

STEERING GROUP MEETING FOR CYCLING DEMONSTRATION TOWN PROJECT

NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 2008

COMMITTEE ROOM B, LANCASTER TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Matt Hodges (MHod) CTC
 John Leach (JL) Dynamo
 Philip Longton (PL) Lancaster University
 Alasdair Simpson (AS) Lancashire County Council
 Peter Armstrong (PA) North Lancs Teaching PCT
 Shelly Harvey (SH) Cycle-Aid
 Anna Redfearn (AR) Pedal Power Furniture Matters
 Mike Hutchinson (MHut) CTC Lancaster
 Rachel Scott (RS) Economic Development
 Gary Bowker (GB) Engineering Section, Lancaster CC
 Peter Loker (PSL) Corporate Director, Lancaster CC
 Steph Lucas (SL) Notetaker, Lancaster CC

Mark Cassidy (Item 2 only) (MC) Assistant Development Control Manager

		ACTION
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Councillor Eileen Blamire Councillor Jane Fletcher John Whitelegg Jim Robson Dick Follows Kathy Bashford Ged McAllister</p> <p>Those present introduced themselves.</p>	
2.	<p>PERMEABILITY OF CENTROS SITE</p> <p>PSL welcomed Mark Cassidy, Assistant Development Control Manager, Planning Services to the meeting for this item.</p> <p>MC gave an overview of where the Centros proposals were up to. Planning Committee (which included public speaking) had considered the applications and approved them by 15 votes to 4. The main outline planning application is still subject to call in by the Government Office, if they so wish. It is anticipated that the Government Office will make a decision on this early in the new year.</p> <p>MC explained that there was no designated cycle route through the site, but cycling would not be prohibited. Planning Committee had considered an amendment to the proposed plans – by way of a separate proposal at Planning Committee - the issue of a cycle route at Upper Phoenix Street,</p>	

	<p>but this had been narrowly defeated when voted upon.</p> <p>MC gave details of routes currently in the scheme and answered questions from the Group.</p> <p>MC confirmed that there is secure and covered cycle parking with changing/showering facilities in the proposals. Also, as a condition of planning approval, a Travel Plan has to be approved.</p> <p>MHod referred to section 9.3 of the Design and Access Statement where it required cyclists to dismount. MC said that 5.2.7 of the Transport Assessment superseded this and allowed access for cyclists.</p> <p>GB reminded the meeting that if the scheme went ahead, by the time it was completed, in Lancaster Centre there would be other measures in place like toucan crossings.</p> <p>MHod raised concern that Cycling England would see the site as an 'impermeable block'. Also he was concerned about the Back Caton Road area.</p> <p>RS asked if the land was private or County. MC confirmed it was private.</p> <p>JL said that the area needed to be permeable. He also asked that Planning Services look at the NICE guidelines on physical activity and the environment.</p> <p>PSL asked if the applications go to Inquiry, could anything be enhanced and could we present evidence. MC confirmed this was the case, but said that Government Office were able to call in just certain aspects of the application, should it choose to do so, rather than consider the proposal as a whole.</p> <p>MHod asked what the position was regarding stopping up of existing rights of way. MC confirmed this was not a Planning Service issue, but one for the County Council and Centros.</p> <p>PSL thanked MC for what had been achieved so far and confirmed we would keep a watch on the applications.</p>	
3.	<p>MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 01 SEPTEMBER 2008</p> <p>The Group agreed the accuracy of the minutes.</p>	
4.	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>Item 5 CDT Steering Group PSL confirmed that the Terms of Reference had been updated. PL asked that Peter Scullion be deleted from the Distribution List</p> <p>Item 6 Work Programme – 6(i) Infra Structure GB circulated plans for Penny Street. GB explained the plans and said that this was a key project for next year at a cost of approximately £250,000 and would include night working. Steering Group to let GB have any comments on the proposals by Monday 05 January 2009. There would also be opportunity for further comment at the TRO stage.</p>	<p>SL</p> <p>ALL</p>

