as the footway under the bridge is not expected to be available during that closure.

It was also highlighted that a number of other possible alternative routes have been identified by the Rolls Royce BUG group, but that there were issues on them that the Council may be able to address ahead of the closure. **LL will feed this back to the project team.**

Open Forum

AB mentioned that the Ride and Stride project were looking for cycle storage in the Severn Beach area, if anyone has any suggestions please get in touch.

AG mentioned the Lawrence Green development in Cheswick village, and asked whether there were any plans to provide a walking and cycling link along the south the development to provide a link from Concorde Way to the school. **LL will pass this query on to the Development implementation team.**

AM raised the ongoing issue of the traffic signals at the Airbus/GKN entrance on the A38 not being sensitive enough to detect cyclists wanting to leave the site and join the A38. LL responded that the Traffic signals team have looked at this issue and advised that the current set up is working as well as it can, and that the signals could not be made more sensitive without cars turning into the site triggering the detectors. Those present advised that senior figures in Airbus should be approached to speak to the Council to seek funding to improve the signals.

Proposed Dates for next meetings:

LL thanked everyone present for attending, and noted that the move to try a lunchtime forum meeting seemed to be successful, so the council would seek venues willing to host future lunchtime meetings. GKN, UWE Frenchay, Highways England and the Bristol and

Bath Science Park were all suggested as possible locations, LL will approach Cycle Forum members in those organisations by email to enquire about availability to host a meeting on or around the following dates:

Wednesday 9th October 2019
Thursday 16th January 2020
Tuesday 21st April 2020

Meeting closed at 1.45pm