

**Minutes of MVCF Meeting, Thursday May 11th 2017
Council Chamber, MVDC, Pippbrook, Dorking**

Present: Ron Billard (RB) [Chair], Rod Shaw (RS) [MVDC], Julia Dickinson (JD) [Bookham/Effingham], Peter Mayor (PM) [Leatherhead], Scott Williams (SW) [South Holmwood], Eric Palmer [Leatherhead], John Meudell (JM) [Dorking], Bob Ball [Sustrans, S Holmwood], David Sadler (DS) [Surrey Police], Roger Troughton (RT) [Secretary]

Apologies: Lucy O’Connell (LO) [MVDC], Colin Brewer [Treasurer], Sergio Conti [Hookwood]

1. Previous Minutes

Agreed.

2. Matters Arising, Outstanding Actions not covered elsewhere

Further to the recent works impacting the shared footway on the NE corner of the Denbies roundabout by Pixham Lane, RT had raised this with Cty Cllr Hazel Watson at her Highways Forum and subsequently by email. It transpires that the works were part of a speed reduction initiative (there was some debate as to how effective this had been). The forum was of the opinion that it was unfortunate that the opportunity had not been taken to improve the shared path and sightlines at this location at the same time. **RB to contact Zena Curry (SCC Highways).**

Regarding the issue with give-way markings in places across the cycle path alongside the A24. This has been chased on a number of occasions as far back as Alan Fordham’s time during which SCC claimed that the markings are “in accordance with the rules”. There was some suggestion that the give-way markings were put in at the behest of a Councillor at that time. It is not known whether the markings were put in with a TRO. It is understood that a cycle lane alongside a main road can be considered as part of the highway, and references were made to the SCC’s Cycle Design Guide, although this dates to 1997 and doesn’t appear to be in the public domain now. JM noted that Highways have to demonstrate that any changes (eg. markings) have to improve safety, and pointed out that there are a couple of places where give way signs have been marked in a position where it is not possible to safely see what you are giving way to! (example: Lincoln Road). **RB to include when contacting Zena Curry.**

RB had asked whether a cycle lane could be marked through the cross hatching on the eastbound carriage-way of the A25 between The Watermill and the Wyevale Garden Centre, but the response was “this is not what they do”.

RB had offered to contact DriveSMART to ask if their latest campaign could be more specific – eg. to specify the 1.5m overtaking distance often recommended – action Carried Forward.

3. Police Issues; Road Casualties

Cycling Incidents: 8/3/17 – 10/4/17

P17074218 LEATHERHEAD RD FETCHAM LTHD 29/03/17 20:48	CYCLIST KNOCKED OFF BY CAR MINOR INJURY TO FOOT
P17074638 GUILDFORD RD FETCHAM LTHD 30/03/17 11:21	DITTO:DRIVER CLAIMING CYCLIST CLIPPED AND DAMAGED CAR
P17081173 LOWER RD/COBHAM RD FETCHAM 06/04/17 09:38	PUSH BIKE VS CAR CYCLIST HAS HURT HIS ELBOW SLIGHT INJURY
P17080585 HIGH ST GREAT_BOOKHAM LTHD 05/04/17 17:02	PUSHBIKE V CAR RIDER HAS BEEN TAKEN TO EPSOM HOSP SLIGHT INJURY
P17083272 PUNCHBOWL LN DEEPPENE DORK 08/04/17 14:11	PUSH BIKE VS PUSHBIKE INJURY BELIEVED TO A FRACTURE
P17083319 BOXHILL RD BOX_HILL TADW 08/04/17 15:01	MALE HAS FALLEN OFF A BIKE TAKEN TO HOSP
P17084846 RANMORE RD DORKING_NORTH 10/04/17 08:54	MAN FELL OFF BIKE AFTER HAVING FIT.
P17085804 RANMORE COMMON RD RANMORE 11/04/17 08:53	MAN WENT UP BANK ON MOUNTAIN BIKE AND FELL OFF
P17090989 DORKING RD LEATHERHEAD_SOUTH 17/04/17 09:04	CAR V. BICYCLE INFT STOPPED BUT THE CYCLIST SAID JUST FORGET ABOUT IT
P17096445 OLD LONDON RD MICKLEHAM 23/04/17 07:19	CYCLIST HAS BEEN KNOCKED OFF BY A CAR AND THE CAR HAS DRIVEN OFF CYCLIST IS INJURED - AMB DECLINED CUTS AND BRUISES. MINOR INJURY
P17096472 LEATHERHEAD RD LEATHERHEAD 23/04/17 08:57	CYCLIST HAS GONE ONTO BONNET OF VEHICLE AND COME OFF. MINOR INJURY
P17108418 DORKING RD GREAT_BOOKHAM LTHD 06/05/17 14:22	BELIEVE THE CYCLIST MAY HAVE PRE-EMPTED THE CONTACT AND FELL OVER BEFORE HITTING CAR

