

SPOKES Monthly Meeting



Date: 6 September 2023 **Venue:** The Bowler's Arms, Newbury
Present: Ed Cooper, Josh Kerry, Alan Langley, Gordon Oliver, William Pitt & Clive Tombs
Apologies: Rob Borthwick

Ref	Item	Action
1.	Actions Arising from Previous Meetings	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">William had put together a spec for a Publicity Officer, but Gordon had suggested that a Comms and Marketing Officer might be more useful and had proposed an alternative spec. This was approved. William to send this to the Volunteer Bureau.	WP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">William to send the spec for cycle count volunteers to the Volunteer Bureau.	WP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rob had been unable to comment on the automatic counter proposals due to personal circumstances. Clive explained that the Council hoped to trial four automatic counters in the east of the district. These will probably be radar based, but waiting to hear back from one additional supplier on other options.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Rob to circulate the details of the cycle counts when ready.	RB
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Josh to contact Pankhurst Cycles to see if they would be willing to promote Spokes.	JK
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gordon had reached out to Sustrans via social media re volunteering, but no response had been received. Will phone instead.	GO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">It was noted that Canal and River Trust was struggling for finances. Gordon to draft a letter to Laura Farris.	GO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Gordon to contact Rachel Elliot at Newbury Velo re CycleFest.	GO
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ed to contact Vicky Trentham re Greenfest.	EC
2.	Autumn Workshop	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">William to organise the workshop for either 2nd or 4th Saturday in October. It was agreed that a morning session would be best (09:30 to 12:30). Ed offered the Canoe Club as a venue. Workshop will be open to all Spokes members.	WP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Workshop to consider: SWOT analysis, what other groups are doing (Gordon to look at Chester, Clive to look at Essex, Josh to look at Reading, William to look at Bradford-on-Avon as well as Newbury Velo and Newbury Road Club).	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Workshop agenda to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mission statement; - examples of what other groups are doing; - options for future priorities (e.g., respond to consultations, rides, maintenance classes, route development, publicity, fundraising, etc); - skills needed; - things we are good / bad at; - training needs. 	
3.	<p>Eling Way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Clive explained that the Council had been exploring options for the route south of Hermitage: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - using public rights of way and the trackbed; or - alongside roads (this option had issues with a drainage ditch). ■ The topographical survey had been updated for the scheme within Hermitage, which would unlock detailed design. 	
4.	<p>West Berkshire Council Cycle Schemes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ B4000 Stockcross: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scheme to start on 18 September. - 61 consultation responses received, which were mostly positive. ■ Old Bath Road, Newbury: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scheme at outline design stage. ■ Burghfield to Mortimer Cycle Route: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spokes to arrange a site visit. ■ Andover Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clive confirmed that staff had returned from retirement / maternity to process traffic orders, but the Andover Road double yellow lines were some way down the list. 	All
5.	<p>Comms and Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Josh was elected as Website Editor. ■ William to write up article on the Spain trip. ■ Gordon to write up article on the towpath. 	WP GO

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6.	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Clive to be included in the Committee WhatsApp Group.■ Kevin had raised issues with the staggered barriers in Thatcham being poorly spaced. This had already been picked up in the Cycle Audit.■ William to highlight NCN4 at the Cycle Forum, including maintenance and the future strategy.	

Next meeting: **Wednesday 4 October @7.30pm**

Venue: **The Bowlers Arms, Wash Common**
