

Walking and Cycling Forum Meeting Minutes

20th September 2021

6.30pm- 7.50pm

Attendees

Amy Beasley	Erika Siemaszko	Peter West
Andy Howard	Helen Pidd	Rob Clarke
Charlie Hulme	Iain Bates	Robbie George
Chris B	June	Rosie Batut
Cllr Aron Thornley	Kathleen Edwards	Sarah M
Dave B	Kathy England	Sarah Trelfa
David Kearney	Liz Atherton	Siobhan Beck
Diana	Lucy	Steve Davies
Elysia Marriott	Mark Glynn	Sue Stevenson
Emily Brough	Mike Padfield	

Minutes	Actions
1. Minutes from the late meeting	
Yes all okay	
2. Mayor's Cycling and Walking Challenge Fund (MCF)	
<p>Work has started on a Greater Manchester wide programme to make journeys on foot or by bike much easier and more attractive. Alex gave an update on schemes that are currently on site:</p> <p>Heatons Cycle Link</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works are complete along Nelstrop Road North and through Meadow Gardens. Lighting along NRN to be energised from October. The bridge over the Black Brook to connect the two is planned to be replaced later this year. • New crossing is complete on the A6 near McVities, and works are substantially complete to install a section of cycle track at Chandos Road / Buckingham Road. 	

- Works are ongoing to create a new Sparrow crossing on Didsbury Road, close to the Griffin Hotel.

Bramhall Park to A6

- Sections A, G & H are substantially complete.
- The remaining sections are well underway, works in front of Hazel Grove High School were accelerated during the holidays.
- Full completion is planned for spring 2022.

Offerton to Stockport

- The Offerton to Stockport scheme is package of measures to create a route away from busy roads.
- The new crossing on St Mary's Way is awaiting commissioning by TfGM.
- Works to install a new crossing on Waterloo Road are nearing completion.
- Works will soon commence works to install a new crossing on Hempshaw Lane.

A555 Community Links

- Works to the Cheadle Hulme link are substantially complete.
- This runs via paths on the A34, the recently installed and improved crossings at Stanley Road and Gillbent Road, and the new 20mph speed limit in the St James' High School estate west of Gillbent Road.
- Works are substantially complete to widen, resurface and light the passageway between St James' Way and Rushside Road.

Cheadle Crossings Package

- Works to implement Sparrow crossings are nearing completion on Bird Hall Road and Councillor Lane (at Calderbrook Drive).
- Works will follow later this year to upgrade the crossing on Councillor Lane near Tarvin Road.

Number of schemes are still under development following approvals and funding being granted in early 2020, including wider elements of schemes on site.

- Hazel Grove (Phase 1 – upgrades through Torkington Park)
- Ladybrook Valley (link between Ladybridge Rd and Bramhall Park Rd)
- Heatons Cycle Link (Phase 2)
- A555 Links (Phase 2)
- Interchange elements
- Romiley Crossings & Romiley to Stockport
- Edgeley to Stockport
- Cheadle Town Fund Active Travel Measures (Consultation Planned October)
- Active Neighbourhoods

Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy England- A6 parallel route EATF junction back to original layout, no consultation on this, no further changes till consultation is done • Re Bramhall Park to A6 - Apologies if I have missed this from previous meetings. Is Valley Rd Junction completed to design spec? As scheme is being delivered substantially as a cycle path on pavement rather than a cycle track, what is planned around pavement parking? • On a similar note, please can someone find out when the speed bumps in Romiley are being removed? As per the Safer Streets/pandemic temporary things 	AP AP NW
3. Active Neighbourhood Update	
<p>Heaton Chapel Active Neighbourhood Trial</p> <p>A virtual public workshop was held in July whereby around 140 people attended to discuss the trial proposal.</p> <p>The trial was approved at area committee on Monday 2nd of August.</p> <p>The trial will last for 3 months and started to be rolled out on the 12th of September 2021.</p> <p>It includes several features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modal filters/planters- to prevent rat running traffic. • A temporary pedestrian crossing • A mini roundabout • Blanket 20mph Zone • Removal of several access control barriers • Pocket park • New one way system on Ash Grove <p>Heaton Chapel Trial map & next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In October we will be hosting a second workshop for the community to discuss the trial and receive feedback so far. • With restrictions changing we will be hosting workshops both online and face-to-face. • All of the residents in the trial area have been invited to join the workshop and provide feedback. • After the conclusion of the trial most of the measures will be removed and we will be running another formal consultation. This will help determine the scope of a permanent scheme, which will need ward member approval before progressing <p>Romiley Active Neighbourhood</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What will the council be doing differently to make future schemes easier and reduce the anger from residents? Will we have the same problems in Reddish, should an active neighbourhood ever come here? 	
4. One Stockport	
<p>The Council is required by government to produce a Local Plan.</p> <p>The Local Plan will be the land-use plan to deliver the vision, which partners, stakeholders and residents across Stockport set out in the Borough Plan</p> <p>It is a formal document that will be used to help decide on whether to approve planning applications for new developments in the future.</p> <p>The Local Plan will run until 2038 and will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make sure that Stockport has the right land, the right homes and the right infrastructure in the right places, for current and future generations • Address the key issues facing the borough such as the climate emergency and some of the impacts of covid-19. • Identify those places and sites where change and development can best be accommodated, and make sure we get the right development in the right places. <p>The Local Plan has to be shaped by national legislation and wider policy. But we can make sure that it is the right plan for Stockport and that it reflects what our communities think is most important.</p> <p>We heard from many people across Stockport as we developed the Borough Plan.</p> <p>We have taken the feedback which related to land-use and have used it to develop some high level principles.</p> <p>Alongside planning policies we will also need to set out how and where we will build new homes for current and future generations.</p> <p>Whilst there is more work to do to finalise the exact number we need to build, we will have to identify sites where we think these homes should be built.</p> <p>We will share our early ideas on where these sites could be and everyone will have a chance to have their say during a consultation at the end of the year.</p> <p>Neighbourhood-led approach – Aims</p> <p>Our aims for engagement will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the understanding of our communities about the Local Plan, why we are doing it, and what it is trying to achieve. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase opportunities for our communities to input to the Local Plan and provide their views as we draft our policies • Increase knowledge amongst our communities about formal public consultation periods and how they can submit their views. • Encourage a broad range of stakeholders and communities with different experiences to input into the engagement and consultation • Ensure that all engagement activities are accessible for all and are relevant and proportionate to different groups. <p>Comments from the chat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen asks if this is Stockports answer to spatial framework?- yes <p>Stockport withdrew from this</p>	
5. Access Controls	
<p>The development of the Councils policy statement for new and current access controls is still in development following a range of research including on site testing.</p> <p>Once this review process has been finalised a plan for addressing access control issues will be developed.</p> <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy asks which disabled groups have we engaged with? We have Engaged with Stockport Disability 	
6. The Prevention Alliance	
<p>Partnership grant received from GM Walking to set up four walking groups in Stockport for people with long-term health conditions.</p> <p>These are open to anyone with long term health issues wishing to walk for their wellbeing and connect with others in the local area.</p> <p>We have a varied itinerary of days of walks and all our walks are free. We have walks suitable for individuals with mobility issues and longer walks for individuals who are up for a challenge!</p> <p>Mooch & Mingle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A short walk for people with limited mobility • Thursdays 12:30 – 2pm • Alexandra Park <p>Women’s Wellbeing Walk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A walk for women who have survived domestic abuse • Mondays 12:30 – 1:30pm 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location changes each week <p>Abney Hall Walk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A moderate walk • Tuesdays 1:30 – 2:30pm • Abney Hall Park <p>Woodbank Warriors (formerly Comedy Walk)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A moderate walk • Wednesdays 1:30pm – 2:30pm • Woodbank Park <p>Walking Champions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a network of walking champions to take the lead on the walks once the funding ends • Training for champions in: Health & Safety, First Aid, and Safeguarding. • Monthly walking champion networking meetings at Stockport Homes building. The Champions have a WhatsApp group to keep in touch and share ideas. • Actively looking for more walking champion volunteers to grow our network! <p>To get involved, visit our walking groups webpage or contact us via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking Groups webpage: https://stockporttpa.co.uk/walking-groups/ • Telephone: 0161 474 1042 • Email: info@stockporttpa.co.uk 	
<p>7. Stockport Walkaday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkaday is a Stockport council supported Walking scheme which has been running for 25 years now and has over 800 members. • It is a scheme that offers friendly walks exploring parks and green spaces within Stockport. The aim is to encourage people who are new to walking by offering leisurely walks through some of the borough's best outdoor spaces. • With our support Kath Edwards and her walking volunteers are now out leading walks again and in the first 11 days of walking they have had 240 walkers join their led walks! • We will continue to support this scheme through our web pages and social media and from an officer perspective with training and support to volunteers. 	

8. Ramblers Wellbeing Walks

- **Walk Stockport** or the '**Walking for Health**' programme was previously run by our Public Health Dept. This has now moved over to be looked after by our dept.
- The Wellbeing walks are now being rebranded under the umbrella of the Ramblers Wellbeing walks and the new Ramblers webpages for this are due to go live at the end of this month.
- All walks available through Walk Stockport are free and range from 30 to 90 minutes.
- If you are interested in coming along to any of the walks it is advisable to contact the leader beforehand.

9. Walk Ride Group updates

Heatons –

- Walk Ride Heatons is keeping itself extremely busy promoting the Heatons active neighbourhood trial, which began last week. We support the aims of the scheme wholeheartedly, and want to see it succeed. However, we're concerned that there is a fundamental problem in Stockport's active neighbourhood programme being structured around supportive Walk Ride groups. Cheadle showed what can happen if it goes wrong – volunteer campaigners are vilified and online debate quickly becomes toxic.
- While all Walk Ride members want to make walking and cycling better in Stockport and across Greater Manchester, it needs greater support from councillors across the political spectrum. We need that political will to make this happen – we cannot make systemic change with a street-by-street battle over filters. The council also needs to be more forthright on what is considered acceptable behaviour in public discourse. We need you to make this change happen. You have the power to make these decisions.

Reddish-

- It's been a quiet summer for the group
- We've been in touch with the Planning Enforcement team at the council regarding the inadequate cycling provision at Asda Reddish. We understand they've been having trouble contacting Asda about the case, so fingers crossed they hear back soon.
- We've also been trying to find out more about the progress of the Ross Lave Lane scheme at Reddish Vale and whether that includes the access points along Mill Lane. The access into the Vale and within it is a constant source of complaints for us. I've personally had trouble getting through the barriers and needed to help others get through. They're stopping legitimate users and not preventing motorbikes. We've love to We've love to see some improvements there.

10. AOB

- Quiet lanes, confirm what happens with these
- We have recently submitted a bid for funding to TFGM for 8 schools who when all schools were asked came back with an expression of interest. We have now had confirmation that our bid for all of these schools (listed below) has been successful. We are now awaiting TFGM to advise us of our next steps as they are organising some workshops for all councils that submitted bids in
 - Bradshaw Hall Primary school
 - St Jospehs primary school- Petersgate
 - St Johns CE Primary school
 - Adswood primary school
 - St Matthews CE primary –Edgeley
 - Our Ladys RC Primary- Edgeley
 - Cheadle Primary school
 - St Marys CE Primary school- Reddish

Details of next meeting: Jan 22