

MINUTES OF THE ACTIVE TRAVEL COMMITTEE

20th October 2022, 7.30pm
The Guildhall

Present:

Cllr Thomas
Cllr Williams
Cllr Jackson

Cllr Saunders
Cllr Reynolds

T Stonor
C Oswald-Jones

In Attendance:

Louise Bareham (Town Clerk)

Public Comments

26. Apologies for Absence

Received from Cllrs Hook, Adrian Oliver and Adrian Berendt.

27. Declarations of Interest

None

28. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising

Cllr Saunders queried whether there had been any developments regarding the Solar Cycleway. The Town Clerk advised no request for funding had been received from Sustrans. It was agreed the Town Clerk would contact Adrian Oliver for an update.

It was proposed by Cllr Williams, seconded by Cllr Thomas and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the Active Travel Committee dated 21st July 2022.**

29. LCWIP

Cllr Saunders provided an update on the recent LCWIP Working Party meeting that took place on 5th October 2022.

Cllr Saunders advised a minor amendment was required under point 1 to change the location from Key Lane to North Lane. On point 2 of the LCWIP Working Party minutes regarding the issue railway severance on the town taking out the reference to railway level crossing.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Thomas and on being put to the meeting it was **RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the LCWIP Working Party dated 5th October 2022.**

Cllr Thomas provided an update on potential intervention priorities. Road works would be commencing over the half term week on Dark Hill.

Tim Stonor referred to the need to regularly review the list of Potential Intervention Priorities and not to dismiss those that were not within the top ten on the list. Cllr Saunders commented the list would be used when there were opportunities to bid for funding.

It was proposed by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr Saunders, it was ***RESOLVED to refer the list of Potential Intervention Priorities to Adrian Berendt for review.***

30. Faversham HIP Update

It was proposed by Tim Stonor, seconded by Cllr Saunders and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED to refer the HIP Update document to the LCWIP Working Group to create a co-ordinated strategy for projects.***

31. Active Travel England's Tranche 4

Cllr Thomas referred to Active Travel England's ambitions around segregated cycle lanes. This had not been practical in a market town like Faversham and it would need to look at alternatives such as walking.

Cllr Saunders referred to the excellent work of Adrian Oliver and believed the communication channels were good between the Town Council, SBC and KCC. KCC would ultimately make the bid for funding.

Cllr Thomas advised further discussions would be held with Adrian Berendt and Adrian Oliver to confirm various pedestrian projects and the requirements for Active Travel England funding.

32. FTC's Active Travel Budget Update

Cllr Saunders referred to the budget for this Committee and the reserve held. Up to £55,000 had been provisionally allocated on physical works. £15,000 had been set aside for design work for funding applications. £5000 had been allocated to promotions and activities to promote active travel. At halfway through the year and £1200 had been spent on design work at Stonebridge and the CycleFest event. The funding for physical works had been delayed due to KCC resources. The Active Travel England funding round was also awaited. Projects covered under this budget included LCWIP Consultation, and Town to Parishes Project. Bike Hangars and the Cycle Hire were funded through SBC allocated budgets.

Further consultation with KCC to push forward physical works was a priority and to carry out further design work.

It was proposed by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Thomas and on being put to the meeting it was ***RESOLVED for the Chair and Vice Chair to continue with design works and consultation to support the development of a bid for Active Travel England Tranche 4 funding within the £15,000 funding.***

Cllr Saunders referred to the remaining £4000 allocated to events and publicity and he had drafted certain ideas which he would consult with the Town Clerk on.

Chris Oswald-Jones referred to the updating of a leaflet on a walk along the Westbrook and Stonebridge Pond. There would be a need for printing and distributing. Cllr Thomas suggested Claire Windridge could assist. The Town Clerk referred to work underway updating walks. Printing was already undertaken for walks promoted through the Visitor Information Centre. Tim Stonor advised design work was underway with updating to reflect the recent Queen's Award. Assistance with printing would be needed.

Tim Stonor referred to the walking routes being pursued under LCWIP and whether funding could be used to promote these.

33. MSID VARIO Battery Powered Radar Speed Sign

Cllr Thomas provided an update on consultation with KCC on installing the signs on lampposts on the borders of the 20mph zone. Cllr Hook had been asked to take this up with the new Head of Highways at KCC.

34. Cycle Hire

Cllr Thomas referred to figures provided by the Town Clerk on the take up rate of the Cycle Hire Scheme trial. 6 months of the 12 months had passed. The hire bikes based in East Street were most used and there was an argument to move more bikes to that location. The E bikes did not appear to have been any more popular and these could be swapped with some manual bikes going to Macknade.

The Town Clerk reported on feedback on the E bikes and some comments had been about the expense for just a few hours. The Town Clerk suggested all 6 bikes could be stationed at East Street and a cover be installed. The Visitor Information Centre could be utilised to better promote the Cycle Hire Scheme and provide help for those potential users who did not have a smart phone or had difficulty with the App. Helmets were also available, and these could be loaned through the Visitor Information Centre. The existing cycle loops used by members of the public could be moved to outside the Post Office.

The Town Clerk also referred to offers of assistance from Adrian Berendt and Adrian Oliver to develop a local cycle route leaflet to assist visitors wishing to use the bikes.

It was agreed the Town Clerk would obtain costs of moving the bikes to East Street, installing a cover, and moving the cycle loops to the Post Office side and e-mail these to members of the Committee.

35. Bike Hangars

The Town Clerk advised the Bike Hangar at Central Car Park was fully booked. Three spaces were still available at Institute Road.

The Town Clerk asked Cllr Saunders for assistance in producing a promotional video on using a Bike Hangar. Cllr Saunders agreed to assist.

36. Faversham Speedwatch

The Town Clerk reported the Facilities Manager, Stacey Woolf and Facilities Apprentice, Joseph Hannah, had attended a speedwatch session with Chris Oswald-Jones at Bysingwood Road and would arrange further sessions.

Cllr Thomas referred to the excellent work carried out so far by Chris Oswald-Jones. It was important to increase the number of users.