

Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Held at Hill Cottage, Harkstead, at 10.30am, on Monday 19th October 2015

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

1. Apologies:

Karla Powell

2. Community Path

a) Ipswich to Freston section:

MC has drafted letters to go to the Pauls and to Oyster Properties asking to meet with them to show them John Soames' plan of the route. This is to try and avoid any objections being made when we submit the planning application. The plans will also be sent to Wherstead and Freston Parish Councils for their information.

b) Shotley section:

Strip of garden at Little Oak, Shotley Gate: TG reported that he had had no response from Richard Wrinch, nor from Bernard Nichols who has taken over from RW as Parish chairman. TG has written to BN again, and also to the clerk to the PC, and will keep the committee posted re any progress. Simon Hewitt (SPCC member from Shotley) would be prepared to get involved if necessary.

c) Shotley to Chelmondiston section:

The Spencers from Red House Farm, Wades Lane, are believed to be selling their land, some of which affects the route between Chelmondiston and Shotley Street. The SPCC will need to ensure that the new owner is made aware of the proposed route of the community path. When the new owner is known, contact needs to be made, and their support actively sought.

3. Meeting with new portfolio holder:

MC, CC, and RK met with James Finch, the new SCC Portfolio Holder for Transport. He was friendly and supportive, but stressed that there is no money available for projects such as the community path. He was, however, receptive to the idea of using maintenance money to gain minor improvements for cyclists, such as road markings, etc. He would also be prepared to allow SCC staff to handle any contracts that SPCC enters into for the construction of the path.

JG asked if any strategy planning is still undertaken in Suffolk. RK made the point that BDC have stated that the Shotley Peninsula should be promoted as a recreational area. However, MC pointed out that the Community Path is not mentioned in the local transport plan, but clearly ought to be included when the plan is next reviewed. MC has also made a list of all other documents where the path should be mentioned.

Proof that the path has local support will be crucial when seeking any funding, and inclusion of the path in policy documents will be essential.

4. Ganges planning application update:

BDC is still waiting for the Section 106 agreement to be signed. The delay has been caused by a dispute between Haylink, Shotley Marina, and Babergh District Council over when the Marina development can commence. It has apparently now been agreed that the spine road through the

Ganges site (which the Marina will have to use) will have to be fully constructed at the start of any development here.

5. Sub-committee:

TG reported that no formal meeting had been held, but that work by the committee members is continuing on the Woolverstone to Chelmondiston section, with Jez Meredith from Woolverstone still very keen to push matters forward. However, local landowners are proving to be rather a sticking point for the section of path from the Girls High School to Berners Lane. SPCC sub-committee members have looked for an alternative route here, and have identified the highway verge as a possible alternative. There are some pinch points, but SCC have accepted these elsewhere where no alternative can be found.

SCC Highways are happy to look at this proposal in greater detail; TG will contact Matt Williams from SCC Highways to arrange a site meeting.

6. Meeting with new MP:

RK has set up a meeting with the new South Suffolk MP, James Cartlidge on Friday 20th November. MC, CC, MH, and RK will attend.

SPCC will be seeking his support for the community path, especially at the planning application stage, and when SPCC is submitting funding applications to SCC, BDC, and other organisations eg the lottery.

7. Publicity and communications:

a) Website: The latest newsletter and minutes have been added.

b) Newsletter: Last newsletter went out in September. Aim for another one before Christmas.

c) Intouch magazine: contact once meeting with MP has taken place.

8. Treasurer's report:

SW reported a closing balance of £3823.38 in the SPCC account.

9. Membership:

Membership presently stands at 161, from 72 households, plus 8 local organisations. Simon Hewitt's new email address has been obtained, and contact re-established with Chris Ingram. TG will contact Renny Hammond (another "missing" member).

10. Minutes and matters arising:

All matters arising dealt with as above. The minutes of the meeting held in March were then signed as a true record.

11. AOB:

RK apologised for not thinking about another cycling event, but the rest of the committee felt this was not a priority.

TG had received an email from Ipswich CTC regarding linking our SPCC website to their website; so far he has failed to achieve this but will try again.

Date of next meeting: Monday 7th December, 10.30 am, at Hill Cottage.