Campaigning for Better Cycling

**Minutes of a Meeting of Cycle Shepway**

held on 26 September 2019 at the Civic Centre, Folkestone

Present: John Letherland (Chairman), Rhona Hodges (Secretary), Jean Baker (Founder), Colin Hart, Steve Burton (Deputy Chair), Dave Kesby, Miranda Palmer and Alex Sansom.

Apologies for Absence: Alan Joyce (Treasurer), Paul Rees, Hugh Robertson-Ritchie and Tony Gilbert.

1. **Minutes of the meeting on 31 July 2019**

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 July 2019 were approved.

1. **Matters arising from the minutes**

**Minute 2:** John Letherland (JL) reported that he had contacted the designer of Otterpool and Dave Shore of FHDC who had been reviewing the infrastructure proposals; he had sent them the details of the Cinque Ports Cycleway and urged them to expand the cycle network to link up with surrounding settlements.

**Minute 3:** JL had deferred inviting MOD representatives to the meeting until the funding for the next phases of the Cycleway had been clarified. **Agreed** JL to invite cycling “champions” from other pressure groups in Kent to the next meeting.

**Minute 8:** Tony Gilbert had suggested that the Sprucer needed financial support for his team’s work on clearing paths. **Agreed** JL to draft a letter to all members seeking donations.

1. **Cinque Ports Cycleway and other KCC matters**

Miranda Palmer (MP) reported that there had been no underspend of funds on Phase 3 which could be used on future phases. However, there might be some funding available from a “Pinch Point Fund”, which would require some match funding. £175,000 had been allocated to Phase 4B (Reachfield Road to St George’s Place). Members reiterated their preference to allocate any available funding to the path beside the Redoubt easing access to the Sea Wall. A**greed** MP to provide more information on the cost and funding proposals for design and construction costs.

1. **Community Networking Forum and other sources of funding**

Jean Baker (JB) volunteered to attend a meeting with funders, including a representative from the National Lottery, on 3 October. The British Cycling “Places to Ride” programme was probably not an appropriate source of funds for the Cycleway. Alex Sansom (AS) pointed out that making applications for funds would be difficult unless the organisation was incorporated; in the light of the decision to remain as a pressure group it would be helpful to seek the aid of FHDC or KCC as sponsors.

JB had investigated the funding for the Canterbury “Park and Pedal” scheme, part of the national “Step Ahead of the Rest” (STAR) initiative. MP said that the KCC projects funded by STAR were supervised by Katie Cullen, and included sponsorship of Active Travel and Cargo Bikes. **Agreed** MP to investigate the possibility of CySy being considered for inclusion before the end of the scheme in 2020.

AS suggested that a CySy member should be nominated to make funding applications. **Agreed** JL to ask Alan Joyce to consider this responsibility, possibly with guidance from AS.

1. **Website**

Cllr Peall had promised some funding for the reinstatement of the website. JL had received quotes from Sam Millen amounting to £29 for hosting and domain costs, and £400 to get back online. **Agreed** JL to update the quotation for AS to seek the Ward Councillor grant for “Build and maintain the website for 2 years”.

1. **Sustrans Route 2 Temporary Closure**

Paul Rees (PR) had offered a temporary alternative route for cyclists negotiating the journey between Dover and Folkestone during the period of closure for repairs, but had been refused a safety audit for a small part of his route. MP was able to confirm that Sustrans had found the resources for this task, and that direction signs would be set up for the next 6 months of the diversion.

7. **Members' Activities**

* JB had renewed her efforts to arrange for cycle parking at Cheriton Library. She had asked Cllr John Collier to fund the project. **Agreed** JB to send a revised quote for 2or 3 stands to MP so that she could obtain approval from KCC Property.
* JB had agreed to give a presentation to the local Green party where she hoped to recruit new members to CySy, with the help of material from JL
* JL was preparing for an exhibition on the redesign of Folkestone Town Centre, to include sustainable transport.
* AS was becoming involved with community matters in Otterpool, and hoped to encourage further opportunities for promoting cycling.
* Steve Burton commented that during the last month he had received more money from sales of electric bikes than normal bikes

**8.**  **AOB**

* Dave Kesby (DK) asked about development at Folkestone West Station, where a cycle hub had been promised on the South side. **Agreed** JB to investigate the finances of the parking places at the station, in case some sponsorship was possible for secure bike parking on the North side.
* DK also requested information on the proposed use of the old Elham Valley line route. **Agreed** AS to seek an update from James Hammond.
* Tony Gilbert had arranged a “Castle Hill Clean-up" with the Ghurkas, and asked for support on the afternoons of 27 October, 24 November and 1 December at 2pm.

**Date of next meeting – Thursday 9 January at 6pm**