

Minutes of Mole Valley Cycling Forum Meeting, Thursday February 21st 2019 Committee Room 2, MVDC Offices, Pippbrook, Dorking

Present: Ron Billard (RB) [Chair], Eric Palmer (EP) [Leatherhead], Peter Mayor (PM) [Leatherhead], Peter Ansell (PA) [British Cycling], Colin Brewer (CB) [Treasurer], Rod Shaw (RS) [MVDC], Roger Troughton (RT) [Secretary]

Apologies: Julia Dickinson (JD) [Bookham/Effingham], Penny Tyson-Davies [British Horse Society, Newdigate], Sergio Conti & Lisa Scott [Hookwood/Charlwood]

1. Previous Minutes

Agreed.

2. Matters Arising, Outstanding Actions not covered elsewhere

New markings on A24 cyclepath

RB raised a question at the December meeting of the Mole Valley Local Committee meeting along with a supplementary question as he considered the response not satisfactory. In essence the follow up response was that whilst there is now a greater emphasis on providing better priority for cyclists over side roads wherever possible, the markings were simply a refresh of earlier markings that had faded over the years (Google Streetview shows them in situ as far back as 2008). Apparently there have been collisions at these locations, although possibly at times when the markings were not in place or faded so as to be barely visible. Whilst they do not propose to remove the markings in the immediate future, they have made a note for the design to be reviewed in the future before any automatic refresh or resurfacing.

Regarding his suggestion at the last meeting on improving signage to cycle routes, RT had emailed Becky Willson who had previously taken the lead on cycling matters for SCC only to find that she has left. RT subsequently contacted Duncan Knox who indicated that there are a small number of transport planners who deal with major schemes and cycling facilities, and they will now be pulling together the Cycling and Walking Strategy work. He went on to suggest that we approach the Local Committee to see if they could be persuaded to set aside an amount for general minor cycling infrastructure improvements.

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

Leatherhead area

The Highways modelling work for Transform Leatherhead is still awaited.

PM had spoken to Cllr Edge about his suggestions as to how a route along Waterway Road might be achieved. Whilst the cost benefit analysis might prove difficult, Cllr Edge did comment that this suggestion was not off the table at this stage. It was also noted that the redevelopment of the Post Office site opposite might yield other options.

RT reported the following he had noticed on the Transform Leatherhead website:

The proposed Randalls Road cycle path intended to provide sustainable transport links has had to be stopped because: "Following detailed modelling by Surrey County Council, the scheme did not reach the level eligible for funding from Coast to Capital LEP. Private landowners had concerns about granting public access rights across their land between Springfield Drive business park and Cleeve Road." Also there are "Design issues as a result of insufficient space along Waterway Road from the town centre to the Leisure Centre."

Rather worryingly it goes on to say that: "There is potential to reallocate the funds earmarked to the Cycle Path scheme to support improvements to bus services along Randalls Road."

PM agreed to attend the Leatherhead High Street Focus Group meeting on March 26th on behalf of the Forum.

Dorking area

Dorking STP (Deepdene Station):

RT reported that following a site visit of the area around the bus stop on the western side of the A24 opposite Dorking Station; most of the changes we had suggested appear to have been implemented.

Dorking Southbound:

RB to complete the report being prepared [c/f]

RT raised a question at the last Mole Valley Local Committee meeting requesting specifically: "What work was left incomplete? Should funding be found, what work would be prioritised?" The response is still outstanding, although RT had a short meeting with a Surrey Highways officer on 20 February to clarify what we were asking for.

Dorking centre – Meadowbank links:

RT had been in contact with RS about improvements to the narrow and bumpy path on the western side of the football ground, however, the waste ground has been found to be home to a colony of slow worms.

There was a discussion regarding the possible inclusion of a cycle lane through cross-hatching on the A25 between the Watermill PH and the Wyevale Garden Centre. Whilst a previous response from Surrey Highways was along the lines of "we don't do this sort of this" – it has been pointed out that they did exactly this on the south-bound carriageway of the A24 between Givons Grove and Mickleham. **RB** to approach Surrey Highways on this.

