

**Minutes of Mole Valley Cycling Forum Meeting/AGM, Thursday October 11th 2018
Committee Room 1, MVDC Offices, Pippbrook, Dorking**

Present: Ron Billard (RB) [Chair], Eric Palmer (EP) [Leatherhead, Colin Brewer (CB) [Treasurer], Rod Shaw (RS) [MVDC], Roger Troughton (RT) [Secretary], Lisa Scott (LS) [Hookwood/Charlwood], Scott Wilson (SW) [Holmwood]

Apologies: Peter Mayor (PM) [Leatherhead], Julia Dickinson (JD) [Bookham/Effingham],

1. Previous Minutes

RT apologised that the minutes for the last meeting should have included apologies from Peter Ansel (British Cycling). Peter also reported that their SE Cycling Development Manager had followed up the request for assistance from the Mary Frances Trust.

2. Matters Arising, Outstanding Actions not covered elsewhere

RB will try *Andy Reid* (who kindly provides the RTC Statistics) as a way into the DriveSMART team [c/f, NB. **RT** to copy RB details of how Andy has been in touch with the DriveSMART team].

3. Route Development Updates (Nothing to report unless mentioned below.)

Leatherhead area

RS noted that Transform Leatherhead is waiting on the completion of modelling work later this month. There is a Transform Leatherhead forum at 7pm on Wed 17 October at the Leatherhead Theatre which will include a Q&A session. Alternatively questions can be emailed to transformleatherhead@molevalley.gov.uk

Dorking area

Dorking STP (Deepdene Station):

RS had received the following information from County late August: "The signage changes around the bus shelter and cycle arrangements on the west side of the A24 are being taken into account as part of the works being delivered next week. This will include some adaptations to the signage to improve clarity for pedestrians and cyclists. As part of this we reviewed the comments from the Cycle Forum where they fall within the scheme area and we are implementing most of the changes in a similar form to conform with necessary standards." There also followed a discussion regarding accessibility issues at Deepdene Station.

Dorking Southbound:

RB has looked at the route with SW to identify the outstanding issues and a report is being prepared. SW provided a number of updates. A response is still awaited from Highways regarding the outstanding works and their costs.

Hookwood/Charlwood area

LS reported the good news that a section of the footway alongside the A217 north of Crutchfield Lane has been cleared, yielding a width of between 2m-3m.

4. Police Issues; Road Casualties

Cycling Incidents:

Mole Valley RTC stats involving cyclists between 12/07/2018 – 10/10/2018	
CANNON WAY FETCHAM 12/07/18 08:13	BIKE VS VEHICLE. SCRAPE ON ELBOW
ASHCOMBE RD DORKING 15/07/18 10:03	NO VEH INVOLVED. CYCLIST HIT A PART OF ROAD AND CAME OFF. GRAZING AND MINOR INJURY
COLDHARBOUR LN 16/07/18 16:21	CAR VS CYCLIST
LOWER RD FETCHAM 18/07/2018 1245AM	CAR VS CYCLIST. CYCLIST WENT TO HOSPITAL AS A PRECAUTION BUT WAS DISCHARGED AFTER A COUPLE OF HOURS
WALTON RD ASHTEAD 19/07/18 21:20	CAR VS CYCLIST MINOR INJURY
EASTWICK RD GREAT_BOOKHAM 21/07/18 08:54	CYCLE V CAR CYCLIST HAS ELBOW AND ARM INJURIES MINOR INJURIES.
PARTRIDGE LN NEWDIGATE 08/08/18 20:03	BIKE V CAR. INJUIRES TAKEN TO HOSP.
REIGATE RD DEEPDENE DORKING 28/07/18 09:59	CAR V M/BIKE. MINOR INJURY
LONDON RD/REIGATE RD DORKING 20/08/18 08:15	CAR V CYCLIST SLIGHT INJURY
LODGEBOTTOM RD HEADLEY 21/08/18 14:14	CYCLIST V STATIONARY CAR – TAKEN TO HOSP
THE ST ASHTEAD 13/09/18 16:26	BIKE VS CAR BACK PAIN - TAKEN TO HOSP
BOXHILL RD BOX HILL 16/09/18 11:28	CAR VS CYCLIST MINOR INJS
STANDON LN OCKLEY 20/09/18 19:06	CAR VS CYCLIST NO FURTHER DETAILS
RAIKES LN ABINGER 07/10/18 13:46	CAR V CYCLE NO INJURIES

