

STEERING GROUP MEETING FOR CYCLING DEMONSTRATION TOWN PROJECT

NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 20 JULY 2007

COMMITTEE ROOM B, LANCASTER TOWN HALL

PRESENT:	Matt Hodges	(MHod)	CTC
	Anna Redfearn	(AR)	Pedal Power
	Steven Buchanan	(SB)	Furniture Matters
	Paul Darlington	(PD)	Cycle Aid
	Mike Hutchinson	(MHut)	CTC
	John Leach	(JL)	Dynamo
	Dick Follows	(DF)	Dynamo
	Kathy Bashford	(KB)	Sustrans
	John Whitelegg	(JW)	Sustainable Transport Advisor
	Alasdair Simpson	(AS)	Lancashire County Council
	Jim Robson	(JR)	Lancashire County Council
	Tom Roberts	(TR)	Environment Co-ordinator, LUSU at Lancaster University
	Rachel Scott	(RS)	Economic Development, LCC
	Beverley Harding	(BH)	Economic Development, LCC
	Gary Bowker	(GB)	Engineering Section, LCC
	Peter Loker	(PSL)	Corporate Director, LCC
	Ged McAllister	(GM)	Engineering Section, LCC
	Mark Butt	(MB)	Mayer Brown (Guest)

		ACTION
1.	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Claire Drury, North Lancashire Health Councillor Eileen Blamire</p>	
2.	<p>MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16 MARCH 2007</p> <p>Agreed</p>	
3.	<p>MATTERS ARISING</p> <p>20mph (<i>under Matters Arising</i>) - will be discussed again at Lancashire Local meeting on Tuesday 24 July at 1.30 pm in Silverdale. Details on website.</p>	
4.	<p>CITY CENTRE STRATEGY</p> <p>PSL said East West routes main areas for discussion. Debate is around Common Garden Street/Spring Garden Street options.</p>	

MB - Looked at the East West link options and looked at a range of data including employment and residential. There is a demand for a route from Quarry Road to the Railway Station. The proposed preferred route goes with the flow of traffic and is west bound, starting at Quarry Road across a toucan crossing at Thurnham Street then onto George Street and Spring Garden Street, with another toucan crossing on King Street, then current middle street route to railway station. This route also benefits pedestrians by helping them to cross King Street here.

MB then went onto explain the East route which would be Common Garden Street, with a new lining facility and on Brock Street to extend the ASL and Cycle Lane.

PSL asked if there were other opportunities?

MB - Looked at contraflow option on Common Garden Street and decided not safe. The proposed facility was safe and low risk. He also mentioned that the chemist on King Street could have a loading facility which would help to prevent parking on the cycle lane.

JW thanked MB for brief and mentioned Germany which had a dramatic increase after their cycle friendly city project which gives the most significant/most prominent journeys to places - no side streets and to key locations. He suggested that there was nothing of interest to access on George Street/Spring Garden route. He said that the best option would be the Common Garden/Brock Street route.

JW suggested a contraflow down Common Garden Street and asked if the decision for the route had already been made and when?

MB- Consultation was in March and report is now complete. There is flexibility in design on those schemes. Re gyratory- consultation has been done and the report is being finalised. PSL said that there is an opportunity to influence as it has not been to the board or council yet

GB said that the detail design is being held up by Cycling England funding and sign off.

JL asked about the possibility of a contraflow on Church Street. GB said that the TRO is in motion, and is not included in the Mayer Brown report but is a plan for the future.

JL also asked about the possibility of a North/South route.

DF requested clarification over removal of cycle lane on King Street? And on Rosemary Lane and Thurnham Street.

MB said King Street will be considered in the detailed design stage, and the crossing at Chapel Street and Rosemary Lane to allow cyclists to get onto the road. A full bus/cycle lane would have major impact on city centre.

AS suggested converting a pelican crossing on north side of Dalton Square and send cyclists down Mary Street.

MB said this would be a convoluted route and strategy looks at how to get best route available.

	<p>Discussion on the figures – which varied from –3% to +18% needed further understanding to help inform our future work programme.</p> <p>JW asked if there were modal split figures? i.e., what % of all journeys are by bike</p> <p>AS said that this info would be included within the TravelSmart project report.</p> <p>MHod requested cycle parking data, which GB will circulate in September when it is available. There is a parked cycle count annually as part of the Sustrans evaluation report and this forms part of the data report referred to earlier.</p>	GB
8.	<p>WORKPLACE TRAVEL PLANS</p> <p>RS - the introduction of travel plans was not a specific objective of our current CDT programme. We are concentrating on promoting cycling. However where relevant/applicable we offer advice and information relating to the development of a TP. We also work with the County's Workplace TP Officer.</p> <p>JW suggested that Lancaster City Council be a best practice example by implementing and adhering to their own TP. He also suggested that Lancaster City Council doesn't have the resources in place to do this, and push Lancaster University and UCSM to do so. He suggested more staff and more resources for this. The CDT project need to double cycle to work levels in the 10 major employers. He suggested that Planners need to endorse Travel Plans more strictly, and that the Chief Executive should tell local employers what they should be achieving in terms of numbers of cyclists.</p> <p>RS updated JW on what we were doing in workplaces and the lack of enthusiasm from the local employers.</p> <p>JL proposed that Cabinet members and senior council officers meet with senior management in these workplaces to increase cycling and obtain a high level of commitment.</p> <p>SB suggested that the Vision Board would be a good platform for a Senior Council Officer to talk to senior management, and that the Project Board should push this through.</p> <p>Action – Agree with Cycling England what the focus of work with major employers should be in the next work programme. This would enable some of these ideas to be picked up.</p> <p>TR updated everyone on the new recruit at Lancaster University who would be starting in September and taking over Jon Sear's work, he said that parking restrictions at the University encouraged cycling but that there was need for infrastructure.</p> <p>Action - TR requested presence of CDT Team at Freshers Fair.</p>	

9.	<p>YORK UNIVERSITY/GERMANY</p> <p>PSL thanked AS for information</p> <p>AS highlighted that cycle parking at York University is 10 times higher than Lancaster University and has an internal cycle path network with a long term development scheme to implement a park and ride system</p> <p>Action - Meeting for AS/BH/RS and Lancaster University (new recruit and TR) to look at York University and the best practice of other universities.</p>	
9.	<p>FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME – QUESTIONS/ANSWERS</p> <p>AS - access to schools? GB - they are there with the match funding</p> <p>AS - Will city centre strategy be deliverable within time of the project? GB – The strategy can be agreed but implementation costs are identified at about £1.7 million so would be outside the project timescale.</p> <p>SB raised concerns about planning training in advance and requested commitment from the CDT team for more than 3 months and to be involved in utilising the promenade.</p> <p>Action - Meeting of RS and SB/Pedal Power to resolve training commitments and use of the promenade.</p>	
10.	<p>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Not decided – to be called when all monitoring data available for full discussion.</p>	
11.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>RS invited Steering Group to a meeting on Monday 06 August at 2.00 pm to discuss the Revenue of the CDT.</p> <p>PSL updated the group on the composition of CDT Project Board:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Officers: PSL, RE Cabinet: Councillors Eileen Blamire and Maia Whitelegg with invitation for a County Councillor nomination.</p> <p>PSL advised that John Grimshaw will be visiting on 06/07 August to review progress, discuss future work programme. Feedback will be given to next Steering Group meeting.</p>	