



Derby Cycling Group – Members’ Meeting Minutes

7th January 2025

1 Present

Ian Dent (ID) - minutes, Jean Baird (JB) - chair, Tony Roelich (TR), James Bailey (JWB), Mark Norbury (MN)

2 Campaigns

2.1 Ride with Council Active Travel Team

Given the current weather, it was decided that a meeting with Mark Smith’s team instead of a ride may be a better solution. **JB** to agree date with Mark Smith. Likely to be during working hours.

2.2 Station Road Crossing

Still no crossing in place on Station Road in Mickleover. Tony Gordon has received an update from the Mickleover councillors that included a detailed plan of what is to be provided and an estimated start date of 13th Jan. The plan allays some worries in that the crossing will be a Toucan and will be sited very close to where the new cycle route leaves the new estate. Tony Roelich has made some suggestions for further improvements which have been passed to the Council but, due to the imminent start date, are unlikely to be considered.

Completed work to be reviewed in April.

<https://derbycyclinggroup.org.uk/site/station-road-mickleover-crossing/>

2.3 Duffield Road bus lane

After submitting feedback on the plans for the bus lane, we have received no feedback from the Council and there doesn’t appear to be any public update on the plans.

<https://derbycyclinggroup.org.uk/site/duffield-road-bus-lane-proposals/>

ID to monitor

2.4 Active Travel Map

ID to update online Active Travel Map and plan for how to update new changes involving membership. Secondary project to also review “recommended” routes. This is a large project so will take a few months to bring to fruition. <https://derbycyclinggroup.org.uk/site/active-travel-map/>

No progress since last meeting.

2.5 NCN barriers

Just one A frame barrier remains on NCN in Derby area (other restrictions remain – e.g. steep slopes, narrow sections). ID has documented the extensive improvements to the National Cycle Network in the Derby area and has asked Derby City Council to remove the one final A frame barrier on the NCN.

Owen Swift at Derby CC has been in contact with ID to say he is investigating the background and to see if there is local support for the removal of the barrier. There also needs to be funds to pay for the removal.

<https://derbycyclinggroup.org.uk/site/improvements-to-ncn-in-derby-area/>

ID to remain in contact with Owen Swift

2.6 Allestree Park rewilding

After discussion with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust and, via them, with Derby City Council, the suggestions made for improving cycle access to the Park and through the Park have been considered by the Parks and Transport teams at Derby City Council.

The results were not positive. It was concluded that the Park was too hilly to allow safe cycle routes and would not be used for commuting. Suggestions for improvements within the Park to improve roads around the Park were not seriously considered. There are possible plans to consider making Woodlands Lane a “quiet lane” although this doesn’t address the fundamental issue of it being too narrow for pedestrian / cycle use. There has also been very little consideration of travel to the Park from any direction but from Derby City (e.g. from Quarndon, Duffield, Belper,...).

Allestree Hall has now been sold and the new owners are in the process of fencing off the Hall and surrounding land.

<https://derbycyclinggroup.org.uk/site/allestree-park-rewilding/>

ID to challenge the Council's responses on the proposals and stay in contact with the relevant bodies.

2.7 A38 Junctions

No news on whether the A38 flyovers scheme is to proceed or not. There is scope to ask for the active travel aspects to be continued (and funded) by National Highways in the event that the scheme is cancelled. TR to write to his MP to suggest this.

Ongoing

<https://derbycyclinggroup.org.uk/site/A38-junctions/>

2.8 Provision for cycles on trains

Pedals (Nottingham cycle campaign group) have an ongoing campaign to try and get East Midlands Railway to improve the provision for cycles on their newest trains. **Martin Aldred** to investigate and propose how DCG can best support this campaign.

2.9 Cycle Parking stands in Derby

JB reported that some of the cycle stands are too wide for easy usage of locks. **JB** to check on what design of Sheffield stands or similar is implemented currently by Derby City Council.

2.10 Nottingham Road work

JWB to review work on Nottingham Road when complete and document his views. The meeting will then decide on how best to make use of this review.

