

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Held at Stone Cottage, Chelmondiston, at 10.30am, on Monday 18th November 2013

Present: Mike Crouch, Cathy Crouch, Tony Gould, Giles Goyder, Jane Goyder, Mike Havard, Rosie Kirkup, and Sally Williams.

1. Apologies:

Karla Powell

2. Community Path – Ipswich to Freston section:

MC has contacted the Environment Agency again, following his meeting with SCC and BDC. This identified the issue of what to do where the path needs to cross the edge of the low field to the south side of the Orwell Bridge: should the path be raised or at field level? This field is required for flood- water containment by the Environment Agency, and subsequent discussions with the EA suggest strongly that the path should be kept at field level, so as not to reduce its flood-storage capacity.

Also still unresolved is the precise route of the path alongside the yacht storage area at Foxes Marina; still no response from Oyster Properties, but it seems probable that the verge will have to be used, rather than the embankment, and the ditch will therefore need to be piped.

MC and TG met Anthony Wright (Sustrans), on the 15th November, on site, to run through all of our proposals for the path from Bourne Bridge to the top of Freston Hill. AW highlighted the need to agree, in detail, the width, surface treatment etc of all sections of the path. Martin Williams (SCC) has suggested keeping the path in front of the food-hall fairly informal, eg remove top 6 inches of soil and replace with Type 2 Aggregate, topped with cycle-grade hoggin. This would be a relatively cheap solution, too. A further meeting with Oliver Paul will be required to firm up these proposals.

Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Project team is happy to do the Landscape Assessment; SPCC would need to pay them for approximately 3 days work. The Ecological Team at SCC is happy to do the Ecological Survey on a similar basis. A meeting has been arranged with Sue Hooten (SCC) and Paula Booth (SCHP) to take the matter further.

A Planning Statement will also be needed: MC will draft this.

MC is also investigating who might be prevailed upon to prepare and submit the planning application for this section of the path. Production of the plans and drawings will be a considerable problem for us, as we do not have the expertise to do this ourselves. MC has contacted Suffolk ProHelp for assistance: two companies he got in touch with have turned us down, but a third (MLM) has agreed to meet on site to discuss the matter further. MC will arrange this meeting in conjunction with BDC and SCC, at the appropriate time.

CC will email all SPCC members to see if any of them might be able to help us.

3. Shotley section of the path:

No further progress at present.

CC will email Richard Wrinch regarding the section of front garden separating two bits of existing footway at the first property on the left hand side as you come into Shotley Gate village.

4. Ganges Planning Application:

This will be going to committee on the 27th November, and seems likely to be approved by the BDC Planning Committee. The developers are offering £195,000.00 towards implementing the Shotley section of the path, but unfortunately this is only half of what SCC

has estimated the work will cost. MC will therefore seek to speak at the planning committee meeting, and has drafted out a statement, which he has restricted to our objectives only.

5. Sub-Committee report:

TG reported that minutes of the last sub-committee meeting have been circulated. Anthony Wright has suggested using road-planings for the section of bridleway from Richardson`s Lane to Collimer Close, including Church Path. The Parish Council could pay for improving the section from Collimer Close (N end) to the playing field entrance, for which they are responsible.

TG will also further investigate Natural England`s Paths for Communities grants. Although this is mainly intended for upgrading footpaths to bridleways, this existing bridleway is no more than a sheep-track at present. If any money were to be forthcoming, enough would be needed for SCC to do the work for us.

At the Woolverstone end of the paths that the subcommittee are looking at, TG confirmed that the path next to the road as you leave Woolverstone is on land owned by Stennet, and the path north of the iron railings is on Mayhew`s land.

6. Publicity and Communications:

a) Website:

TG has posted thanks to Paul Squirrel, for his help with the photographs for our new leaflet, on the website.

b) Leaflet:

RK has distributed the new leaflets around the peninsula. Everyone happy to take them, except the two surgeries!

c) Newsletter:

Last issue was in August. It was agreed to send another out in early December, once we know the outcome of the Ganges Planning application.

7. Treasurer:

SW reported that the bank balance stands at £4319.14.

The printing of the new leaflets has been paid for since the last bank statement.

8. Membership:

JG reported that membership now stands at 212 (comprised of 54 households, and including 72 under-18`s), plus 8 organisations.

9. Minutes and matters arising:

All matters arising have been dealt with, as above.

The minutes of the meeting that took place on 23.9.13 were signed as a true record.

10. AOB:

None.

Date of next meeting: 13th January 2014, 10.30am, at Stone Cottage.