

Stockport Walking and Cycling Forum

January 30th 2020

Meeting Room 6, Stockport Town Hall

PRESENT: Helena O'Donnell; Andy Shaw; Jim Court; Dave Butler; Ian Barker; Max Wild; Simon Temple; Tegan Narain; Joanna Hulme; Charlie Hulme; Susannah Gyton-Moon; Faye Drinkwater; Pete West; Ellen Holmes; Liz Morgan; Debbi Hall; Diana Scotcher; Michael Padfield; Kath Edwards; Councillor David Meller; Councillor Kate Butler; Mark Glynn (Director of Place Management SMBC); Adam Glyde (SMBC); Russ Boaler (SMBC); Nick Robinson (SMBC); Don Naylor (SMBC); Emily Brough (SMBC);

APOLOGIES: Rob Clarke; Andy Howard; Edgar Ernstbrunner; Peter Vickerman; Helen Pidd

1. Minutes of previous meeting. There were no matters arising.

Actions: Relating to item 9e on previous minutes. Cycling officer explained cycle symbols that have been installed along Hill Top Avenue in Smithy Green. It is possible that these have been obscured by parked cars. This will be investigated, as will the additional use of on-carriageway cycle symbols along a section of Station Road, Cheadle Hulme.

There was a query raised re different types of cycle lane. **ACTION: Presentation about different types of cycle Infrastructure will be made at a future meeting.**

TfGM Sustainable Journeys (Faye Drinkwater).

- i) The team is developing community programmes for 2020 and working on a 3 year TfGM programme to increase the proportion of women cycling. They would welcome suggestions to support this aim.
- ii) The TfGM hard copy cycle maps are being reviewed with a potential to phase them out. Feedback will be welcome at sustainable.journeys@tfgm.com
- iii) There are two community projects in Stockport
 - a) Cale Green-involving the NHS Trust, with a client group including people with mental health difficulties. This entails 6 months of training sessions. Those who complete will get their own bike at the end.
 - b) Brinnington – as part of the Big Local pilot scheme, this will produce a user generated walking map of the area. It is possible that this map will be reproduced on an available exterior wall space in the area.

- iv) Cycle training has continued indoors over winter. Faye asked for ideas for a Stockport indoor venue .

The full range of training can be accessed via <https://tfgm.com/cycling/training>. There is a possibility of scooter training being added to the programme.

Q: Does cycle training include equestrian awareness? **Action: Faye undertook to find out and disseminate the answer.**

Q: how is the Women on Bikes programme spread to the public? Outreach to women's groups, women only cycle training and family cycle training.

2. "That Counts"

Adam Glyde and Russ Boaler introduced the "That Counts" initiative (<https://thatcounts.co.uk/>). This is an attempt to demonstrate that ALL activity counts as physical activity, not just sport or other organised activities. This is aimed at the least active groups of people, those who get less than 30 minutes physical activity a week. This initiative aligns with Stockport's Active Communities Strategy (russ.boaler@stockport.gov.uk for further details) and the Greater Manchester Moving campaign (<https://gmmoving.co.uk/>)

Adam explained that it was hoped to interact and cross promote with new and existing activities.

Q: who are the stakeholders? At the moment (still in test/pilot phase) the responsibility lies with the Active Communities Boards which reports to the Health and Wellbeing board.

Q: What can the Walking and Cycling Forum do?

This presentation is mainly to raise awareness, but any groups who wish to do so can cross promote activities with "#ThatCounts"

Q: who are the people who do less than 30 minutes activity a week? This group is linked to deprivation, long term health issues, age, unemployment and disability.

60% of children in Stockport do not do enough activity to keep themselves healthy.

It was pointed out that Pokemon-Go induced a lot of activity under the guise of a video game app without coercion. There is a similar app based activity within Bruntwood Park. It was pointed out that the SMBC website was quite good for finding activities within Stockport (<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/events?category=health-and-wellbeing>) although it didn't show LifeLeisure's "I wish I tried" programme(<https://www.lifeleisure.net/sports-development-events/i-wish-id-tried/>)

The Love to Ride website (<https://www.lovetoride.net/>) was mentioned as a good way to "gamify" and promote activity, as was GeoCaching (<https://www.geocaching.com/play>)

3. Active Neighbourhoods.

Cheadle put forward by The Cheadles WR group has been nominated by the Council to be the area that is looked at as part of the TfGM Active Neighbourhoods Project. Sue Stevenson will contact the schemes who were not successful to seek to develop their

aspirations to be able to utilise them in any future bidding opportunities which appear. The Council was grateful for all the ideas put forward.

4. Mayoral Challenge Fund

Tranche 1 to 5 schemes have gone to the relevant Area Committees this week for approval. The schemes sent to these committees had accompanying them the consultation reports for the schemes and the schemes had been amended to address issues. Once the approvals have been given work will continue to provide the necessary detailed full business case to enable TfGM to release the funding. The deadline for delivery is March 2022. Work on developing and consulting on the Tranche 6 schemes for Active Neighbourhoods Romiley, Heaton and Bridge access to the railway station Via Thompson Street is needed and a timescale for this is being developed. Sue Stevenson intends to meet with groups involved.

Some schemes should be on site this year. Reports to area committee went together so that the schemes could be presented as an overall strategy supporting the Climate Emergency Declaration rather than isolated infrastructure schemes. GM Mayor Andy Burnham and Chris Boardman chose Stockport to launch this week's report "Change a Region to Change the Nation" (<https://tfgm.com/made-to-move/publications>) which shows Stockport is well thought of in regards to these areas of work.

Q: will the fact that there are more schemes in the MCF pipeline than funding be an issue? Schemes will have to be phased anyway, and there is a likelihood that there will be delays in the process on some. There is an expectation that funding will arrive.

Q: About the current closure of the Thomas Street Bridge. It was clarified that the closure of the existing Thomson Street bridge is not permanent and that the closure was for safety reasons and there was an intent to replace like for like by Network Rail but MCF has enable this to be improved on.

5. Group updates

- i) Bike Friday organised commutes are still active. Leave from Heaton Chapel. Further info at <https://www.manchesterfoe.org.uk/loveyourbike/bikefriday/>
- ii) Stockport Youth Council. They have been recently involved in sustainability projects, and have booked the Market Place 9am-5pm Saturday 28th March. There are 10-15 stalls available for any groups involved in any kind of sustainable activity. Anyone interested in taking a stall to promote their group should email steve.davies@stockport.gov.uk.
- iii) WalkRide Marple are holding their next meeting at 8pm Friday 31st January at the Navigation Hotel

6. Any other business

- i) It was suggested that speed humps are costly and counterproductive. It was asked that use of these be reconsidered in scheme designs, particularly for active neighbourhoods.
- ii) **Q:** is maintenance considered as part of the MCF programme. The Council will maintain the implemented schemes as with other highway.
- iii) The issue of safety on the Trans Pennine Trail was raised re the section which is close to being undercut. Options are being considered to address the wider issue and the situation is being monitored although currently the Structures Team do not consider it a danger requiring the closure of the route.
- iv) Big Bike Revival (<https://www.cyclinguk.org/bigbikerevival>). Cycling UK are holding an event in central Manchester 5th March.
Small grants are available for cycling related activities from Cycling UK. Any group is invited to apply, but they *must* have an organisational bank account.
- v) **Q:** is there an update on the Ladybrook Valley Scheme (MCF formerly CCAG2)?
Details to be sent out via Councillor Meller
- vi) The bridleways rep outlined how a horse should be passed on a bike: ring your bell or say hi at 10-15m away, and make sure that the rider has heard you before passing.

Next Meeting Date: