

**Minutes of Mole Valley Cycling Forum Meeting, Thursday November 15th 2018  
Committee Room 2, MVDC Offices, Pippbrook, Dorking**

**Present:** Ron Billard (RB) [Chair], Eric Palmer (EP) [Leatherhead], Peter Mayor (PM) [Leatherhead], Colin Brewer (CB) [Treasurer], Rod Shaw (RS) [MVDC], Roger Troughton (RT) [Secretary], Julia Dickinson (JD) [Bookham/Effingham],

**Apologies:** Peter Ansell (PA) [British Cycling]

**1. Previous Minutes**

Agreed.

**2. Matters Arising, Outstanding Actions not covered elsewhere**

RB's outstanding action to contact the DriveSMART team can effectively be subsumed into the corresponding discussion under item 4.

New markings on A24 cyclepath

**RB & RT** to coordinate on submitting a question to the next Mole Valley Local Committee meeting in December.

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

**Leatherhead area**

RS confirmed that the Highways modelling work for Transform Leatherhead is still awaited and that he will notify us when this information becomes available.

JD had reported in advance of the meeting that a route regularly used by both pedestrians and cyclists from the station into the Leatherhead Business Parks had recently been blocked by a developer. It is possible that the route has been used long enough for it to be claimed as a right of way. Furthermore Cllr Tim Hall has indicated that it has a community safety implication as the route provides emergency access to Cleeve Road.

PM made some suggestions as to how routes across Leatherhead might be improved.

Bookham/Effingham area – Howard of Effingham

Because the development is in Guildford Borough, the S106 funds available in Mole Valley – where most of the children attending the school actually come from – will be fairly limited. RS suggested that the S106 Legal Agreement would detail what has been agreed – JD subsequently confirmed that the improvements appear to be limited to cover a dropped kerb, a Toucan crossing and surfacing a footpath.

**Dorking area**

Dorking STP (Deepdene Station):

**RB & RT** to carry out an onsite review of the modifications that have been made following our representations.

Dorking Southbound:

**RB** to complete the report being prepared and, as Highways have still not responded regarding the outstanding works and their costs, raise a question for the next Mole Valley Local Committee meeting.

**4. Police Issues; Road Casualties**

Cycling Incidents:

<b>Mole Valley RTC stats involving cyclists between 11/10/2018-14/11/2018</b>	
STATION ROAD LEATHERHEAD 15/10/18 06:54	FELL OFF BICYCLE / MAY LINK TO OIL ON ROAD / SCC HIGHWAYS ALERTED
EPSOM ROAD ASHTEAD 16/10/18 06:15	CAR V CYCLIST MINOR INJURY CYCLIST ADVISED TO COMPLETE REPORT AT POLICE STN
OAKLAWN RD/WOODLANDS RD LEATHERHEAD 24/10/18 18:33	CYCLIST V CAR LEG/HIP/HEAD INJURY TAKEN TO HOSPITAL
LOWER RD GREAT BOOKHAM 30/10/18 08:43	CAR V CYCLIST NECK ACHE /FIRST AID GIVEN
GUILDFORD RD WOTTON 03/11/18 11:20	VAN HAS CLIPPED CYCLIST / SLIGHT INJURY ADVISED TO ATTEND POLICE STN AND REPORT
VILLAGE ST NEWDIGATE 06/11/18 13:32	CAR V CYCLE SCRATCHES AND BRUISES ADVISED TO ATTEND POLICE STN AND REPORT
GUILDFORD RD WOTTON 06/11/18 19:28	CAR V CYCLE KNOCKED OFF SLIGHT INJURY
UNKNOWN ST/ROAD MICKLEHAM	CAME OFF CYCLE –INJURED TAKEN TO HOSPITAL BY AMBULANCE.

It was noted that six out of the eight incidents listed above involved a motor vehicle.

At the last meeting RT reported that his query relating to the Close Pass Initiative (whether signs reminding vehicle drivers to give 1.5m distance when passing cyclists would be considered) had been passed to the Road Safety & Active Travel Team Manager (Duncan Knox). A response has since been received in which it was stated that they don't have any plans for any close-pass initiatives in Surrey at the present time, though they are aware of some of the campaigns that have been implemented elsewhere in the country. The response also noted that they have undertaken some media campaigns on these topics in the past, although erecting posters on the road side can be problematic compared to campaigns where they have paid for advertising on bus backs, bill boards, bus shelters, radio ads and social media.

It was felt that advertising on bus backs was a good idea with bus shelters perhaps less so as often they are set back from the road. It was felt that in the poster "Give Cyclists Room to Ride" showed the car far too close to the cyclist. Furthermore it was noted:

The government launched a new UK-wide initiative in June, to help the police crackdown on close passing, which leads to accidents and puts people off cycling.

When David Munro (Surrey Police & Crime Commissioner) spoke at G-BUG on 30th Jan:

He made the point that he is a cyclist, and believes cycling is an important factor in local transport, and that Surrey cyclists should get the priority that they are due. He made the point that in 2015 there were 10 murders in Surrey, but 31 people were killed on the roads. For that reason Surrey's "Drive Smart" campaign is to be relaunched to improve road safety, and cycling is one of the main strands of the initiative.

*RT to respond to DriveSMART's Duncan Knox incorporating these points.*

Also of interest – it is possible to report anti-social driving to Surrey Police online and to submit video footage – see <https://www.surrey.police.uk/contact-us/report-online/reporting-anti-social-behaviour-and-driving/>

*RB to put in a FoI request to establish the rates of prosecution, if any, resulting from cars hitting cyclists. [c/f]*

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

PA reported the following information via email:

"The 2018 road race season is now over and we are not aware of any problems in the Mole Valley area.

Work has started on planning next year's race programme and it looks like there will be 7 races in the area and it is planned to use accredited marshals on 2 occasions. Race organisers will be instructed to contact local parish councils to advise them of the date and time of races and will post advisory notices around the various courses.

It is planned to meet with the Surrey / Sussex Police Liaison during December to review the 2018 season and discuss the 2019 programme."

## **6. MVCF Communications**

Nothing to report.

## **7. Frequency, Dates and Venues for Future Meetings**

The frequency of meetings was discussed at the last meeting and it was agreed for the time being to realign the meeting schedule so that they occur in advance of the Local Committee Meetings to facilitate the raising of questions. In addition other meetings may be arranged to cover specific topics such as Transform Leatherhead and Howard of Effingham developments.

The next formal meeting of the Forum will be on **Thurs 21st February 2019 at 7.00pm** in Committee Room 2, MVDC Offices, Pippbrook, Dorking.

The next informal meeting will be held in **Leatherhead on Thurs 10th January 2019 at 7.30pm**, venue TBA.

## **8. AOB**

### Improved signing for shared paths & routes alongside major roads

RT noted that he frequently saw cyclists on the major roads such as the A25 both east and west of Dorking where there was provision for cycling on a shared or segregated path alongside. Whilst some faster cyclists might prefer or have good reason to stick to the road, it might not always be obvious to other cyclists that there was a route adjacent, eg. the route from Brockham joins the shared route alongside the A25 near the entrance to Betchworth Golf Club, yet there is no signage, so only those with local knowledge are likely to use it.

*RT to contact SCC's Cycling Officer, Becky Willson, for her views.*

RB reported that Sir Paul Beresford, MP for Mole Valley is expected to be in Dorking Town Centre to answer questions around mid-morning on Sat 1st December.