

# **Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign**

**Held at Ipswich High School for Girls, Woolverstone, at 10.30am, on Monday 4<sup>th</sup>  
February 2013**

Present: Mike Crouch, Cathy Crouch, Tony Gould, Giles Goyder, Jane Goyder,  
Mike Havard, Rosie Kirkup, Karla Powell and Elaine Purves (Patron)

## **1. Apologies:**Sally Williams

## **2. Community path:**

### **a) Ipswich to Shotley section**

We have been awaiting a reply from Nick Collinson (Suffolk Coasts and Heaths Partnership) regarding the line of the route across the field between Red Gate Lane and the bottom of Freston Hill. He has now spoken to Oliver Paul who is happy in principle to go along with whatever sensible solution we can agree with Natural England

NB Nick Collinson is moving jobs (to Suffolk County Council) so will no longer be our contact at SCHP.

MC then contacted Steve Gilbey of Natural England, and MC and CC met him in December to discuss where the community path could best be sited across this field. It was agreed with SG that a possible solution would be for the Higher Level Stewardship Scheme area to be extended up to the line of the existing footpath, which could then either be upgraded for shared use or for a parallel cycle path to be constructed next to the footpath. SG felt that Natural England would have no issues with this.

SG agreed to contact Oliver Paul after Christmas regarding this proposal. However, despite emailing him again, there has been no reply from him.

If we cannot get this agreed by all concerned, alternative solutions would be to get permission to use the footpath for cycling, mud permitting, or even use the road. Sustrans view is to achieve what you can, and hope that the rest may follow later.

The only other issue yet to be resolved is the pinch point outside Foxes Marina where the disabled ramp adjoins the footway. Foxes/ Oyster Marine will need to be approached to try to find a solution. If no solution is found, a “cyclists dismount” sign could be a possible compromise

RK contacted Wherstead Parish Council, and they invited MC to come to their next Parish Meeting: they were very helpful and positive about the Community Path. MC will contact them again when a planning application is imminent.

### **b) Shotley section:**

There have been no changes since the last meeting and, in particular, no movement on the Ganges planning application.

If Babergh District Council are minded to grant permission for the development, the council may need further encouragement to get a proper assessment of what S106 money the developers could be expected to provide: the Shotley Peninsula Parishes Alliance, if they reform, could perhaps apply the necessary pressure.

Otherwise, funding for this section of the path will be needed from other sources; Land-Fill tax could be an alternative/additional source.

## **3. New Leaflet:**

No further progress has been made. JG will contact Paul Squirrel (member from Holbrook), to see if he could provide some better photographs.

## **4. Quiet Lanes**

Around 2005-6, the Government experimented with these, but research showed that they

were not achieving very much at all, in terms of discouraging or slowing traffic, or making the lanes more user-friendly for not motorised traffic. There is no Government money for them any more.

However, MC has been contacted by Neil Winship, from Waldringfield, who is keen to try and get quiet lanes designated in various places, and wants to get a working party going for the Shotley Peninsula. It was agreed that MC respond that the SPCC would be prepared to be represented on the working party, but cannot take the lead because the community path remains our prime goal.

## **5. Publicity and Communications**

### **a) Website**

TG reported that the annual hosting renewal has fallen due. He has changed our package (now free because he has enough “customers”), and the SPCC can once again have as many email addresses necessary.

### **b) Newsletter**

As one was issued in late November, there is nothing much to report to our members.

### **c) Banner**

This is now up in the entrance at Holbrook Co-op.

### **d) Funride**

RK and KP met to discuss this and have come up with a route, starting and finishing at Freston Village Hall, using the local bridleways, to take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, and with an Easter theme. RK has been in touch with Suffolk Sport, which is offering help and support for free events like this. The event, aimed at younger children, will be publicised via the primary schools and local churches, plus emails to all our members.

## **6. Schools:**

JG will ask David Mullett to contact Shotley Primary School about renewing their membership.

## **7. Treasurers report:**

Sally William had provided a statement showing a balance of £4,634.63 in the bank. There had been no expenditure since our last meeting.

## **8. Membership report:**

JG reported that there are now 61 households in membership, totalling 139 members. This is significantly down on last year. Positive news is needed to recruit new members, and a visible presence at school and summer fetes etc.

Our group membership (schools and other local organisations) has remained healthy.

## **9. Minutes and matters arising:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26.11.2012 were signed as true record.

All matters arising have been dealt with, as above.

## **10. Any other business:**

MH raised the matter of the new wind farm off the East Anglian Coast: the proposed landing points (to bring the electricity cables ashore) are not affecting the Shotley Peninsula.

KP suggested the SPCC should consider ordering hi-vis tabards with Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign printed on them. She will do more research.

EP will try to find someone else from IHS to take over her role when she leaves the school.

## **11. Date of next meeting:**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2013, 10.30am, at Stone Cottage.