

MINUTES OF THE ACTIVE TRAVEL COMMITTEE

21st July 2022, 7.30pm

The Guildhall

Present:

Cllr Thomas

Cllr Williams

Chris Oswald-Jones

Cllr Saunders

Cllr Reynolds

Adrian Berendt

Adrian Oliver

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

Public Comments

15. Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllrs Hook and Jackson and T Stonor.

The Town Clerk advised Cllr Hook would be joining the meeting virtually.

16. Declarations of Interest

None

17. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

Cllr Thomas advised the application to the Road Safety Trust was not successful on this occasion. Further sources would be sought to fund the intervention at Reedland Crescent.

No information had been forthcoming from KCC as to the identity of the Officer responsible for the Highways Improvement Plan.

It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Saunders and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Active Travel Committee dated 23rd June 2022.**

18. LCWIP

Cllr Saunders advised the consultation with the public had started at CycleFest and would continue online until the end of August.

Further work had been undertaken on critical junctions as part of the Neighbourhood Plan. A further meeting of the Parish to Town Cycling and Walking Working Group would be taking place on 7th September to consider the responses to the consultation carried out.

Cllr Thomas moved on to discuss Potential Intervention Priorities that could be funded through the Council. KCC would need to agree whether the proposed interventions were viable projects.

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the proposed interventions for Newton Road and Ospringle Street and replacing the existing metal barriers on Hazebrouck Road with planters and bollards, it was agreed that Cllr Thomas would pursue the 7 proposed interventions with KCC.

19. Parish to Town Cycling and Walking Project

The written report from Adrian Berendt was noted.

20. Faversham HIP Update

Items from the LCWIP should be noted on the HIP, Cllr Thomas had no further updates on the HIP.

Cllr Williams raised the ongoing consultation with residents in Abbeyfields Road being adopted by KCC.

21. Cycle Hire and Bike Hangar Update

Cllr Saunders discussed the positioning of the cycle hire parking. It seemed apparent following discussions that most cycle hires were from visitors to the town rather than residents. In addition, the positioning of the bicycles in East Street was resulting in an issue with hygiene due to bird defecation. These were all items that should be considered in the review of the cycle hire. The Town Clerk advised that East Street remained the most popular location for bicycle hire and she was investigating the cost implications for the possibility of a cover being installed. It was agreed a paper would be submitted at the next meeting including statistics for the cycle hire.

The Town Clerk advised the bike hangars would be installed during the following week.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Williams and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to set the bike hangar charges at £12 per month and £30 for 6 months.**

Solar Cycleway

- 22.** Adrian Berendt provided an update following a recent meeting involving Public Rights of Way. The proposal was for Sustrans to be engaged to consult with the landowners and the solar park developers to get a cycleway included as part of the project but avoiding the Kent Wildlife Trust land as far as possible. Sustrans would require funding, and some had been offered from various parties. A small contribution was sought from the Council. The estimate of £5000 in order to carry out the feasibility study might not need to be spent in its entirety, but it was important to get the exact details of the work from Sustrans. The importance of the cycleway was in the upgrading of the Cycle Network 1 and as part of the Parish to Town Cycling and Walking Project in linking Faversham and Whitstable.

Adrian Oliver emphasised the importance of Sustrans being able to move quickly as the Solar Park project would be at construction phase imminently.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders and seconded by Cllr Reynolds and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to provide up to £1000 towards the feasibility study by Sustrans.**

23. CycleFest

The Town Clerk advised she had sent out a questionnaire to everyone involved. The event had grown beyond what had been initially envisaged. Adrian Oliver referred to the event at Faversham Rec and advised that as a result of its success, SBC were planning to organise a similar event at Milton Creek Country Park. Cllr Williams thanked the Councillors and staff involved with the organisation.

24. Speed Cam Anywhere App

Cllr Thomas referred to the paper circulated to members, he suggested Councillors try the app and then communicate it to residents who queried the enforcement of the 20mph zone.

25. Items for Report

Adrian Berendt advised the Government had published the Active Travel England framework document and this set out how Active Travel England would work with the Department for Transport. There was a commitment to get 50% of all journeys in towns and cities walked and cycled by 2030. The document detailed the different funding sources that would be accessed by Active Travel England.

Adrian Berendt had contacted Brian Deegan at Active Travel England to enquire why Faversham had been unsuccessful in its bid for Tranche 3 funding. Brian Deegan advised he would be happy to have a discussion with KCC on the matter. Adrian Berendt agreed to forward the e-mail and associated information to the Town Clerk.

Cllr Thomas advised KCC were going to make repairs to two areas of the cobbles in Court Street, using different compounds to see which was the most effective.