

Derby Cycling Group – Members Meeting Minutes

3rd December 2024

Present: Ian Dent, James W. Bailey, Martin Aldred, Ken Timmis, Jean Baird, Tony Roelich.

1. Discussion of toucan cited at Station Road, Mickelover. At the time of the meeting there was no progress, and we discussed that there was enough space for the design to incorporate a segregated cycle/pedestrian route. I note from the website that this has been updated from the 17th December and that work is due to commence January 2025. Watch that space...
2. Discussion about a campaign started by Pedals In Nottingham regarding cycles on trains. They need our/our members/ support. Please see <https://www.pedals.org.uk/pedalsemrcampaign/> for an outline of the argument, and also information on who to contact if you wish to protest. I do think this might be worthy to be brought to the attention of our members via digest/newsletter/website/ FB page.
3. Ian Dent has written to Carmel Swan about the last “A” frame on the Great Northern Greenway behind the Paddock Pub on Mansfield Rd. The answer was “this will cost money.” He was referred to Owen Swift, who is checking if the residents requested it? Ian to follow up with Owen: Status; ongoing.
4. Update on the ride of cycling facilities with Mark Smith—see minutes of members meeting 3rd September. There is no progress on this although contact has been made with Mark. This is not the best time of year for such a ride, and we discussed postponing it until the Spring. Ian Dent suggested that in the meantime we should try to organise a meeting with Mark to talk about issues with infrastructure. Jean Baird to action.
5. Ian Dent met with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust in relation to cycle paths in Allestree Park; the view was that it was “too hilly” for cycle paths, not something we might agree with? He was referred to Sandra Horner, Community Parks Officer at Derby City Council, in relation to providing a cycle route to get to the park. He proposed a path inside the park to run parallel with Woodlands Road/Lane. However the proposal seems to be to make the road a “quiet road” - and reduce the speed limit, currently 60mph. Ian will be continuing this discussion with the relevant parties involved.
6. Life Cycle has closed: Ken Timmis informed us of the intention for volunteers to set up a group <https://www.ayupbikes.co.uk/>, a Derby Bike Co-op, in conjunction with Derby Refugee Solidarity to continue the work of Life Cycle. They are looking for premises and funding, initially through grants. To consider publicising their existence through our membership.
7. DCG member Mike Wingfield has contacted James about a cycle/walking path along Markeaton Brook. We note a number of issues in relation to this. However there is some overlap with the University of Derby who have some plans to put a route along the brook from its Kedleston Campus? James to update on his response to Mike W.

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8.Thanks to Ian for circulating the Cycle Chesterfield Newsletter: there does seem to be certain differences between us as clubs/groups. Do we wish to consider this once everyone has had a chance to read the Newsletter?

9.As regards the East Midlands Cycle Forum, incorporating for example; pedals Nottingham, Leicester, Bolsover...we are not going to be in a position to organise it although we have done so in the past. Ian is to reply to this request.

10. Item about cycle parking in the city centre: the suitability of Sheffield stands, in particular the 'designer variety' that are too broad to allow a standard D-Lock to go round the stand and thru the frame and back wheel. Jean B did a recce; idea is to ask the council what the policy is for future provision in terms of stands and the relocation of Spokesafe to East St., where cycling is prohibited.Action is on Jean.

11. James Bailey is concerned that the new cycling provision on Nottingham Road is not the most beneficial for cyclists or cycling.This is a scheme that DCG has monitored closely.The action is for James to review and write up; then for the meeting to discuss particular shortcomings and how these might be remedied going forward, so that if we do find things wanting we are also suggesting a possible 'fix'.

12. Mark Norbury has written a short article about his encounter with Aldi parking merchandise in the space containing the cycle stands rendering them next to useless.Jean Baird has designed a route to check out the cycle stands at other Aldi stores in Derby in order to organise a ride that is also a fact-finding mission about the situation cycle stands at Aldi _ but given that Mark has had his complaint happily resolved we might wish to include some other examples of Supermarket chains? Plan of action to follow: Mark Norbury/Jean Baird.

13.Tony Roelich brought us up to date with the plans for a new Derby City Council Active Travel Forum.Action Tony R.