

A10 Corridor Cycle Campaign Meeting

at TTP, Melbourn Science Park, Cambridge Rd, Melbourn, SG8 6EE
on Wednesday March 23rd 2016, 7.30 – 9pm

Present: see separate attendance list.

1) Welcome and apologies

Apologies: Erika Bosman, Matt Chandler, Pat Hammond, John Crawforth, Matt Chandler, Mark Wyer, Stuart Rushby, Dan Tancock, Tony Hunter, Lisbeth Bloom.

Susan welcomed everyone, including new members and thanked Mike Prior-Jones and Chris Hole from TTP for kindly hosting the meeting.

2) Minutes of meeting on Jan 13th

There were no corrections to minutes from last meeting, which were approved.

3) Updates on infrastructure:

i) Work in progress – Foxton, Shepreth, Harston

- Patrick will no longer be directly involved with A10 Corridor route as he is working on the new Chisholm Trail.
- Resurfacing work from Shepreth to Foxton is now almost complete; the work team had been diverted to another project at Frog End before the end of the financial year but will return to complete resurfacing work. Cambs County Council (Cambs CC) have applied for and are awaiting a permit from Network Rail to start work on the level crossing section. Cambs CC has agreed that contractors can repair pathway from Frog End to Shepreth Lakes, where weeds are growing through, while they are working in the area.
- With Harston residents' permission, boundary hedges along the A10 have been trimmed back to widen available pathway.
- Harston residents provided feedback to the original pathway design proposed by Cambs CC and minor changes have been made. There will be a controlled crossing around Church Lane and some of the islands along the main road have been moved. At the Cambridge end of the village, traffic lights will include a cycle/pedestrian phase to allow people to cross to new path.
- Cambs CC will hold final consultation with residents to ensure all are in agreement. Final plans should be available in May/June and construction should start in autumn 2016.

ii) Request to City Deal Executive Board for funding remainder of A10 scheme

- Susan has asked City Deal Executive Board to fund route between Dunsbridge Turnpike and Melbourn Science Park entrance.
- She has also asked them for funding to complete the pathway to the Herts border. Officers will bring their report to the next City Deal meeting on June 16. (City Deal would not fund the A505 bridge.)
- Meanwhile Cambs CC has applied for funding through the Local Enterprise Partnership, as part of the Growth Deal for the Melbourn-Royston path section. This demonstrates that CambsCC is making a concerted effort to complete the scheme.
- Patrick confirmed a crossing point over A10 at Dunsbridge Turnpike is still planned, but is likely to be nearer Frog End junction rather than preferred Weaver's Shed, due to road lighting issues.

iii) A505 bridge

- Fiona confirmed she had asked John Gourd (Site Planning and Services Director) at Johnson Matthey for data on numbers of employees cycling to work, where from, distance cycled etc to support a bid for funding A505 bridge and is awaiting his reply.
- Herts CC has surveyed land to establish best options. Bridge 'landing site' on Cambs side is still under discussion with the landowner though various design options are available.
- Susan confirmed she and Patrick met Dan Tancock (Herts CC), Fiona Hill and Tony Hunter (Herts County Councillors) to discuss the bridge and next steps needed to progress the project.

- Most obvious funding source for this cross-border project is Cambs & Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), as the LEP area includes both South Cambs and Royston. Herts CC, in consultation with Cambs CC will need to make representations to LEP, so must establish who to contact and what evidence they need to support case (apart from report and bridge design.) LEPs were created to promote economic growth in their local area, so it is important to show that local businesses are on board.
- Susan commented that Johnson Matthey (Royston) has been slow to engage, although they actively encourage their employees to cycle to work and we should approach them again.
- Tesco is another big Royston employer and Mike also suggested contacting Royston Chamber of Commerce.
- Sartorius Stedim (TAP Biosystems) has been very helpful and Astra Zeneca has provided workforce data to City Deal for employees living in Royston and working in Melbourn.
- Susan commented that the previous letter (supporting application for City Deal funding) had obtained more signatures from Cambs than Herts companies. A10 CCC could produce a further letter detailing proposed bridge and ask Royston businesses to offer their support. Employees who currently cycle to work (or would like to) could also ask their employers to support the Campaign. **Susan to draw up a letter.**
- Francis added that workforce data from the bigger employers on employees cycling to work would be useful.
- Francis asked what individuals could do and Susan suggested writing lobbying letters to Herts County Councillors showing demand and need for a bridge (and connecting cycleway).

4) Maintenance

i) Wildflower verge seeding by A10 CCC volunteers

- A group of volunteers from the campaign helped to re-seed the verge around Harston Mill on March 16th with wildflower seed supplied by the Ecology Officer from S Cambs District Council.

ii) Self-maintenance options or corporate sponsorship?

- Cost of maintaining pathway is low, but County Council has no budget for this. Volunteers would be willing to help with siding out, hedge cutting, repairing holes etc, but possible injuries to themselves or the public would prevent this.
- Susan suggested looking for corporate sponsorship – annual cost of good quality maintenance is probably around £5,000. Jose H thought Parish Councils could also contribute in their local area. **Susan to draw up costs and develop an approach.**

5) Community interaction

i) Annual Awareness Ride, Sunday May 15th

- Francis offered to co-ordinate the Ride and Susan confirmed we could ask for more volunteers to marshal and help with organisation via email and note on the website. Thank you to Francis. **Susan and Francis to liaise.**
- Susan had already conferred with Phillimore who are happy to host on May 15. **Tina offered to organize teas.**

ii) Local Sustainable Transport Fund: Outspoken bike maintenance course, BMX shows, bike donations to schools in A10 Corridor area

- Funding was used to supply BMX bikes to local primary schools and encourage them to use the new cycle path. Further funding was used to employ Outspoken Training to deliver a bicycle maintenance course, known as 'The Bike Bank', to Melbourn Area Youth Development Youth Club over February half-term. This was the third round of the course for Melbourn area teens, resulting in accreditation and employable skills.

5) Any other business

- Susan advised that £20 had been donated by a Melbourn District councilor for the sponsored Santa ride.
- John R commented that the cycle path road markings beyond Harston were confusing and potentially dangerous. As a regular cycling commuter, Ian D agreed that they did not favour cyclists' safety.
- John M advised that he had attended a meeting on March 21st of a new group interested in establishing a safe cycling route between Bassingbourn and Royston.

6) Date of next meeting: June 7th, Sagentia, Harston Mill