Minutes of Meeting

1. Apologies
David Spencer, Cllr Donald Davies, Cllr Rod Lees – Nailsea Town Council, Kate Uzzell, Jacqui Wilcox – Lifecycle UK

2. Welcome & Introductions
AR welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited everyone including new attendees and representatives to introduce themselves.

Attendees
Adrian Read – Local Access Forum Member, Chair Cycle Forum
Cllr James Tonkin - North Somerset Council / Local Access Forum
Andrew Gough - Bristol Cycling Campaign
Andrea Smith
Terry Miller, Bristol Cycling Campaign, Cycling UK
Kevin Daniels - Portishead resident
Frankie Mann - North Somerset Council
Ben Searle - North Somerset Council
Peter Bailey – Cycle UK / Backwell resident
Martin Thomas – In2Gear / In2biking
Seamus Insand – Sustrans
Jonathan Edwards – Yatton Parish Council
Mark Gentle – Nailsea resident
Steve Anderson – Weston Bicycle Works
Mark Malloy – Sole Cycling
Christin Hoffmann – North Somerset Council

3. Notes of previous meeting (15th Nov 2017)
Actions & matters arising not included in main agenda

Ashton (Dovecote) Inn – update on signage
- This is with engineers for action.

Missing Festival Way section
AR to check situation with Sustrans (Rupert).

4. ‘Engagement’
North Somerset Council’s Sustainable Travel & Road Safety Team
Christin Hoffman outlined the various ways the Council supports cycling. Please refer to the presentation online at www.n-somerset.gov.uk/cycleforum
As requested, here are the planned forthcoming business and community Engagement events / roadshows:

7th April - Eat Festival (they are promoting cycling to the festival and putting cycle parking in the centre)

4th – 7th May – May Fair Nailsea (enquired with Richard Simmons but availability needs to be confirmed)

19th May - Wellbeing Festival as part of Mental Health Awareness

14th July - For All Health Living Centre Summer Sizzler (annual event for local residents e.g. Bourneville estate)

Dates and ideas for summer roadshows are welcome, but as much notice as possible is required, please to CH (email Christin.Hoffman@n-somerset.gov.uk)

JT suggested could be held at Strawberry Line events. Tyntesfield also suggested (Christin chasing Richard Elliot at NT but Tyntesfield have been unresponsive to date).

How individuals can be most effective at their workplaces to raise profile of cycling / meet cyclists’ needs was discussed. KD offered to research more.

AS noted a lack of cycling communications at Lloyds, Bristol. CH to contact her Bristol counterpart.

FFI contact Christin: Christin.Hoffmann@n-somerset.gov.uk

Mark Malloy / Sole Cycling
Mark and his team deliver Bikeability Level 1 and 2 to around 2000 children per annum – about 50%+ of eligible school children, and limited further by available DfT funding?

Some schools limit uptake, some include within school class times while others insist they will only take part at weekends. It is best sold as a ‘life skill’ rather than ‘sport’ which some schools see it as. Some schools take a carrot and stick approach – ie., can’t attend school camp unless taken part. The window for training can be quite small, avoiding SATS, but running when the weather is good.

Bikeability training is followed up with letters to the parents offering family cycling events, bike maps and ideas for rides etc

FFI contact Mark: marc@solecycling.co.uk, www.solecycling.co.uk

The NSC Cycle Map
This is currently being updated and is due to be published in April. A review of the road network has been undertaken to rate the majority of roads for their ‘cycle friendliness’ to make it easier to plan a journey, wherever it is.

A continually updated GIS version will also be available on the council website and it is anticipated this will shortly be used with online journey planners.

Weston Bicycle Works
Steve Anderson outlined a new bicycle recycling project in Weston-super-Mare run by two technicians with a passion for cycling. This started as a hobby and they are now
responding to growing demand. They are looking to establish links with sources of used bikes, such as recycling centres.

FFI contact: westonbicycleworks@gmail.com

**In2gear and In2biking**

Martin Thomas started as In2biking, an inclusive cycling club based at the Worle School Academy site. This is an all year round project for those with additional needs, using adapted cycles such as side by side trikes, specialised tandems etc, funded by the National Lottery, Rotary Club, Lions Club etc

In2gear was a spur off this providing refurbished bikes, and now has dedicated facilities at Clarence Park. 300 bikes were refurbished last year, and they helped over 100 people back into cycling. They run an apprenticeship scheme and the Cytech Level 2 cycle mechanic’s qualification. A wide range of cycles are available for hire.


**5. Sustrans Ranger voluntary cycle route maintenance**

Currently Sustrans volunteers carry out voluntary maintenance of various sections of the National Cycle Network. Seamus Insand is seeking to encourage greater participation in this and to find the most effective way to work with NSC so that efforts are not duplicated and perhaps to help fill gaps in what the Council is able to achieve.