	<p>Item 6 Work Programme MHod asking for an explanation of “..... agreed to lift cycling out” – Page 3, fourth paragraph. GB explained this meant that cycling would be brought forwards as a separate issue.</p> <p>Item 6(ii) Schools Action for Kathy Bashford to carry on pursuing ways to show children the best route/s from home to school.</p>	KB
5.	<p>FUNDING AGREEMENT</p> <p>PSL explained the agreement which was subject to a condition of satisfactory performance and the formal consent is with the DfT. Cycling England advised us what to focus on for our submission and the submission had now been accepted. Cycling England had carried out 2 or 3 visits and is satisfied with the progress made to-date and the agreed future programme. GB explained that there were three actions required by Cycling England, namely</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) An RLI link (ii) Church Street contraflow (iii) Penny Street Scheme <p>5 (i) Revenue Projects</p> <p>The Action Plan had been circulated with the agenda and RS said there was nothing radically different from previous years. A replacement Workplace Officer had been appointed and would start work in January. The replacement has a strong marketing background. RS reported that the Primary Care Trust and the University of Cumbria (who had now got a Travel Manager in post) had been added as Key Employers, which brought the total to six. Now looking for a private sector addition.</p> <p>RS currently looking at potential residential areas to develop a personal travel plan for – open to suggestions.</p> <p>PSL reported that Cycling England contracted Blue Rubicon (a marketing company) to do promotional work and Phillip Darnton was expecting Blue Rubicon to work with CDTs locally. PSL suggested that this should be followed up and that the issue of social marketing could be the focus of a future meeting. AS suggested inviting Blue Rubicon to attend the meeting.</p> <p>There was discussion and suggestions on ways to get the cycling message across.</p> <p>MHut asked what was happening in respect of the Cycling Exhibition at the Museum. RS confirmed she had sent information, so now with the Museum.</p> <p>RS asked if anyone wanted to put forward any Events/Rides for 2009 she would add them to her list.</p>	RS

5 (ii)

Infra Structure

GS reported that there was not much to update from the programme which had been circulated. He would be updating the programme in mid January and would circulate this to the Steering Group.

PL asked for an update re Haverbreaks Road. GB said this was still with the Haverbreaks Road Residents Association. PL asked if Ashton Road works could go ahead despite this hold up. GB said yes, he was working up a scheme.

GB reported that Andy Mayo (Cycling England Advisor) had visited and he was still awaiting his report.

JL asked about the St George's quay cycle route. GB confirmed that the EA works were complete, but not open.

JL also asked about the route through White Cross. GB explained the route and the current dispute between Persimmon Homes and British Waterways regarding the wall.

20mph Zones

Circulated with the agenda for this meeting was information from the County Council explaining the current position. MHod said there was no evidence to back up the no signing without physical traffic calming measures and County should be looking at a wider scheme rather than just near schools. Approximately six cities had now committed to 20mph zones.

AS said that the Task Group had agreed to monitor what was happening elsewhere and that the enforcement of 20mph zones without traffic calming would be difficult.

MHod suggested that cost of putting up signs for a larger zone may be less than for a few smaller areas.

PSL said that the CDT Steering Group had already made it clear that they are in support of a wider 20mph zone. He suggested that this could still be pursued through other pressure groups, e.g. PCT Accident Prevention, LSP Health and Wellbeing Group etc.

MHod agreed the 'push' should be from all vulnerable road users, rather than just cyclists.

PA reported that Accident Prevention Action Group of the LSP Safety Thematic Group was looking at developing a profile of accidents for the area and this could be linked to the 20mph debate.

JL stated there was an issue with how traffic is counted as cyclists are not included. AS explained that manual counts do include cyclists, but automatic counters do not. The next LTP will be 2012-2016 and will take account of the Faber Maunsell work.

6.	<p>NICE GUIDELINES</p> <p>JL said a lot of the guidelines impact on what CDT are trying to achieve, and believed that the guidelines were not pursued rigorously enough. PA referred to the LSP and Health and Wellbeing priority and a LSP Working Group which are asking partners to agree to Health Impact Assessments and will be referred to the NICE Guidelines.</p>	
7.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>(i) Horses on Cycle Tracks - AS reported he had taken a report to Lancashire Locals re allowing horses on cycle tracks. Lancashire Locals were supportive of this, but with a caveat re areas too busy to share. This will be introduced gradually and if successful will be rolled out.</p> <p>JL said there was a need for "good practice guidelines" for this shared use. GB said there were already guidelines for the Millennium Way.</p> <p>MHut said it was important that pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and dog walkers all work together.</p> <p>GB to prepare an Individual Cabinet Member Decision report with regard to City Council areas.</p> <p>GB also to check if there is a "poop scoop" policy re horses.</p> <p>(ii) Item 5 (i) - AF asked about the references to Bikeability under "Young People" heading. RS confirmed that this should not say Bikeability and she would amend.</p> <p>(iii) Gritting of Cycle Routes - PL reported a couple of recent falls on the University routes and asked if County would review policy in respect of Barton Road/Lentworth Road, Lancaster and key cycle routes. AS replied that there is a limited budget to grit roads and highways. County don't grit cycle routes, but routes have a surface dressing. County would be interested in receiving information on accidents. Police only collect statistics involving other vehicles.</p> <p>(iv) A6 Route - MHod asked about A6 route and Andy Mayo. GB said still awaiting Andy Mayo's report.</p>	
8.	<p>NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Meeting to be arranged in early April at <u>Morecambe</u> Town Hall, the main focus to be social marketing.</p> <p>PSL wished the meeting a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.</p>	