Further to previous queries regarding the Close Pass Initiative (recently confirmed as Government policy), RT had asked if signs reminding vehicle drivers to give 1.5m distance when passing cyclists would be considered. The enquiry has been passed to the Road Safety & Active Travel Team Manager (Duncan Knox). In order to establish the rates of prosecution, if any, resulting from cars hitting cyclists, it has been recommended to **RB** that he put in a *FoI* request.

5. Cycling Issues: Road Racing/Sportives/Off-Road

It was noted that a MVDC Councillor had put forward a proposal to charge cycling events for road closures. There have also been various online petitions relating to cycling events.

6. MVCF Communications

RB noted that the web site has been praised by users who have accessed information.

7. Frequency, Dates and Venues for Future Meetings

The frequency of meetings was discussed; possibilities included aligning the meeting schedule so that they occur in advance of the Local Committee Meetings to facilitate raising questions there, and/or quarterly meetings with additional adhoc meetings to cover specific topics such as Transform Leatherhead and Howard of Effingham developments.

The next meeting will be on **Thurs 15th November 2018 at 7.00pm** in Committee Room 2, Pippbrook, Dorking.

8. Financial Statement and Approval of Accounts

CB presented the accounts which were then approved – Proposer: RT, seconder: LS.

The current balance is £35.41 (no change from last year).

9. Voting in of Officers / appointment of committee

The current officers were unanimously voted in to continue for another year:

Chairman - Ron Billard, Treasurer – Colin Brewer, Secretary - Roger Troughton. Proposer: SW, seconder: LS.

10. AOB

Cycle Parking Standards in Mole Valley

The Forum has been contacted by Andrew Barber (MVDC) who is currently reviewing their Cycle Parking Standards. The tendency to provide fewer car-parking spaces and more cycle-parking spaces in new town centre developments was noted. The key points that came out of the discussion on this were:

Standards need to be appropriate to the development, eg. commercial (office vs school vs retail vs public transport location) compared with housing developments. Also, ideally cycle parking provision should be under cover, secure and where in public, such as retail developments, highly visible, not tucked away out of sight.

Provision needs to be made for different types of bicycle, eg. electric bikes, tricycles, cargo bikes; mobility scooters could also be encompassed in this. The development also needs to be easily accessible by bicycle. The “Sheffield stand” seems to be the preferred style of cycle rack – the Dutch “butterfly” racks in Dorking look pretty but don’t work with all bicycles, similarly front-wheel racks should be discouraged, eg. those outside Dorking Sports Centre cause problems for some cycles, and the “wheelbender” racks installed in St Martin’s Walk are disliked by many cyclists. Front wheel-only racks are also seen as insecure – with the front wheel locked to the stand, the rest of the bicycle can be easily removed. Some useful standards can be found here (others are available):

<https://www.sustrans.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/files/Route-Design-Resources/Cycle-Parking-31-10-14.pdf>

and here:

https://www.planningni.gov.uk/index/policy/planning_statements_and_supplementary_planning_guidance/spg_other/parking/parking_standards_annexes/parking_standards_annexb.htm

RT to send a summary to Andrew Barber.

New markings on A24 cyclepath

These have appeared where the North Downs Way meets the A24 (between Denbies and Westhumble Street) on a side-track that serves only a couple of properties (so cycle traffic far exceeds vehicular traffic crossing the cycle track). There are similar markings along this cycle track which go against the Surrey Cycling Strategy of continuous routes where cyclists should have priority at side roads. EP has raised an issue about this with Surrey Highways, and it was suggested that the Forum could raise it at the next Local Committee Meeting (scheduled for December).

LS commented that they had had enquiries about bicycle hire (notably from foreign visitors, owing to their proximity to Gatwick airport).

SW mentioned out of interest the extension of the Centurion Way north towards the South Downs Way.