In summary maintenance of dedicated cycle facilities consists of:

1) Adopted Highway paths (including Highway not necessarily adjacent to the carriageway) – usually adhoc by our term contractor Glendale. Requests for maintenance are best made via the Council website: [http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/do-it-online/connect/](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/do-it-online/connect/)

2) Non adopted routes, such as the Flax Bourton Greenway are covered by a separate maintenance contract (with a quite tight budget) we have which covers some routine and adhoc maintenance. The routes currently covered are:

- **Weston-super-Mare:**
  - Flowerdown bridge
  - Summerlands Path
  - Elmham Way
  - Queensway

- **Clevedon:**
  - Windwhistle Path
  - Middle Path

- **Other:**
  - Flax Bourton Greenway
  - Station Rd, Rosemount Rd, through to Cambridge Batch
  - Dawes Walk, Long Ashton
  - Festival Way from Yanley Lane to Ashton Rd
  - Adhoc maintenance of the River Avon Trail (Pill Path) from Pill Chapel Farm to Bristol boundary (horseshoe bend, with path meets river).
This contract expires in June and due to pending reorganisation we don’t know yet which team will carry this forward. For these routes maintenance needs can be reported on the link above or email ben.searle@n-somerset.gov.uk.

3) Additional maintenance from Sustrans and others (such as on the Strawberry Line) and also Greenways and Cycleroutes Ltd volunteers who have carried our work on the Brean Down Way.

BS to liaise with SI as the new contract is determined.

6. Route update
The Brean Down Way / Uphill Road North
Fencing by ditches and concreting adjacent to two field entrances are due to be carried out on the NSC stone dust section of path as soon as this can be organised (likely to be April). Plans for the widening of the footway to create a shred-use path alongside this busy road are moving forwards. Update since meeting – planning permission has now been applied for. A funding application to the LGF is imminent.

Tutshill Sluice (Weston – Clevedon)
An update in the most recent edition of Life (March-April, page 30), which can be downloaded here:

Summary of current situation: The existing sluices present many difficulties in sharing public use with the farming operations at this site. A new bridge on the former railway alignment had been considered but this has become too costly for the funding available to us (we had been invited to apply for a high level of EU funding but this offer was reduced considerably). We are now exploring other options with a view to applying for funding this Spring/early Summer. We have quite a few hurdles to get through before then involving further ecological, ground and flood risk surveys/assessments, alternative bridge designs and further discussions with landowners – it’s a complex site with no easy solutions, unfortunately. However you can rest assured we are trying to progress this scheme as quickly as we can.

Tyntesfield
£18K funding for the right of way link from the Festival Way to the Tyntesfield boundary has now been transferred to NSC. This work should be carried out as soon as ground conditions and contractor availability permit. The NT have not yet committed themselves to a time when the bridleway through their property to the pay area will be upgraded.

SBL – Festival Way link
A new gate has been installed by the accommodation bridge over the A370. This is considerably easier to use by pedestrians and cyclists. As a reminder this is a permissive route for cyclists, which the farmer requests cyclists walk due to the cattle. There is no current solution to improve what can be the mucky condition of the linking path.

7. Strawberry Line and Shute Shelve Tunnel
Due to the insistence of the Cycle Forum, NSC officers, Cllr James Tonkin, and others Bristol Water is now liaising with NSC and the EA to find an acceptable lighting solution. Any info regarding previous accidents in the tunnel due to the lack of lighting could be help the case – please forward to BS. The tunnel is due to reopen in May but lighting
installation (once agreed and planning permission obtained) may mean another short closure.

### 8. Gritting priorities
KD has continued his campaign for better winter treatment of popular commuting cycle routes (and better information on path surface temperatures), in particular the Festival Way and the A369 shared-use path. A technical solution appears to be already in use on the Leeds - Bradford super cycle way. This does not require pressure to break down the compound: [https://www.bikebiz.com/news/councils-de-icer-is-new-innovative-approach-for-keeping-cycle-routes-clear](https://www.bikebiz.com/news/councils-de-icer-is-new-innovative-approach-for-keeping-cycle-routes-clear). Application could be made using a quad bike and trailer, as has been used in Manchester.

To compare the number of possible beneficiaries BS to provide counter data to KD for the Festival Way and A369 paths.

### 10. AOB items and updates

**LCWIP** – This is now being progressed with consultants WSP. Consultation with the forum and other stakeholders is anticipated late Spring.

**Cycle parking at Worle Station (south side)** The Perspex roof was vandalised but not replaced. BS to contact GWR regarding replacement.

**Cycle Parking at Tesco, WsM** This is poor and not under cover. BS to approach Tesco re improvements.

**WsM Station to Weston General Hospital, poor signing for cyclists.** BS to review and add to signing works schedule. More cycle parking at hospital is required closer to various ancillary buildings. BS to liaise with CF to offer possible help to hospital


**Agenda** - Cllr James Tonkin requested the Forum have fewer agenda items in future (the Forum regularly overruns its finish time)

**Bollards at nature reserve bridge, Portishead** – Kevin Daniels requested that the bollards have their visibility further improved. BS to liaise with Green Spaces team.

**Post meeting news:**

**Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS) safety review**
Call for evidence on ways to make cycling and walking safer while supporting the government's ambition to increase cycling and walking. Closes at 11:45pm on 1 June 2018.

**ASDA – Brean Down Way voting** – ‘Friends of Brean Down Way’ have been chosen by Weston Asda for its ‘Green Token Giving’, running through until the 1st July. Vote at Asda for the chance for the group to receive up to £500.
NS cycle routes now online – this map will form the basis for the printed map and will also feed into online journey planner that is being developed. Roads have been re-audited (refer to revised key) for their suitability for cycling to aid journey planning. Comments are welcome before the map goes to print at the end of April.

See: http://map.n-somerset.gov.uk/CycleRoutes.html

Date/s and venue/s of next meetings

Tues 17th July 6pm – Yatton. Incorporating AGM. NSC Development Control to attend is poss. All details to TBC.

Agenda items to be submitted by June 12th for consideration.