

# Minutes of Mole Valley Cycling Forum Meeting, Thursday February 13th 2020

## Council Chamber, MVDC Offices, Pippbrook, Dorking

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

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

### 1. Previous Minutes

Agreed.

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

Members of the Forum raised three separate questions at the last Mole Valley Local Committee meeting (postponed until January):

EP asked whether a cycle lane could be marked out through cross-hatching on the A25 between the Watermill PH and the Wyevale Garden Centre. EP also raised concerns about the on-highway cycle lane as it approaches Frascati at Mickleham.

RB requested that the multi-user path alongside the A24 southbound of Dorking from North Holmwood to Beare Green be regularly swept. It transpires that this is the responsibility of MVDC. Since the meeting RS has made enquiries and apparently the contract no longer includes requirements on the contractor to do a set number of cleans but is rather focussed on maintaining standards. However, the issue with the southbound path is that because of the speed of the road it may require traffic management and so sweeping is likely to be dictated by other activities (eg. grass cutting), so that they can make the best use of the expensive traffic management measures

RB also requested that plans be drawn up for a pathway of a similar standard to that of the A24 north of Dorking, eliciting the response that schemes like this should be included within SCC's Local Transport Strategy Forward Programme in order for other sources of funding for this scheme to be sought. Improvements to the existing footway/cycleway could be eligible for Strategic CIL funding depending on the Local Plan.

RT asked about a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for Mole Valley and was told that there were no immediate plans or funds available to develop one.

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

#### Dorking area

Dorking centre – Meadowbank links:

Regarding the possibility of improving cross-Dorking cycling connectivity by developing a route along the northern side of the football ground and then past Archway Place through to North Street, as the route follows what are marked as footpaths, RT has emailed SCC Rights of Way (Claire Saunders) for their views and is awaiting a response. *Depending upon the response, RT to revise and reissue our proposals.*

### 4. Mole Valley Local Plan

The draft Mole Valley Local Plan can be found at

[http://www.molevalley.gov.uk/media/pdf/7/r/Future\\_Mole\\_Valley\\_draft\\_Local\\_Plan\\_-\\_2020\\_consultation\\_version.pdf](http://www.molevalley.gov.uk/media/pdf/7/r/Future_Mole_Valley_draft_Local_Plan_-_2020_consultation_version.pdf)

It is not immediately obvious, however it is important to read this in conjunction with the supporting documents at <https://futuremolevalley.org/evidence-documents/> in particular the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (see [http://www.molevalley.gov.uk/media/pdf/j/n/IDP\\_December\\_2019\\_V5.pdf](http://www.molevalley.gov.uk/media/pdf/j/n/IDP_December_2019_V5.pdf), though bear in mind that this is a "living document", so it may be updated).

JD explained how that, now the go-ahead has been given to rebuild Howard of Effingham School and there are proposals to develop land between Little Bookham and the new school location, this presents opportunities to create a walking/cycling corridor away from Lower Road which is already overly congested. **JD to forward her proposals to RS & RB.**

JD suggested that there needed to be an intelligent mapping of the locations people need to travel between. Also that where limited money is available, new or upgraded cycle routes need to be prioritised.

Following further discussions on the draft Local Plan it was proposed that:

**JD & PM** put their heads together to review and propose comments on the Site Allocations in the northern part of the district. **RB & RT** to do likewise for the southern part of the district. **RT** to email out his initial comments on the proposed Policies & other more general comments.

An informal meeting on the 12th March will then pull together the various strands so that a submission can be made on behalf of the Forum before the closing date (Mon 23rd March). This does not preclude individuals making their own comments.

