

Minutes of MVCF Meeting, Thursday January 9th 2014,
Council Chamber, MVDC Offices, Pippbrook

Present: Ron Billard (RB) [Chair], Rod Shaw (RS) [MVDC], John Meudell (JM) [Dorking/CTC], Jane Marfleet [Dorking], Aldith Bruty (AB) [Bookham], Andy Tanner [Transition Dorking], Eric Palmer [Leatherhead], Peter Silburn (PS) [Horsham/Dorking], Colin Brewer (CB) [Treasurer], Rob Hedgecock (RH) [Abinger], Julia Dickinson (JD) [Bookham /Effingham], Roger Troughton (RT) [Secretary]
Apologies: Peter Mayor (PM) [Leatherhead], PS Olly Smith [Surrey Police], Paul Tunnel (PT) [British Cycling]

1. Previous Minutes and Outstanding Actions not covered elsewhere

RT's previously reported issue with the motorcycle that had taken to parking in between the cycle stands on Dorking High Street outside St Martin's Walk has been resolved. Also the shrubbery at the junction of North St and Church St. has been "tamed" resulting in much improved visibility.

2. Matters Arising

Police Issues; Road Casualties and Cycling Safety Report

Results from 21/11/13 to date are as follows:

P13357488	23/11/13 16:37	YOUNG STREET, FETCHAM
REPORT FROM POLICE ABOUT CAR V PEDAL CYCLE COLLISION. MINOR INJURIES ONLY.		
P13361243	27/11/13 08:50	BARNETT WOOD LANE, LEATHERHEAD
AMBULANCE REPORTING MALE KNOCKED OFF PEDAL CYCLE BY A VEHICLE. DRIVER OF VEHICLE DESCRIBED AS ELDERLY AND DISABLED AND VERY SHAKEN BY THE INCIDENT. MALE CYCLIST BLEEDING FROM HIS HEAD. PARAMEDICS ASSESSMENT IS POSSIBLE FRACTURE TO HIP AND MINOR HEAD INJURY BUT CONSCIOUS AND BREATHING. MALE CYCLIST WAS NOT WEARING A HELMET. WAS CLIPPED BY THE VEHICLE'S WING MIRROR AND HE FELL OFF. TAKEN TO HOSPITAL WHERE FRACTURED LEG WAS DIAGNOSED		
P13371778	06/12/13 19:49	KINGSTON ROAD, LEATHERHEAD NORTH
REPORTING CAR V PEDAL CYCLIST, ON THE JUNCTION WITH THE A245 KINGSTON ROAD. INFORMANT KNOCKED OFF HER CYCLE. OTHER DRIVER STOPPED AND APOLOGISED AND SAID THEY HAD NOT SEEN THE INFORMANT. BOTH PARTIES SWAPPED DETAILS. NO INJURY REQUIRING MEDICAL ATTENTION.		

EP raised his concern about 4 incidents that been involved in reporting to the police yet no action had been taken. JM noted that in the past incidents involving pedestrians and cyclists had not been deemed an issue by Surrey Police. **EP** to provide **RB** with the incident numbers, and **RB** to raise these with Inspector Andy Rundle and to establish the current situation.

3. Surrey Cycling Strategy – Mole Valley Local Cycling Plan (MVLCP)

RS reported that the initial focus has been on forming a members working group to work with officers. Cllr Mir will chair this working group, although there is no date yet for the first meeting which will establish Terms of Reference and how everyone will work together.

During the meeting a number of areas were identified where MVCF might provide useful input. These could include:

- New infrastructure / improvements to existing infrastructure
- Safe Routes to Schools
- Regular maintenance issues
- Encouraging increased cycling in Mole Valley

4. Route Development

Leatherhead/Ashtead Area

- SCC Cycle Safety Scheme bid

RB reported that a meeting (involving Duncan Knox and Cty Cllrs Townsend and Hall) to make the final decision on this scheme was due to be held late December. The outcome of this meeting is not known.

- Randalls Road

RB summarised the recent meeting with Anita Guy (Surrey Highways) and Cty Cllr Tim Hall to look at improving cycling facilities from the industrial estates towards the station. These would be dependent upon money becoming available resulting from any new development in the area opposite the crematorium.