4. Police Issues; Road Casualties

Cycling Incidents:

MV RTC stats involving cyclists since 15/11/2018 – 20/02/2019	
STATION RD BETCHWORTH 18/11/18 10:21	CAR V CYCLIST. AMBULANCE DECLINED NO INJURY.
BRAMLEY WAY ASHTEAD 18/11/18 14:29	CYCLIST V CAR. INJURY / HOSPITAL
LONDON RD WESTHUMBLE 22/11/18 19:47	CAR CLIPPED CYCLIST WITH WING MIRROR. NO DAMAGE/ INJURY
LERET WAY LEATHERHEAD 06/12/18 08:43	CAR VS PUSHBIKE. AMBULANCE ATTENDED. INJURY
BELL LN/LOWER RD FETCHAM 09/12/18 11:21	CAR VS CYCLIST. AMBULANCE ATTENDED. MINOR INJURY
SCHOOL LN FETCHAM 12/12/18 15:59	VAN V CYCLIST. VAN DID TURN CAME ONTO PAVEMENT. UNKNOWN IF TWO COLLIDED.
LODGEBOTTOM RD HEADLEY 16/12/18 08:45	SEVERAL CYCLISTS HAVE COME OFF THEIR BIKES DUE TO THE ICE ON THE ROAD
THE STREET CHARLWOOD 06/01/19 10:19	CYCLIST CAME OFF ON ICE. INJURY SUSTAINED
WELLHOUSE RD BETCHWORTH 22/01/19 10:54	CYCLIST HAS FALLEN OFF ON THE ICE. MINOR INJURY
THE STREET FETCHAM 12/02/19 15:23	CAR V CYCLIST. AMBULANCE ATTENDED. INJURY SUSTAINED.
BELL LN FETCHAM 12/02/19 15:26	CAR V CYCLIST. CYCLIST HAS GRAZES
KINGSTON RD LEATHERHEAD 16/02/19 13:29	FELL OFF HIS PEDAL CYCLE. NO OTHER VEHICLES INVOLVED. TAKEN TO HOSPITAL.
WATERWAY RD LEATHERHEAD 16/02/19 13:41	SINGLE BIKE COME OFF. TAKEN TO HOSPITAL
STATION APP LEATHERHEAD 18/02/19 20:30	CYCLIST GONE INTO SIDE OF CAR. NO APPARENT INJURIES.

This list covers approx. 3months since the last report. Having passed by the scene where a cyclist came off his cycle and was attended by an ambulance, RT queried why this incident did not appear in the above list, and it transpires that the Police need to be involved for the incident to be recorded by them.

RT had passed our comments from our last meeting to the Road Safety & Active Travel Team Manager (Duncan Knox) on the Close Pass Initiative and received this response – they are currently working with the police in a new Drive SMART road safety strategy and the suggestion of including a close passing campaign is something that will be suggested. He also asked if we would be interested in giving any thoughts for any future campaigns as it is always useful to have input from other representatives of the cycling community in Surrey.

RB to put in a Fol 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 that this year will see 100 road races in the South-East, similar to previous years, with six in the Mole Valley area:

9/5/19 - eve Charlwood	30/5/19 - eve Charlwood	8/6/19 - AM Norwood Hill (*)	13/6/19 - eve Newdigate	11/7/19 - eve Newdigate	11/8/19 - AM Norwood Hill (*)
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(*) The two at Norwood Hill will have accredited marshals in attendance with the power to stop traffic.

The police have agreed they will liaise with Surrey County Council on this and the organisers will inform local Parish Councils and post notices where there are stables in the vicinity. Official sign-off by the police is expected imminently.

PA clarified that sportives – typically commercial (eg. Evans or Wiggle) or organised as charity events – are classified in the same category as time trials and not as road races.

6. MVCF Communications

Nothing to report.

7. Frequency, Dates and Venues for Future Meetings

The next formal meeting of the Forum will be on **Thurs 16th May 2019 at 7.00pm** in Committee Room 2, MVDC Offices, Pippbrook, Dorking.

The next informal meeting will be on **Thursday 28th March** from **7.30pm** in **The Stepping Stones, Westhumble**

8. AOB

Trig Street (Newdigate)

RB has updated the MVCF paper and circulated it to local councillors as this proposal may be gaining traction.

PA queried the road works down are Beare Green – the following SCC webpage should provide more information:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/roadworks>