

SPOKES Monthly Meeting



Date: 2 August 2023 **Venue:** The Bowler's Arms, Newbury

Present: Ed Cooper, Alan Langley, Gordon Oliver, and Clive Tombs

Apologies: William Pitt

Ref	Item	Action
1.	Actions Arising from Previous Meetings	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Josh has been provided with details of the Website Editor role.▪ William has contacted Cycling UK to correct the contact details they hold, but has not yet had a response.▪ William has set up a separate WhatsApp group for the Committee.▪ William to contact the Volunteer Centre about count volunteers and vacant committee positions. WP▪ Rob to update the Committee regarding the automatic counter proposals. RB▪ Josh to confirm if he has contacted Pankhurst Cycles. JK▪ Ed confirmed that he had met with Cheryl Evans re Bikeability.▪ Clive and Paul to discuss joint working with CRT / Sustrans volunteers on joint working. CT / PR▪ Rob to circulate cycle count results to wider membership. RB▪ William has put some notes together for the workshop in September – to be discussed at the next meeting. WP▪ Ed to catch up with Vicki Trentham re Greenfest. EC	
2.	Bikeability	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ed met with Cheryl Evans at West Berkshire Council to discuss how Spokes could support Bikeability projects. There were five potential projects:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Sponsorship of Bikeability Balance / Bikeability Fix – these are not currently funded.– Instructor training – although training is paid, instructors have to spend 72 hours shadowing other instructors for which they don't get paid. Spokes could provide a grant.– Help to source new instructors – this could be done through an appeal to the Spokes membership.– SEND bikes – providing specially adapted bikes for use by pupils with disabilities.	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adult Cycle Training – The Public Health Team funds two hours of training at a cost of £60 per person, but this is not considered sufficient to get people confident. 27 people have expressed an interest. Spokes could pay Bikeability instructors to run novice sessions. Gordon to discuss this with the Public Health Team. This may also be something that could be addressed through a cycling equivalent of ‘Park Run’. Ed had also attended a Volunteer Centre event where the Festival of Cycling had been discussed. 	GO
3.	<p data-bbox="331 560 454 616">Eling Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Plans were discussed for Phase 1 of the scheme through Hermitage. It was proposed to use quiet roads and Public Footpath 16, before cutting through the new development to get to Station Road. It was not proposed to have any dedicated provision for the on-road sections, since they were so lightly trafficked, with just on-carriageway cycle symbols at key locations and signing. ■ Drainage issues would have to be addressed along Public Footpath 16 and a topographical survey was planned. ■ It was hoped that land currently within private ownership on this section of the route could be secured. ■ The Public Rights of Way Team had been consulted about Phase 2 to the south of Hermitage, focusing on the bridleway to the west of the B4009. There were potential concerns regarding urbanisation of the route if it was widened and the surfacing upgraded. ■ Alternative options were being considered but investigations were still at an early stage. ■ For the section to the north of Hampstead Norriss, efforts were ongoing to link with the proposed flood relief scheme. 	
4.	<p data-bbox="331 1500 798 1556">West Berkshire Council Cycle Schemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ B4000 Stockcross: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phase 1 of the scheme would include a 3m shared use path on the northern side of the B4000 from the post office to the roundabout west of the A34. Works will start in September. - Phase 2 will extend the scheme to Speen Lane. ■ Old Bath Road, Newbury: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Future scheme proposed to remove the parking along the south side, which is seldom used and provide a signed quiet route with cycle symbols on the carriageway – the road is lightly trafficked and 	

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	<p>there is not sufficient width for on-carriageway lanes. This will link the A4 to the cycle route along the west side of Goldwell Park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burghfield to Mortimer Cycle Route: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A planning application has been submitted by Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council for a cycle route to the east of Reading Road. – The Council’s Highways Development Control Team has reviewed the scheme and provided comments. While there are some issues to be resolved, particularly at either end, it is considered to have potential. – An onward connection to the Willink School would be useful. – The Committee discussed a possible site visit to review the scheme and the HDC Team’s comments and submission of a formal comment on the planning application. – If the planning application was approved, then this could potentially form the basis of a future Active Travel scheme. 	All
5.	Comms and Engagement	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ideas for articles were discussed, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – NCN4 improvements at Aldermaston Wharf and Burghfield. – Burghfield to Mortimer – Support for Bikeability – Spokes workshop 	
6.	AOB	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There was some discussion about whether Greenham Trust would be interested in supporting a flagship project to upgrade the canal towpath. 	
Next meeting:	Wednesday 6 September @7.30pm	
Venue:	The Bowlers Arms, Wash Common	