## 5. Police Issues; Road Casualties

Cycling Incidents:

| <b>MV RTC stats involving cyclists 08/11/2019 – 05/02/20</b>     |   |
|--|---|
| P19261363 EPSOM RD LEATHERHEAD<br>10/11/19 11:22                 | CYCLIST VS VEH. AMBULANCE TAKEN CYCLIST HOME.   |
| P19283764 STATION RD LEATHERHEAD<br>16/11/19 14.15               | CAR V BICYCLE HIT FROM BEHIND AFTER LEADING OFF TRAFFIC AT LIGHTS SLIGHT INJURY, DESTRUCTION OF BIKE. |
| P19274844 RANDALLS WAY LEATHERHEAD<br>26/11/19 16:42             | CAR V BICYCLE MINOR KNEE INJURY TAKEN TO HOSPITAL   |
| P19297300 REIGATE RD BETCHWORTH<br>23/12/19 09:02                | CAR VS CYCLIST MINOR HEAD INJURY TAKEN TO HOSPITAL  |
| P19302005 LONDON RD HOOKWOOD<br>30/12/19 09:38                   | CAR V BICYCLE MINOR INJURY  |
| P20012806 KINGSTON RD/ APERDELE RD<br>LEATHERHEAD 16/01/20 18:58 | VEH V BICYCLE - INJURED MALE DECLINED AMB ALL PARTIES EXCHANGED DETAILS                               |
| P20020571 BAGDEN HILL LITTLE BOOKHAM<br>26/01/20 10:23           | COME OFF PUSHBIKE AND LYING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD MINOR INJURY.SKIDDED.                           |
| P20025962 LONDON RD PIXHAM<br><<no date/time in report>>         | CAR VS PEDAL CYCLE. CYCLIST TAKEN HOME BY OFFICERS.   |
| P20026309 COAST HILL WESTCOTT<br>02/02/20 08:54                  | BICYCLE V BICYCLE ONE PARTY TAKEN TO HOSPITAL MINOR INJURIES  |

After a brief review the meeting agreed that as eventually these stats reach Crashmap, it was felt that this would be a better way of identifying blackspots and that in future we would dispense with requesting the information.

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

PA reported by email that BC SE Region met with the Surrey Police Liaison and agreed their road race programme for 2020. They are planning 5 events with 6 races spread from May to August in the Mole Valley area. Three of the events are to be held in evening and will be of short duration.

Road closures by utilities etc. was discussed following a recent closure up at Headley that resulted in a long detour, cyclists included (most road closures make provision for pedestrians and dismounted cyclists). RS pointed out that utilities have to apply for a licence to close a road except in an emergency. Further details on current roadworks and closures can be viewed at <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/roadworks>

## 6. MVCF Communications

Website – RT has been able to confirm that a new home has been found for the website based on the same software platform as the existing hosting service with Surrey Communities. Whilst the content has been copied across, the next step is to review the format and the content. This must be completed before the old hosting service closes in March. **RT to liaise with CB.**

## 7. Dates and Venues for Future Meetings

The next formal meeting of the Forum will be on **Thurs 14th May 2020 at 7.00pm** in the Committee Room 1, MVDC Offices, Pippbrook, Dorking.

An informal meeting to review our submissions to the draft Mole Valley Local Plan will take place on **Thursday 12th March from 7.30pm in The Stepping Stones, Westhumble**

## 8. AOB

Review of signatories for MVCF bank account:

CB proposed that we change the signatories to the Forum's bank account as two are no longer regular attendees. PM seconded the motion which was passed nem con.

Policing Your Community Engagement Event:

RT asked a question of Surrey Police about their plans to employ the Close Pass Initiative and was told by the Chief Constable, Gavin Stephens, that it was being actively used. (Interestingly this does not correspond with what we were told by our local police contact, and the Surrey Roads Policing Unit's Twitter account doesn't mention anything since 2017). RB mentioned that he had seen a video on Surrey Police's Facebook page, although attempts to find it again have not been successful.

Mole Valley Environment Forum:

Three members of the Forum (RT, CB, PM) attended the latest Mole Valley Environment Forum where it is accepted that cycling, as a form of transport, can play an important role in combating climate change.

MVCF Constitution:

RT pointed out that a number of minor updates need to be made. **RT to issue a draft update for review & comment.**