JM suggested that if the Environment Agency undertook any flood relief work on the River Mole, there might be opportunities for additional cycling routes or crossings. RS suggested this could be fed into the MVLCP.

- Safe Routes to Schools (Howard of Effingham, Therfield)

RB, JD, AB to produce a report (*Carried Forward - Needs photos when children are using the route.*) Again, these should be included in the MVLCP.

RS reported that the riverside path in Leatherhead had stood up well to the recent flooding.

Dorking-Westcott Link

Conversely the newly laid Westcott path had suffered during the recent rains with sections of 1m and 3m having been damaged. These have been made safe and are passable, and will be repaired in due course. Other outstanding issues have been, or are in the process of being addressed.

Safe Routes to Schools through Dorking
Another item for the MVLCP.

Dorking-Southbound:

Progress continues, additional work has been carried out recently between South Holmwood and Beare Green village, and there is now a section of signed shared path!

Holmwood Circular Trail

PS reported that whilst phase 1 is now complete and can be cycled, it has not been primarily designed as a cycle route as it is barely wide (about 1.5m) enough for passing. Phase 2 looks to be going ahead this year, and it is hoped that a wider bridge will be installed at the ford (currently only a footbridge).

Brockham-Betchworth

RT reported that Claire Saunders (SCC RoW) had been told by the Environment Agency that they had mislaid their survey of this area, so SCC would have to commission their own before any progress could be made. Again this could another potential scheme for the MVLCP. RB suggested that we should take some pictures of the route.

5. Other Matters

Cycle Path Signage Audit

Action Ongoing: RT & RB (for Dorking). PM & MW (for Leatherhead).

RT circulated for comment the part-completed report that PM and MW had prepared. (Anyone else requiring a copy please contact the Secretary.) There followed some discussion that was indirectly related to these audits – poor sightlines at Givons Grove, also at Pixham Lane / A24, and around the bus stop on the A24 opposite Dorking Station (which RB has discussed with SCC in the past).

Regarding issues about substandard infrastructure RB proposed that we keep a dossier on these – the basic information required would be Location, Description and a Photograph.

Bike Week 2014

This will be June 14-22. There was discussion about what, if anything, MVCF should do. There is a degree of reluctance to repeat the Bike Breakfast at Dorking Sports Centre. One suggestion was to do something related to / in conjunction with the cycle cafes – Bike Beans café in Ashted, Pilgrim café by Westhumble Station and possibly the (out of area) Cycle café in Reigate. **JM** will talk to **Jamie** at *Bike Beans* café. Another suggestion was to coordinate Bike Breakfasts at some of the larger employers eg. CGI (Logica), Unilever and KBR in Leatherhead; and possibly Friends Life in Dorking. **JD** to check her contacts in the Leatherhead employers.

MVCF Website

CB reported that the MVCF web space has been renewed at a cost of just over £20.

6. AOB

EP raised the matter of crossing the Knoll roundabout – it is dangerous and cyclists avoid it, a point which has been cited previously as a reason for the lack of accidents there.

RT asked whether MVCF should be doing more to encourage cycling in Mole Valley. This resulted in a prolonged discussion – the reason a lot of people/parents give for not using a bike is the perceived danger of cycling on roads. It appears that better infrastructure, driver education and training for cyclists are some of the precursors to getting more people cycling.

MVCF has received an email from Mike Morley (KPRC cycling club and also a committee member for the CTC SW London group) asking for support to gain an exception for cyclists at the No left turn sign at the north entrance to the Beare Green. It was agreed to back this request. RB offered to raise this issue at the next Local Committee Meeting.

RB reiterated the call for volunteers to act as marshalls to help out with Ride London - Surrey 2014 on Aug 10th. If you want to volunteer please just e-mail the organiser's volunteer co-ordinator Claire Larbey via clairel@london-marathon.co.uk or call her on 0207 902 0200 extension 208. More details in this week's Dorking Advertiser, and soon to appear on the MVCF website.

7. Next Meetings

Next formal meeting is on **Thurs 13th March at 7.00pm** at Park House, Randalls Road, Leatherhead (this is close to Leatherhead railway station – a map will be sent out with the agenda).

Next informal meeting is on **Thurs 13th February at 7.30pm** in The Edmund Tylney (Wetherspoons), Leatherhead.