

North Somerset Cycle Forum



Tuesday 3rd June 2025

6.00pm – 8:00pm, Town Hall, Weston-super-Mare

Agenda		Actions	
1.	<p>Attendees Ben Searle NSC STARS Officer Luke Turner NSC STARS Officer Kira Thorpe Linda Hazzard Nigel Sloan Stuart Lafferty Terry Miller Mike Johnston Cris Fletcher NSC STARS Officer Ade Reed (Chair) Guy Buckland</p> <p>Apologies</p>		
2.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>Most items to be covered in the agenda. No issues raised.</p>		
3.	<p>Highway Maintenance SL – Following correspondence with BS the item was added Note: NSC do not have representative from Highways Maintenance.</p> <p>SL – We Are Cycling (Cycling UK) report recommends 2m zone from edge of carriageway should be reviewed for defects. SL will send the report for review. Need to see whether Maintenance processes reflect or consider this guidance.</p>	<p>SL to share the report from We Are Cycling</p> <p>NSC to share with Maintenance team to outline alignment.</p>	

	<p>NS: Noting that budgetary constraints exist, the ask is what the council is going to do to improve the condition?</p> <p>Reporting road defects on NSC website defines a pothole. Defects more widespread than just potholes, particularly for cycling.</p> <p>SL: Reporting process is clunky to use but takes around a fortnight to get outcome. 'Fill that hole' report can be very slow and not all LAs are signed up.</p> <p>NS: Raised that hedge cutters do not cut around signs. NSC signage not logged by locations.</p> <p>BS: Glendale do hedges which are growing on highway. Reminder can be sent to them. Hedges cut by landowners if growing on their land.</p>	<p>BS to ask maintenance if they use risk based approach</p> <p>NSC to invite Highways to next meeting</p>
4.	<p>Road Safety & Safer Cycling</p> <p>Discussion bundled as part of the item above.</p>	
5.	<p>Updates of Standing Items</p> <p><u>Royal Sands Improvements</u> BS: Was on last year programme but did not happen. It is on this years programme as part of a bundle to be done shortly.</p> <p><u>Traffic Lights – Churchill & Barrow Gurney</u> Covered last time. GB: Churchill Lights still not registering. Note steel bike used. Barrow Gurney – Signage now added for cycling in the Bus lane</p> <p><u>Vegetation</u> BS: Long Ashton Vegetation has been cleared as part of Network Rail works. Vegetation where festival way meets Yanley Lane. As part of some works improve crossings here improvements can be made to vegetation.</p> <p><u>Metrowest works and cycle diversion routes</u> No update</p> <p><u>Avonmouth bridge cycle way works closure</u> BS: On Hold for a couple of years as National Highways are without funding.</p> <p><u>Wroughton to Congresbury/Cleeve Junction</u> KT: Dangerous for cyclists following BSIP works</p>	<p>KT: Email concerns</p>

		for STARS to raise with BSIP
6.	<p>Weston-super-Mare Town Centre Links</p> <p>BS: Proposals to improve connectivity parallel to the High Street and over Hildesheim bridge.</p> <p>Highstreet very busy with pedestrians so proposal takes users behind Sovereign and through Italian gardens via shared use route. Will require Weston College to provide access via their land leased from NSC. This is in as a design scheme for 25/26 programme.</p> <p>Hildesheim Bridge – Crossings to the West being looked at. STARS suggesting improvements to the bridge. Previous studies have looked at closing inbound lane for example, this would add between 15 seconds and 1 minute additional journey time, however likely to be contentious.</p> <p>Seeking views from forum members on these two areas.</p> <p>AE: Italian Gardens logical GB: Would need clear delineation between cyclists and pedestrians, particularly through Italian Gardens.</p> <p>KT: Sunnyside Application back on the cards. STARS have provided comments previously but will follow up with colleagues.</p> <p>LT: Liveable Neighbourhoods in WsM See slides for information. Typically, modal filters used to reduce traffic movements and improve conditions for active travel.</p> <p>This year's programme looks at area to the East of the improvements noted previously by BS. The areas are of high deprivation, high propensity to cycle. Full engagement, as done during the Baker St Liveable Neighbourhood, would be performed for any schemes progressed of this scale and type.</p> <p>STARS are also commenting on developments to make new sites liveable by design.</p>	<p>CF, BS & LT to follow up with HDTM colleagues in Sunnyside</p>
7.	<p>Strawberry Line Sponsorship AE: Reached out to local businesses such as Thatchers Cider.</p>	

	<p>Would like to reinstate the old Congresbury platform.</p> <p>Strawberry Line Society seeking sponsorship, local quarry in Cheddar donated hardcore for the work through Kings School, which was delivered in a month.</p> <p>Any known businesses who may want to sponsor, let AE know.</p>	
8.	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social Prescribing <p>KT – Active Travel Social Prescribing targeting people to get back on their bikes, get healthy and build confidence. 7 Volunteers will be going for led ride training including KT. The rides prioritise inactive, health conditions, people who have experienced mental health crisis. Health professionals will be suggesting who might be good people to engage.</p> <p>If the Forum Members would like to get involved in volunteering please contact Kira.Thorpe@n-somerset.gov.uk</p> <p>Couch to 50k programme will be followed with weekly contact on Monday at 6.30pm, then participants will also ride twice per week.</p> <p>North Somerset Better Health Website Link: https://www.betterhealthns.co.uk/information/cycling-together/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BSIP Consultation <p>No imminent consultation from BSIP. BS does chase the team for improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strawberry Line Counters <p>Counter not working at present, proposal for SLS to take over data collection. Manufacturer responsive to fixing but requires some data to be sent to them first which NSC are doing. Alternative AI cameras are on the Strawberry Line elsewhere.</p> <p>LH: No signage on the Seafront</p> <p>TM: Southern Exit to Weston Station – No signage or facilities for crossing towards WsM town centre or even the Northern Platform.</p> <p>Police Road Traffic Action Group reporting dangerous driving. Details to be provided. Update: Weston train station receives £5.5m for upgrade project Weston Mercury</p> <p>Next Meeting – Portishead October</p>	<p>BS to provide a summary of cycle route data for next meeting</p> <p>BS to nudge Seafront Team</p>