

Derwent Valley Cycleway Working Group
Minutes of Meeting Held 13th January 2015
at Derek Latham Associates Office
St Michael's Church Queen Street Derby DE1 3SU

Present: Mr. Derek Latham (Chairman) (DL)
Mr. Ian Scott (Secretary) (IS)
Mr. Ian Dent (Derby Cycling Group/Sustrans Ranger) (ID)
Mr. Alan Foord (Milford Community Group) (AF)
Mr Roger Jackson (Derwent Valley Cycle Group) (RJ)
Ms Sukie Khaira (Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site) (SK)
Ms Gyneth McMinn (Sustrans' East Mids Development Manager) (GM)
Ms Tania Pells (DerwentWise Scheme Manager) (TP)

1. Apologies :

Mrs. Julie Carter
Mrs Jenny Southwell (Derbyshire Countryside Service) (JS)
Mr. Mark Spilsbury (Duffield Cycling Group) (MS)
Mr. Brian Waters (Derwent Valley Trust) (BW)

2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held Thursday 6th November 2014.
These were approved.

3. Matters arising. Progress report on the listed actions:

(1). AS to report on developing joint cycling strategy with Jim Seymour at the County Council. AS and IB to accompany GM to Dept of Transport key projects meeting.

It is uncertain if this meeting has taken place or not. In the absence of AS, Sukie Kharia will chase this up.

(2). Proposed Reduction in Derbyshire County Council's contribution to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

DL to write to Allison Thomas. AS to discuss self-funding with SK.

DL has written to Allison Thomas but discussion between AS and SK regarding self funding has not yet taken place.

(3). Government invests £214m in cycling schemes to help cut air pollution. Document sent by BW.

This was acknowledged and circulated for information only.

(4). DL to arrange & report on meeting with Alastair Morley Community Rail Officer

DL has not as yet met Alistair Morley. TP stated that she meets him regularly. There are a significant number of "listed " structures on the proposed route for electrification and hence Network Rail has employed Alan Baxter associates as "Heritage " consultants. Two bridges may need to be taken down and there is a need for an environmental assessment that will include tree removal and preservation of views. Mr. Morley mentioned that he had spoken to DL and that he was aware of the

cycleway project.

Action: DL requests TP to speak to the East Midlands Trains representatives regarding improving cycle carriage on trains as opposed to improving station storage facilities that is their current policy. Rob Burton is the station manager for East Midlands Trains.

She will also seek a slot for DL to give a presentation about the cycleway to the Community Rail Partnership at 10.am on 10th March. The location in Belper is to be confirmed.

(5). DL to report on continuing liaison with Network Rail contacts.

DL has written to them with OS map references of all the areas where we are seeking liaison. TP said that we need to be aware of a tendency to rapid turnover of Network Rail staff making consistent communication difficult.

Action: DL to report back on further correspondence at next meeting.

(6).TP to report any further information on ownership of Shining Cliff Woods.

DG to report on contacts with the caravan site owner near Whatstandwell.

TP still has no definite information about Shining Cliff Woods but the tenants the Linley Trust say it is owned by “The Grith Pioneers”. She has identified a contact as Helen Asher Tel 07771 706305 email helen@twitcher.co.uk.

Action:A map of the area of their ownership would be helpful and TP will contact her regarding this.

(7). Development of a detailed action plan.

DL to report on progress on establishing a small working party consisting of himself as chair, AS,TP, BW and GM to develop the strategy for bidding and procurement. AS to report on legal guidance on procurement issues.

A date for this meeting is required because of the need to activate the process of putting out tenders to receive bids for the feasibility assessment. TP has pursued Ray Poxon of Derby City Council regarding procurement issues.

Action: IS in liaison with DL will circulate dates for a meeting of this group.

(8). BW in liaison with DC and SK to report on approaches to Amber Valley and Darley Dales Councils.

SK & BW had met with Jill Chapman of “regeneration Tourism”, Rob Wilks the cycling officer and Kirk Monk assistant for wellbeing for Amber Valley Council. This proved a very positive meeting. It would be most helpful if they could persuade the chief executive of Amber Valley and Darley Dales councils to give us formal support. Erewash council should also be approached. We also need to get formal support from Belper Town Council. TP recommends enlisting support of Parish Councils.

Action: SK will pursue this further and find out which of the officers of Amber Valley and Darley Dales Councils would like to be on our mailing list for information and prepared to respond if they feel there are issues they could help with.

