**Ryedale Cycle Forum - Minutes Tuesday 17th September 2024**

**Present:-**

Helen Gundry (KMS Environment Group)

Louise McCaul (Highways England)

Keisha Moore (NYC Transport Planning))

Fay Snowden (NYC Regeneration Officer)

Jackie Speakman (NYC Regeneration Officer)

Dom Barry (North York Moors National Park Authority)

Billa Duggal (NYC Community Development)

Karen Atkinson (NYC Community Development Officer)

Graeme Matthew (CTC/Cycling UK)

Carrie Brackstone (Pickering CIC)

Craig Newcombe (Cyclist)

**1. Intro and apologies:**

Apologies from Michael Cleary, Howard Wallis, Craig Nattress, Mike Potter. Welcome to Billa Duggall, of NYC Community Development team

**2. Minutes from last meeting**:

No matters arising

**3. Highways England report**

Thanks to Craig Newcombe and Mike Potter for passing on a suggestion about the A64 crossing at Stockton on the Forest, where a short section of extra cycle path would afford much better visibility. Though this is not on HE current scheme list, Louise said her team will consider it as soon as they can.

Louise McCaul (HE) shared details of a proposed improvement of the discontinuous road-side cycle way between West Scaggleton and Brambling Fields, which would include adding a pedestrian island, and is ear-marked “WCH”, which means to be suitable for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders. HE are waiting for their next Rural Investment Scheme funding from Central Government, and have to prepare schemes and then bid for them.

**4.** **Future plans for Ryedale Cycle Forum and GetRyedaleCycling.com website,**

It was agreed to support a website relaunched by Jamie McBain of Pennine Website Development, and it is hoped to continue with a similar name “Get Ryedale Cycling Forum”. Those present agreed that merging the name of the forum with the name of the website was a good way forward.

A NYC “Inspire” community development grant will be used to fund the new website, with funding applicant being Pickering CIC, and application prepared by HG. The Forum will operate under very similar Terms of Reference as since 2016, just with all references to Ryedale District Council having been deleted. ToR will be circulated prior to next meeting, for checking by all.

Carrie Brackstone and Dom Barry offered photos for the new website.

**5. Market towns Circular**

Keisha Moore explained that the NYC Inception Study for the Market Town Circular now has a proposed route, including on-highway and off-highway sections, and that they are waiting for their civil engineer consultant to provide the background research and details. The full study will have short, medium and long-term aims. The full study can then be used for further funding bids, to get design funding towards those sections most likely to attract Department for Transport funding. However, NYC already have a list of designed schemes in other parts of North Yorkshire, awaiting DfT funding, so no current timeline for further work on Market Town Circular.

Keisha said that NYC Highways are awaiting the promised Rural Active Travel Guidance from the Department for Transport, and are hoping that this will make it easier to apply for a secure DfT funds. The new York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority Mayor is supportive of active travel, so it is hoped that he will make some funding available.

Helen Gundry reported that the Paths for Everyone Steering Group (part of Ryedale Environment Group) are continuing to work towards sections of route at Broughton Bank, Hovingham, and Helmsley. There was a very useful meeting, recently, with Castle Howard Estate. There will be a wider stakeholder information TEAMS meeting on 24th October. Contact Keisha Moore for the meeting link.

**6. Route developments within Malton and Norton, and rail service developments:**

Keisha said that the LCWIP for Malton and Norton had not produced any short-term improvements.

Craig Newcombe said that there is a new housing development planned near Rainbow Lane, for 200 houses, so it would be good to send in suggestions at this point about the developer funding connections to the Malton-Pickering cycle route, and also improving the surface of the stoned path parallel to the A64, which links into the Malton-Pickering route, and which many people use for cycling, jogging and walking.

**7. Pickering Cycle Hub update**

Carrie Brackstone said that the opening event for the pump track at Pickering Community Park had gone really well, with lots of children, of all ages, taking part and looking after each other. Pickering Town CIC are now looking to install the Newbridge Park cycle route.

The Roose cycle project is also going well (Ryedale Out of School Educations), both for formal referrals and as an out of school hours drop-in, and they always welcome unwanted bicycles.

**8. Wish list for new routes and facilities** – it was agreed that this should be one of the features of the new website

**9. Engaging with the Govt Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy –** it was agreed that this agenda item should be included in Keisha’s report for each cycle forum meeting. It has been a standing agenda item since before Keisha’s job was created.

**10. 2024/25 events, visitor information, marketing, and website information**

Individuals to please check and inform Craig.Nattress@northyorks.gov.uk of any events for current website. Craig to be consulted about including events information on the new website.

Craig Newcombe commented that the Grand Prix event will no longer be held at Ampleforth, and that the organisers are looking for another venue. A few suggestions were made and Dom Barry (National Park) will contact Bob Howden (event organiser) to offer help in venue search.

**11. Ideas for offering cyclist training, and useful cycling-as-transport ideas**

Jackie Speakman reported that the Pickering Town CIC balance bike provision in the Pickering Infants, St Josephs and Thorton-le-Dale school has gone very well. This included training staff and providing the 6 balance bikes for each of the schools.

Further information needed on cycle training programmes, now that Jackie Speakman’s Sustainable Travel Office role has been axed by North Yorkshire Council.

**12. Any other business**

**Next meeting: Tuesday 10th December 2024, Tuesday 11th March 2025**