



Campaigning for Better Cycling

(Formerly SHEPWAY CYCLE FORUM)

**Minutes of the Meeting
held on 16 January 2013 at the Civic Centre, Folkestone**

Present: David Taylor (Chair), Rhona Hodges (Secretary), Paul Rees (Sustrans Ranger and Spokes Liaison), Alan Joyce (Treasurer and Sustrans Liaison Ranger), Jean Baker, Si Ralph, Peter Wallace, Sara Barnes, Phil Quirk, Jeff Lyle, Steve Burton and Joe Grey,

- 1 Apologies for absence** were received from Shane Record, Mark Tuson (RMCP), Hugh Robertson-Ritchie and Mark Biddis.
- 2 Minutes** of the meeting held on 17 October 2012 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

3 Chairman's Report

David Taylor reported that although the year had produced no new cycle paths, modifications or new signage, the political profile of cyclists and Cycle Shepway had been raised. The group now had a website, a Facebook profile and use of Twitter; it was a properly constituted charity with some funds. The Cinque Port Cycleway campaign had raised a petition with the backing of MP Damian Collins and many hundreds of signatories. Joe Grey had produced a comprehensive survey of the route and a compelling argument for its implementation, discussed with Natural England and the Roger De Haan Charitable Trust.

Supporters had been recruited at a stand on two occasions in Folkestone, and once with Spokes at the Sandgate Festival. A blustery campaign ride last June was successful despite the weather.

DT acknowledged the support of Cllr Rory Love, the deputy leader, in securing two-way cycling in Tontine Street. CySy had met SDC leader Cllr Robert Bliss and SDC officers. DT had addressed the Joint Transportation Board and drawn its attention to the parlous state of cycle provision in Shepway.

Links with Spokes were strengthened with Paul Rees as our very active liaison. Steve Fawke, the chairman, continued to give us much support, as did Greg Williams with his assiduous scanning of planning applications.

Younger supporters had joined the Group and the committee.

DT announced that he would resign the chairmanship in June 2013 after the implementation of the seafront signage project and the launch of the Cinque Ports Cycleway campaign.

4 Treasurer's Report

Alan Joyce circulated the annual accounts (copy attached to these minutes), together with a list of donors. Members agreed that supporters should be reminded of the need for funds, and that the

Chairman and Secretary should be reimbursed for their expenses. Paul Rees explained that CySy liaison with Spokes was under discussion; it might be possible for donors to receive the Spokes email newsletter, and suggested that an email letter listing the Group's achievements be sent to supporters and posted on Facebook. It was agreed that, once the seafront signs had been erected, the residue of the funding for that project could justifiably be used for administration costs. It was also agreed in principle that a donation be given by CySy to Spokes, the amount to be decided at the next meeting.

5 Election of Officers and Committee

Mark Biddis had resigned from the Committee, and DT proposed Hugh Robertson-Ritchie as his replacement. This proposal was seconded by Paul Rees and agreed unanimously.

DT proposed the re-election of other Committee members en-bloc. This proposal was seconded by Rhona Hodges and agreed unanimously.

DT proposed the re-election of Alan Joyce as Treasurer and Rhona Hodges as Secretary. This was seconded by Jean Baker and agreed unanimously.

DT proposed that Peter Wallace be nominated as his replacement as Chairman from June 2013, and this was seconded by Jeff Lyle and agreed unanimously.

6 Cinque Ports Cycleway

Alan Joyce had written to Lord Boyce (Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports) and Michael Howard, requesting their support for the petition. Joe Grey agreed to retitle the survey document, which would be presented to SDC by Damian Collins, together with the petition, at a date to be agreed in late February. Representatives from the MOD and the Environment Agency would be present at the event. AJ volunteered to approach a consultant who had previously worked for Sustrans to cost the scheme. There were no plans to pursue funding from the De Haan Regeneration Project.

7 Seafront Signage

The design for the signs had been approved and J G would send it via DT to A J to order the A4 size signs from Sustrans. Shane Record had identified sites for the installations, which would be carried out between the Leas Lift and Hythe Yacht Club by volunteers recruited by DT. Sara Barnes reported that Sandgate Parish might have misgivings about the erection of signs along busy stretches of the promenade.

8 Parking

CySy had been invited to join the Shepway Parking Forum. Members discussed the pros and cons of free parking, and it was agreed that Peter Wallace be the Group's representative, and should:

- Encourage the provision of cycle stands
- Ensure that parked cars do not obstruct cycleways
- Demand that a proportion of the parking revenue be allocated to improvements for cyclists
- Promote free parking in leisure areas eg Princes Parade.

9 Street furniture

Paul Rees suggested that the removal of railings in Folkestone had prompted a need for a review of cycle parking provision. Richard Wallace had informed CySy that he had funds for improving his ward and had been given information on potential sites for cycle stands in Cheriton. Peter Wallace

agreed to submit an application for Harvey Central Ward based on an estimated cost for a galvanised stand of £180. Match funding would be sought from KCC.

10 Cycling Plan implementation

Two-way traffic for buses and bikes in Tontine Street had been approved. The changes proposed to The Tram Road were controversial and had been referred back by the Joint Transportation Board for further consultation.

11 AOB

1. Sara Barnes circulated details of “Go the Extra Mile Sportive” on 24 March. Further information would be posted on the website, and CySy would have a stand at the event.
2. DT suggested that CySy should have a stand at the Folkestone Airshow; this was agreed.
3. Members unanimously thanked David Taylor for his inspiring stint as Chairman of CySy.

Next Meeting – Wednesday 10 April 2013 at 7pm