

## MEETING NOTE

### Reading Cycle Forum

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 @ 18:30 (TEAMS)**

<b>Attendance:</b>	Cllr Paul Gittings (Chair) RBC Cllr Jacopo Lanzoni RBC Susan Children Kathleen Heath John Lee Jake Walker Brian Oatway	Brian Morley David Vazquez Chris Maddocks James Penman Miriam Fuertes James Turner	WSP RBC RBC RBC RBC
<b>Apologies:</b>	Cllr Adele Barnett-Ward RBC Cllr James Moore RBC	Cllr Tony Page Cllr Rob White Emma Street	RBC RBC

<b>No:</b>	<b>Item:</b>	<b>Action:</b>
<b>1.</b>	<p><b>Welcome and Apologies:</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone and ran through any actions from the previous meeting.</p>	
<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Active Travel Scheme Update:</b></p> <p><b>Shinfield Road:</b> RBC &amp; WSP ran through an update of the Shinfield Road scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Trial holes undertaken to check for utility services and diversions needed</li> <li>Detailed design completed by WSP</li> <li>Land acquisition to be completed - working with UoR</li> <li>Road Safety Audit - Stage 2 underway</li> <li>Construction to be undertaken by RBC's DLO team and to commence from Sept 2022</li> <li>Scheduled completion - Spring 2023</li> </ul> <p>The detailed design drawing for Shinfield Road along with an updated programme will be uploaded to the RBC website later in the summer.</p> <p><b>Bath Road - Castle Hill:</b> RBC presented a quick update on the work including surveys undertaken to-date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding of £1.3m awarded</li> <li>Concept designs produced based on OS Mapping</li> <li>Topographical Survey commissioned to enable detailed design</li> <li>C2 Utility Service Search commissioned</li> <li>Traffic Surveys Commissioned</li> <li>Initial Engagement Exercise undertaken with 172 responses to online survey and drop in event held in Carey St                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– 70% Support or Strongly Support for the scheme (online survey)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>David (WSP) then presented concept maps of the Castle Hill-Bath Road scheme. It is important to note the drawings are in early concept stage</p>	JT/MF

	<p>format and will be developed significantly as more detail (inc.. details of the topo survey, traffic survey data ) is forthcoming.</p> <p>There was significant discussion on the scheme and a large number of questions were raised. These have all been recorded and will be documented to be taken in to account along with the analysis of the survey as the scheme design develops.</p> <p>RBC introduced the new Active Travel Officer Mark Lyford who will be working for RBC 3 days a week up to the end of the year and encouraged members to get in contact with Mark to discuss any relevant topics.</p> <p>Mark Lyford: <a href="mailto:mark.lyford@sustrans.org.uk">mark.lyford@sustrans.org.uk</a></p>	
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Cycle Hub Update:</b></p> <p>RBC is still working with the landlord (Primark) and its own legal team on developing and signing the lease agreement. Officers are also working with colleagues on internal fit out and vinyl's. An order has been placed with Falco for the cycle parking racks and these are scheduled for delivery and installation in October with the hub opening shortly after.</p> <p>The cycle hub will be a secure enclosed public bicycle parking facility open 7 days a week (hours tbc but envisage 7am to 7pm).</p> <p>The venue is large enough to engage other type of activities with some of the organisations and attendees to the cycle forum involved in. JT noted interest from Kat Heath and Kidical Mass in the hub and will include in future discussions.</p> <p>Conversations on the long-term funding and sustainability of the hub were had and suggested these conversations develop further once the scheme is in operation.</p>	<p>JT</p>
<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Traffic Management Scheme Update:</b></p> <p>James Penman presented the latest Traffic Management Requested Schemes List which were circulated with the agenda. JP noted that all schemes on the list are currently unfunded, however RBC continue to seek funding opportunities to ensure more schemes are progressed.</p> <p>The meeting attendees recorded their frustration that the list of schemes, which was prioritised 5 years ago and includes some smaller schemes (quick wins) showed no progress, despite that amount of development and potential CiL/S106 and LTP Grant Funding available. JP explained that there is often very strict criteria on what CiL and S106 money could be spent on. John Lee agreed to review the scheme prioritisation list as will RBC Officers and will report updates to Traffic Management Sub-Committee.</p>	<p>JL &amp; JP</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Any other Business</b></p> <p><b>Reading Cycle Festival:</b></p> <p>The Reading Cycle Festival is taking place this year on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September and is run by Avanti Cycling. Last year RBC made a financial contribution to the running but had no formal presence at the event. Post meeting JT has confirmed to Avanti that RBC will provide a level of funding for this year's event.</p>	

	<p>The 2022 event will also be supported with attendance by RBC's Active Travel Officer and Sustrans.</p> <p>RBC and Avanti to discuss comms and marketing for this event.</p> <p><b>Greyfriars Road Cycle-lane closure:</b></p> <p>John Lee raised the issue of the closure of the contra-flow cycle lane on Greyfriars Road and lack of alternative diversionary options. RBC officers will investigate.</p> <p><b>Forbury Road Cycle Link:</b></p> <p>Jake Walker raised an issue with the Forbury Road cycle link where there is a confusing set of direction markers. The traffic lights on the approach to the roundabout here there is only 1 loop working. RBC to investigate.</p> <p><b>Active Travel Tranche 1 Schemes - Sidmouth Street</b></p> <p>The tranche 1 active travel schemes were discussed and noted that all those currently still in place have been made permanent except for the Sidmouth Street scheme which is currently being consulted on and the results will be reported to Traffic Management Sub Committee. The scheme will also have had a positive impact on the air quality and volume of traffic on Sidmouth Street.</p> <p><b>Cycling on Broad Street:</b></p> <p>The prohibiting of cycling on Broad Street was discussed. Brian Oatway made the point against cycling the whole length of Broad Street noting it was raised at the Older Peoples Working Group (approx. 50-100 people) there was as good as 100% opposition to it being introduced. This has previously been consulted on and there are no plans to reopen this at the current time.</p> <p><b>Shared Path Discussion:</b></p> <p>Brian Oatway also raised an issue as an example of a more regular occurrence where the resurfacing and new smooth surface on part of the K&amp;A canal path between New Town and the town centre has encouraged cyclists to go even faster and at times uncomfortably close to pedestrians on the narrower sections of the shared path.</p> <p>Transport officers could consider installing some cycle considerably notices on this and other sections of shared path.</p>	<p>JT/MF,</p> <p>JT/MF, ML, KR</p> <p>CM/JT</p> <p>JT/MF JP</p> <p>JT/MF</p>
<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting:</b></p> <p>The next meeting of the CAST (Cleaner Air and Safer Transport) forum is scheduled for <b>Thu 8<sup>th</sup> September</b> and all on this forum are invited.</p> <p>The proposal is for the next cycle forum to take place in November with a date TBC (as well as decision on in-person or TEAMS meeting)</p> <p>It was requested that the agenda is issue as a draft with invitation to members for additional agenda items and this was noted.</p>	<p><b>All to note</b></p>