NB. The first two entries relate to the same incident. 7 of the reports are car vs bike. There was general concern about an apparent increase in antagonism towards cyclists – reinforced by a report in today’s local papers about a cyclist

knocked off his bike in West Horsley: <http://www.dorkingandleatherheadadvertiser.co.uk/olympic-medal-winner-knocked-off-bike-in-hit-and-run-in-west-horsley/story-30323495-detail/story.html> There is further evidence of this in the recent publication of the "Our Lawless Roads" report (see <http://www.cyclinguk.org/blog/duncandollimore/hit-run> for more details). Additionally, a couple of people present commented upon a reluctance by the police to take action. **PM** offered to informally contact the Chief Constable for his views.

PCSO David Sadler was unavoidably detained but joined the meeting later at which point a number of the above points were repeated. Understandably he was unable to comment on specific cases. On a separate matter he reported that the volume of traffic at Box Hill (both cycles and cars) at one weekend back in April had impacted emergency vehicle access, which may result in the National Trust having to consider making their road one-way during peak periods.

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

Nothing to report.

5. Surrey Cycling Strategy & Mole Valley Cycling Action Plan

LO reported via email that the current focus is on this year's Ride London event and looking at the communications and engagement with businesses. They are also working with Sustrans to look at how they can shape the third year of the Active Travel Schools programme.

JD raised concerns about lessons learnt from last year's Ride London event regarding access to the route by ambulances. **JD** to contact LO about reviewing such access to eliminate the issues that occurred last year.

6. Route Development Updates

Nothing to report unless mentioned below.

Bookham/Effingham area

Safe Routes to Schools (Howard of Effingham):

RB has spoken to Cllr Curran who agreed that the situation was a total mess. However, we are not expecting any action given that the outcome of the planning permission to move and rebuild the school is still unknown.

Dorking area

Dorking Southbound:

Signs are needed to direct pedestrians and cyclists along Spook Hill and to use the underpass at South Holmwood to reach Beare Green, together with a sign to direct users along the Old Horsham road on the approach to Beare Green. Concerns were raised about vegetation overhanging the route by the old school south of South Holmwood. Here a dropped kerb would allow the bus layby to become a convenient part of the route (similar to that just west of Dorking on the Westcott route) as the pavement becomes very narrow at this point with poor sightlines.

South from Spook Hill there are some definite surface issues with weeds already growing back through the old tarmac. It is understood that MVDC are responsible for weed control (the surface itself would be SCC).

RB to raise these issues at the next Local Committee meeting.

Dorking Transport Package (Deepdene Station):

JM has acquired a cost breakdown for the project and estimates that £150K-£200K is unaccounted for and that some items have not been implemented.

Dorking Hub

JM reported that usage has not exceed 75 (~25% of capacity), the open cycle racks (18 places) are consistently full.

Dene Street

JM reported again that the Highways report included a number of incorrect and/or erroneous statements, including the safety and convenience of alternative routes (eg. the route via Moores Road did not meet safety standards - no audit had been carried out - and it was not practical for mobility scooters). He has asked for a meeting with Cty Cllrs Tim Hall and Stephen Cooksey.

7. Other Updates

Nothing to report.

8. AOB

RB has asked to look at the cycle path sweeping contract for Mole Valley.

BB reported that the reinstated surface in Milton Court Lane is very irregular. He is also chasing the vegetation control at the Westcott end of the route (there are reports that the nettles have now been sprayed).

JD reported that the Bookham Common event that she organises will be at the end of September this year. She is looking for Public Liability insurance to cover the event – normally it would be covered by Bike Week insurance, however this year it only covers events in the period up to 30 June. A number of possibilities were suggested.

PM asked about recommended widths of shared routes – the DfT issues guidance which is not mandatory. (More information available at <http://www.cyclinguk.org/article/campaign-article/new-guidance-on-shared-use-routes>)

9. Next Meeting

The next formal meeting is on **Thurs 13th July at 7.00pm** in Committee Room 1, MVDC, Pippbrook, Dorking.

The next informal meeting will be held on **Thurs 8th June at 7.30pm** in The Stepping Stones, Westhumble.