Cycle Forum Meeting Notes: 24th October 2012, 6pm, CR3

1. Introductions/Apologies

Attendees:

Cllr Gittings (Chair)

Cllr Duveen

Simon Beasley (RBC)

Emma Baker (RBC)

Michele Atkins (GREN)

Keith Elliott (RCC)

Adrian Lawson (RCC)

Richard Pearson (RCC)

Apologies:

Cllr Page Cllr Willis

Alex McKnight (Sustrans)

2. Minutes from 18th July 2012

- Following on from the previous minutes, SB gave an update on Reading Station works and outlined the intention of the 20mph report taken to TMAP in September 2012.
- The 20mph report was intended as a position statement, which reviewed media releases, reported what we have done to date and outlined our aim of balancing different road user needs
- SB informed the Forum that initiatives to encourage sustainable travel and improve the local environment in the School Road area are being considered. In addition, a 20mph zone is being considered as part of the Eastern Area Study.

3. Issues raised by Forum members (standard item)

a. Thames Path Surfacing

• Forum members requested that excess material is swept away from the barriers along the Thames Towpath as the build up of material is hazardous.

ACTION - Parks were informed and work is now complete.

b. Henley Road - Road Markings

- Forum members asked for parking restrictions in cycle lanes to reduce the number of cars obstructing the lanes.
- SB outlines that this would involve a consultation process which would be advertised in the national press and potentially result in objections.
- Footway parking is a moving traffic offence enforceable by Thames Valley Police.
- There is a trial in Tilehurst being consulted upon whereby vehicles may receive a Penalty Charge Notice for parking on the footway
- The Forum discussed the effect of discretionary road markings on Berkeley Avenue naturally reducing vehicle speeds as also seen on Tilehurst Road.
- AL raised issues with vehicles parking outside the shop on Berkeley Avenue.

ACTION - RBC to host a junction workshop in December, including introduction to design principles

ACTION - RBC to circulate report on mean traffic speeds

c. Cycling on Footways - Andrew Peach Debate

Debate noted

• EB informed the group that RBC was liaising with TVP to set-up a meeting to discuss opportunities to offer cycle training as an alternative to Fixed Penalty Notices for cyclists caught riding on non-designated footways

d. NCN5 Maintenance

• Forum members requested that the Kings Meadow path between Kennet Mouth and the end of the woodland area is swept. This request was passed to parks for action

e. Balmore Park Signing

• A request was made for signing in Balmore Park as a result of improved access.

ACTION/Post Meeting Note - Signs are been designed are and due to be installed in February.

f. Vastern Road Lighting

• A request was received for improved lighting under Vastern Road Bridge. This was upgrade prior to the Cycle Forum meeting.

g. George Street - Update

 SB informed the group that officers were considering options for cycle facilities on George Street, including the removal of guard railing and one lane of traffic

h. Crossing Facilities (carried forward from July)

- The group discussed continuing cycle lanes through refuge islands rather than stopping them prior to the pinch point.
- RBC will relook at the markings on Peppard Road and continue the lanes through the island

4. Updated cycle strategy actions chart (standard item)

Updated chart circulated prior to the meeting

ACTION - EB to add a column into the spreadsheet outlining the design stage

5. Local Sustainable Transport Fund

• The group discussed the new DfT campaign 'THINK! Cyclist' and opportunities to promote the campaign on VMS and through other channels

a. Town Hall Square

- EB gave an update on Town Hall Square improvements, including cycle parking
- Forum members raised the issue of lack of cycle facilities from Butter Market to Town Hall Square

b. Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge

• EB informed the group that the bridge is likely to be delivered towards the end of the LSTF programme and will possibly be suspended like it's sister bridge at J11 to help overcome landing issues.

c. Cycle Improvements

- Lighting improvements along cycle track between Wensley Road and Southcote Farm Lane to support links to school scheme.
- Ongoing work in east area and hospital/university, plans circulated post meeting
- Forum members requested an ASL at the Eldon Road/London Road junction

d. Supporting Initiatives

- i. Cycle Development Officer Programme
- ii. Workplace Cycle Challenge
- iii. Bike It/Volunteer Programme

- EB gave an update on the various soft measures, including Bike It and the Workplace Cycle Challenge
- EB reported that 120 pupils cycled to Caversham Primary on a day when a bike breakfast was offered

ACTION - EB to circulate feedback from initial workshop

ACTION - EB to circulate overview results from cycle challenge

6. AOB

1. Forum members requested an update on cycle hire at the next meeting and more workshops

7. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 30th January 2013, CR2

Agenda Item	Action	Expected
3a	Inform Parks and action	Complete
3b	RBC to host junction workshop	Complete
3b	RBC to circulate report to mean traffic speeds	With Minutes
3e	RBC to install cycle signs in Balmore Park	February
4	RBC to add design stage column to progress spreadsheet	Complete
4	Circulate updated action chart before meeting	Ongoing
5	RBC to circulate feedback from initial workshop	With Minutes
5	RBC to circulate overview results from cycle challenge	With Minutes