

SPOKES Monthly Meeting



Date: 12 April 2023 **Venue:** King Charles Tavern, Newbury

Present: Kevin Bushell, Josh Kerry, Gordon Oliver, William Pitt, Paul Rumsby, Clive Tombs

Apologies: Rob Borthwick, Ed Cooper, Caroline Lane

Ref	Item	Action
1.	Actions Arising from Previous Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">William to contact David regarding updating the website. WPGordon to confirm the Cycling UK payment date with Ed and enquire about the missing magazines. GOWilliam reported that he had emailed Laura Farris MP regarding government funding for active travel being reduced and had received a standard response.	
2.	Eling Way <ul style="list-style-type: none">An announcement was expected shortly regarding funding for Phase 1 through Hermitage.Due to opposition from local landowners to the south of Hermitage, alternative routes are being considered, including upgrading the bridleway to the west of the B4009 as an interim measure. This was felt to be significantly inferior route, but options were limited.For the route north of Hampstead Norreys, enquiries are being followed up about the scope to run alongside a proposed flood defence scheme.	
3.	West Berkshire Council Cycling Schemes <p><u>Stockcross to Speen</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Stockcross to A4 section (Phase 1) is at the detailed design stage – the proposed scheme is for a 3m shared use path. <p><u>Andover Road</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Currently waiting on consultation to take place on the proposed TRO for yellow line markings. <p><u>A4</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Work is underway on the design for the next section from the Waitrose roundabout to Dolman Road.	
3.	NCN4 / K&A Towpath <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Canal and River Trust (CRT) has submitted a bid to Greenham Trust to contribute towards the cost of upgrading the section between Ham Bridge	

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	<p>and Bull's Lock.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CRT had completed some shoring up work of the banks on the section between Colthrop and east of Brimpton Lane. ▪ Discussions were ongoing with CRT regarding Spokes funding contributions to support additional improvements on the sections between Thatcham Station and Colthrop and east of Brimpton Lane. ▪ Sustrans had completed an upgrade to a 1.25 km stretch near Theale and had submitted a planning application for the section between Dewe Lane and the Cuning Man pub. ▪ Clive took Sustrans out to look at the section of NCN4 between Marsh Benham and Guyer's lock, which Spokes considered to be a priority for improvement. A fresh report has been made to CRT to request repairs / upgrades. 	
4.	AOB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kevin asked about campaign work being undertaken by Spokes. It was acknowledged that not much campaigning was taking place due to limited time availability. Priorities were confirmed as: supporting the led rides, attending the Cycle Forum and undertaking the counts. ▪ It was suggested that Spokes should do more press releases. 	

Next meeting: **Wednesday 3 May @7.30pm**

Venue: **TBC, Newbury**