2.11 Supermarket cycle parking

JB proposed a ride to visit a number of supermarkets around Derby to assess their cycle parking and then to write-up the results. **JB** to organise date for this ride.

2.12 Breadsall / Oakwood Lime Lane estate proposals

A significant estate is proposed for land near to Lime Lane in Oakwood for which planning permission was applied. Over 1400 objections resulted in the application being withdrawn. It has now been resubmitted with a deadline for further comments of 24th Jan. See 24/01023/OUT on Derby City Planning register.

An important aspect of the development is that it should have adequate cycle links from the estate particularly to the nearby Breadsall Greenway.

<https://derbycyclinggroup.org.uk/site/2024/08/lime-lane-breadsall-planning-application/>

2.13 A61 Toucan broken

The Toucan crossing over the A61 south of Little Eaton island is, once again, broken. This was installed by National Highways but the A61 is not a National Highways road and, therefore, getting the problems fixed is a nightmare. The intention is that the crossing will eventually be passed to Derbyshire County Council but the Council will not accept the crossing until it is 100% working and tested. The problems have been reported.

2.14 Police camera footage

MN reported on issues with getting action from Derbyshire Police on camera footage submitted and believes the Derbyshire approach is different to that of other police forces. MN to contact the Police Commissioner to try to get more action and to also understand any evidence that is necessary to submit alongside the camera footage to ensure that it is actioned by the police.

3 Communications

3.1 Digest

JWB to prepare latest digest when there is sufficient material

3.2 Newsletter

JB to progress newsletter focusing on understanding members' cycling experiences, cycle parking provision at supermarkets and review of Nottingham Road work. This to be targetted for March publication.

3.3 Active Travel Alliance

DCG is a member of the Alliance which has the goal of influencing the new regional mayor and her team. Agreed that DCG would continue as a member of the Alliance.

No activities since last meeting.

3.4 Active Travel Forum

Plans for restarting the Derby active travel forum are unclear. DCG believe that a local forum or similar is necessary to ensure good two way communication with the City Council. TR is in ongoing discussions with Derby City Council on this subject and will report back. TR to also write a short summary of the Active Travel Forum background for inclusion in forthcoming newsletter

3.5 Chesterfield Cycle Campaign

Chesterfield group have been in touch and provided DCG with their regular newsletter. We've agreed to circulate the newsletter to our membership and encourage anyone interested to join the Chesterfield group.

They are also keen to see a new meeting of the East Midlands Forum held. DCG would be supportive of this and have offered to contribute content to the meeting but another group will have to handle organising the event (DCG organised the last one).

<https://derbycyclinggroup.org.uk/site/2019/06/east-midlands-cycle-forum/>

ID to circulate Chesterfield newsletter to DCG membership

3.6 Ay Up Bikes

It was noted that Life Cycle Derby has now closed and that Ay Up Bikes has been formed to provide a replacement service for the Derby area. DCG agreed to help publicise Ay Up Bikes activities. **JWB** to post details of forthcoming basic maintenance events on the DCG Facebook page. **JB** to ask Ken Timmis to write a short piece to help publicise Ay Up Bikes on the DCG website and, maybe, newsletter.

4 Information

4.1 LCWIP

It is understood that Derby City Council are preparing a city focused LCWIP. No timescales or further information. Creation of a new version of the LCWIP would be a useful action for the local active travel forum.

4.2 Derbyshire Cycling Plan

This was launched in 2016 with the goal of making Derbyshire “the most connected county for cycling by 2030”. Discussion with the group responsible for the plan (Active Derbyshire) is that the various stakeholders do not see the plan as a priority and, instead, focus will be on schemes such as Walk Derbyshire. In the future, cycle related activities will be through involvement in the Active Travel Alliance. <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/transport-roads/transport-plans/sustainable-travel/cycling-walking-plans/cycling-and-walking-plans.aspx>

4.3 Markeaton Brook

Mike Wingfield has long standing proposals for extensive improvements to the area around Markeaton Brook. **JWB** to respond to Mike Wingfield and offer to help publicise the proposals with anyone interested encouraged to engage with Mike.