

## SEVENOAKS CYCLING STRATEGY WORKING GROUP

Monday 20 November 2017 at 1:00pm

Conference Room, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks

### **Present:**

Doug Ellish (DE)	Sevenoaks Cycling Forum
Cllr. A. Eyre	Sevenoaks Town Council
Simon Taylor (ST)	SDC Planning Officer (Planning Policy)
Katie Cullen (KC)	KCC Transport Planner (Cycling)
Martin Gills (MG)	Sevenoaks Cycling Forum

### **Apologies:**

Reg Oakley (RG)	Sevenoaks Cycling Forum
Neil Proudfoot (NP)	Sevenoaks Cycle Forum
Andrew Michaelides (AM)	Sevenoaks Cycling Forum
Cllr. J. Edwards-Winser	Group Chairman (SDC)
Tony Clayton (TC)	Sevenoaks Cycling Forum

		Action by
7.	<b>Apologies for absence</b>  See above.	
72.	<b>Notes from previous meeting</b>  Notes of the Sevenoaks Cycling Strategy Working Group on 13 July 2017 were received.	
73.	<b>Matters arising/update (including actions from previous meetings)</b>  Matters arising are dealt with during the meeting.	
74.	<b>Cycling Strategy Route 6: Otford to Bat &amp; Ball Cycle Route Update</b>  KC informed the Group that further work was required on the route, following a meeting on site with Sevenoaks Cycle Forum members. There are still concerns regarding the route over the M26 and making it safe for cyclists. Further discussions involved at looking at providing alternative routes to avoid Bat and Ball junction by re-routing via Hospital Road.  It was suggested that a map could be provided of the route for KC to annotate with any proposed changes following further investigation and site visits.  Additional information was received from Cllr. Edwards-Winser following the meeting:	ST to speak to GIS re providing a map of R6.

	<p><i>Route 6:- It is obviously impracticable to have a route marked between Bat &amp; Ball and the Vine. Whichever road is chosen, there are cars parked both on the roadside and pavement all day and until alternative parking is found for them, in my view, cycle lanes up the hill are a non-starter. Could we please concentrate on the easy bit (Otford to Sainsbury's) first or even stretch it to Bat &amp; Ball, but not via Cramptons Rd. which is dangerous for car users in the rush hours, let alone cyclists. I would also suggest that we start it at Bubblestone Rd. and not the pond.</i></p>	
75.	<p><b>Cycling Strategy Route 5: Off-road Route between Oakdene Road and Otford Road via Wildfowl Reserve (Update)</b></p> <p>Difficulties were highlighted regarding conservation issues with wildfowl nature reserve as well as the height between the proposed route from Bat and Ball junction. Cllr Eyre suggested that this route could be looked at through the Draft Northern Sevenoaks Masterplan and alternatives proposed.</p>	
76.	<p><b>Cycling Strategy Route 1: East/West Cycle Route (Update)</b></p> <p>To progress this route, KC suggested that this route was looked at in stages, rather than as a whole. This would allow parts of the route to be delivered quickly. The Group decided that this was a sensible solution and looked at further.</p> <p>Additional comments were received from Cllr. Edwards-Winser following the meeting:</p> <p><i>Route 1 - Montreal park to Wilderness, the cost is exorbitant for a route that comprises a few signs and conversion of Public Rights of Way into dual usage. This is an internal KCC matter and should not be reflected in the overall cost.</i></p>	
77.	<p><b>Local Plan Update</b></p> <p>ST provided a update on the Local Plan. The Local Plan Issues and Options consultation was held for nine weeks from 3<sup>rd</sup> August to 5<sup>th</sup> October. Surveys were sent to every household across the District and consultation drop-in sessions throughout September. The Issues and Options consultation was well received, with a number of residents responding to the consultation and visiting our drop-in sessions. An update of the Local Plan and feedback from the consultation would be provided to the Planning Advisory Committee on 23<sup>rd</sup> November (<a href="http://cds.sevenoaks.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1">http://cds.sevenoaks.gov.uk/ieDocHome.aspx?bcr=1</a>). ST</p>	

	<p>encouraged the Group to continue engaging with the Local Plan process going forward.</p> <p>Further Local Plan updates will also be provided to the Planning Advisory Committee in January and March, where a draft Local Plan consultation will be consulted upon in the Spring 2018.</p>	
78.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>KC provided the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maidstone Cycling Forum is currently reaching out to other organisations to understand best practice for cycling routes</li> <li>• A joint Dartford &amp; Gravesham Cycling Forum has been set up</li> <li>• There is a proposed trial scheme for “dockless” bikes - discussions are still on going.</li> </ul> <p>ST notified the Group that Oxted Parish Council are looking at producing a Neighbourhood Plan. Further information on Neighbourhood Planning can be found on the Council’s website (<a href="http://www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/locaplan">www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/locaplan</a>).</p> <p>Cllr Edwards-Winser provided additional comments following the meeting:</p> <p><i>At the last JTB it was suggested by Cllr. David Brazier, that the Working Group should concentrate their efforts on links between towns and villages and not within the conurbations which have grown up through the ages and most of which are unsuitable for shared usage.</i></p> <p><i>It was also suggested by a KCC highways engineer on a recent visit to Oxted to discuss their traffic management plans, that a work-around for the expense of putting a raised parapet on the M26 bridge, would be to terminate the cycle lanes each side of the bridge and install notices directing cyclists to dismount.</i></p>	
79.	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next JTB meeting is due to be held in <b>March 2018</b>. It is proposed that the Group meet in February 2018 to discuss progress.</li> </ul>	ST to arrange next meeting and circulate dates to the Group.