GM will send SK details of a transport contact in Erewash council.

TP will send DL a list of Parish Councils’ contact details.

AF will present a case for the cycleway to a Milford Community Group meeting

as Belper town councilors attend these ex-officio this offers a route to the main town council.

IS to send AF details of the formal titles and status of our group under the auspices of the Derwent Valley Trust

(9). Regarding the summary of TP of DerwentWISE projects relevant to the Derwent Cycle Way & assessment of Cromford Wharf end of route by TP & IS with photos & map.

(a) DL is still to write to the Department of Transport, the Rail Minister, the Minister for cycling and East Midlands Trains locally regarding our concerns.

(b) In spite of trying TP has not yet identified the ownership of the east bank of the Derwent south of the Matlock rugby club. The best approach will be via the Land Registry.

TP also stated that Ashley Franklin has performed an aerial survey of the Derwent Valley for a World Heritage Site book that could be useful.

Action: DL to write as at (a) above. Julie Carter to use grant to fund land registry searches.

(10) TP to give an update on Darley Park landscaping developments and opportunities.

The Darley Park landscaping report by Chris Burnett associates was due to be finalized this week and will include a recommendation for a multi-user track on the West side of the river suitable for cycles and wheelchairs. It will be up to the City Council to apply for a Heritage Grant for this.

(11) Julie Carter to report on successful grant application to Community fund. Julie has obtained a grant of £1000 to use for publicity and presentation purposes.

(12) ID to report if formal letter of support obtained yet from CTC

ID has a meeting with a CTC representative on 22nd January and will seek a letter of support.

(13) Examples of technical solutions to route. GM to provide photos of examples of gates and surface solutions with brief commentaries.

These were circulated. It would be useful to add these to other examples so that we can show solutions to counter potential objections.

Action: IS with the assistance of other group members will establish an archive of photographs of examples.

(14). Alan Foord to report on route near Milford and discussions with Ashley Franklin.

Alan reported that he had a meeting with David Bridges and that the favoured route would be along the West bank. It would be necessary to build it on decking around the bases of the gardens of the twenty cottages in the terrace and would require secure fencing to keep the gardens safe from intruders. It might also prove useful to the garden owners as an alternative access providing there was adequate security. However any development within 3 metres of the river bank require Environment agency approval. There is also the question of risks of pollution from materials whilst working on it.

Action: AF will email IS with further information including names and addresses of contacts.

(15) Updates on progress on establishing riparian ownerships.

This will be pursued by Julie Carter using the Land Registry with further information as acquired by group members as in the previous item.

(16) BW to continue to chase Severn Trent for a liaison person with whom we can discuss our proposals where they cross their land

Further information awaited.

(17) Publicity: DC, ID and BW to liaise and report.

Ian Dent has produced a template for a newsletter but we need to provide content. This would be a better way of communicating with the wider group of supporters than sending them detailed minutes of working group minutes. These could still be accessible to those who wished.

A three monthly bulletin reporting progress, to include photographs and information of interest should be the aim.

Action: TP will send a copy of her DerwentWise newsletter and DL will send a copy of Pauline Latham's newsletter format to ID as examples.

IS will set up a dropbox folder of route photographs for ID to use.

6. AOB

(1) We need to be represented at Park Bike Works on the morning of 7th February. Derby Cycling Group in association with the police will be arranging identification stamping of cycles.

(2) We need to have a suitable eye catching logo-bearing banner made with holders to support it for these publicity opportunities. TP will mock one up if ID sends her his map. IS needs to send TP a copy of the logo and additionally, the bottom of the letterhead to ID.

(3) Ashley Franklin has offered to take photographs of some of us "cycling" along the route. These could be included in future publicity material and upon the web.

(4) There is another "Belper Goes Green" event on the 30th and 31st of May. The Derby Cycling Group will be there and we should arrange to be there too in association. We need to contact Ian Jackson to get into the programme.

(5) ID will check if we are eligible for grant money from Derbyshire Environmental Trust. He also mentioned VIOLA and BIFFA, "Sport England" and "Cycling for Health" who are running community led cycle rides and might be approached for support.

7. Date and time of next meeting: This will take place at 4.30pm on Thursday 26th February at Derek Latham Associates Office ,St Michael's Church Queen Street Derby DE1 3SU.