

Cross Parish Cycleways & Pathways Project (CPCPP) Meeting Minutes

Held: Thursday 18th July 2019

At: Broom Village Hall, Broom B50 4HJ

Attended:

Liam Maude, Chairman, Salford Priors Parish Council
 Joe Harvey, Vice Chairman
 Colin Tether, Hon. Secretary
 Daryl Bailey, Hon. Treasurer
 Martin Philpott, Sustrans
 Gillian Smith, Harvington Parish Council
 Keith Greenaway, Alcester Town Council
 Eric Wilson, Alcester Town Council
 Ian Jones, North and Middle Littleton Parish Council
 Ian Graham, Offenham Parish Council
 Mark Funnell, Norton and Lenchwick Parish Council
 Robert Hale, Evesham Town Council
 Ian Robinson, Cleeve Prior Parish Council
 Clive Bostle, Evesham Rambling Club
 Susan Juned, Alcester Town District Councillor
 Robin Walker, Cycle Evesham Vale

Apologies:

Paul Freeman, Stratford Cycle Club
 Sue Robinson

2. and 3. Agree minutes from the last meeting held on 13th June 2019 and matters arising

One amendment agreed, at last meeting Eric Wilson had attended from Alcester, not Keith Greenaway. All matters arising are covered by main agenda.

4. Appointment of Treasurer

It was unanimously agreed that Daryl Bailey should be appointed Hon. Treasurer to CPCPP.

5. Update on funding for feasibility study from parishes and elsewhere

Alcester: Eric Wilson reported no budget was available from the Community Facilities Committee. He was still pursuing other funding from Alcester. **Action: Eric Wilson**

Norton and Lenchwick: Mark Funnell reported funding was still being pursued.

Action: Mark Funnell

North and Middle Littleton: Ian Jones reported that £500 had been agreed.

Evesham: Colin Tether reported that £1,500 from the Town Plan budget had been ratified. The remaining £1,500 was still to be agreed from the Tourism budget which meets in September.

Stratford DC. It was reported that they are likely to contribute something.

Wychavon DC. It was agreed they should be approached once a settlement from Stratford DC is known. **Action: Colin Tether**

Martin Cargill. Liam Maude agreed to contact him. **Action: Liam Maude.**

Mike Brain. Joe Harvey agreed to contact him. **Action: Joe Harvey**

Alastair Adams and Anthony Hopkins: Colin Tether reported he had heard no more from either County Councillor and he would contact them. **Action: Colin Tether**

Colin Tether summarised the committed funding reported at the last meeting. In total, £9,000 had been committed by parishes and invoiced by Sustrans. £3,000 had been paid by Bidford on Avon PC directly into the CPCPP bank account. Total £12,000.

6. Sustrans – Report on progress with feasibility study

Martin Philpott said that a early draft report had been produced. There was still some information to collect, such as Land Registry information, response from the Environment Agency and, due to restructuring at Warwickshire County Council, a proper response from the latter. The draft report ran to some 136 pages and proposed a number of options for sections on the spine route and branches, with recommendations as to the best option available.

Martin noted that although the main spine route offered many benefits, the real added value would be through the addition of the branches to the villages on the east side of the rivers Avon and Arrow. These would provide much needed connectivity from the villages to the main centres of Alcester and Evesham, including the schools, away from main roads.

Martin mentioned a very positive meeting with the Avon Navigation Trust. The Trust could be involved in the construction of the proposed lightweight bridges. The headroom necessary was 5 metres on the main river, although this may not apply for a bridge at the Fish and Anchor at Offenham where the river is not navigable, or over the river Arrow. The DDA requirements meant the effectively the maximum gradient on bridge approach ramps is 1:20 which means the ramps can be quite long in places.

Ian Robinson spoke about the proposed link to Cleeve Prior. He said there was a 2 year window to secure funding and the parish was looking for funding from Wychavon DC. There were discussions about restoring the historic diamond shaped lock and providing some amenities at the historic mill site.

Martin said that he hoped all the remaining information to complete the report would be available in the next month, subject to people being available in August. It was agreed that a September launch of the report would be sought. **All Actions: Martin Philpott**

Procedure to be taken before launching the report.

It was agreed that:

- Care is needed in publishing the detailed report as land ownership issues are involved.
- The County Councils may need to see a draft report to comment upon as they will be responsible for future maintenance of the route.
- Local parishes should have an opportunity to comment as they have local knowledge on the sections concerned and may be able provide further useful information.

It was agreed that the three requirements spelled out above may not be compatible. Martin said that this project was unusual in the number of parties involved. He would seek advice from colleagues. **Action: Martin Philpott**

It was further agreed that the Chair, Vice Chair, Hon Secretary and Hon. Treasurer would meet with Martin Philpott on August 2nd to discuss the options for the way forward.

7. Any other business

Connecting to Redditch and beyond. Liam Maude mentioned the email from Justin Kerridge which covered possible cycle routes from Redditch to Birmingham mostly via canal towpaths, opportunities in Heart of England Forest and linking to CPCPP. Liam had replied with some details about CPCPP and an invitation to a future meeting. It was agreed that action may be possible once our report is published. **No further action required at present.**

Local Access Forum (LAF) Presentation. Clive Bostle said that it would be good if a presentation to the LAF once the report was published. Martin Philpott said that he would be happy to make a presentation and engagement helps. The LAF is open to the public and the next meeting is September 17th. **Action if Report is published in time.**

Worcestershire County Council Legal Services and Footpaths. Clive Bostle said that Worcestershire had a massive backlog in processing changes to footpaths. He was fearful that they would not process the necessary changes before the cut off date in 2026.

LAF and Horses. Robin Walker said that the LAF had a strong horse riding contingent. He said difficulties could be found with maintaining shared surfaces for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. Martin Philpott agreed but said in practice it was much easier to convert a footpath to a bridleway than to a cycle track.

10. Next Meeting

This has been booked for: **Broom Village Hall on Thursday 15th August at 7:00pm.**

Please note that the following meetings at Broom Village Hall have also been arranged (all Thursdays), so please put a note in your diary:

12th September, 10th October, 14th November, 12th December.

End of meeting at 8:15pm.

Colin Tether, Hon. Secretary 25/7/2019