

## **MINUTES OF THE CYCLING DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022**

Present: Councillors R. Playle (Chairman), P. Barlow and C. Lager.

L. Flavell (Economic Development Officer, Braintree District Council)  
G. Kennedy (Planning Officer)

### **1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**

**It was agreed to appoint Councillor Playle as Chairman and to defer a decision as to Vice Chairman.**

### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Atwill and Rajeev who were travelling abroad.

**It was agreed that in view of the problems getting a quorum for the meeting that a recommendation would be made via the Planning and Transport Committee that the membership of the Cycling Development Working Group be increased.**

### **3. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> March 2022 were agreed.

**It was agreed to make contact with the Witham Cycling Club to seek to co-opt a member onto the Group.**

### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **5. CYCLING MAP FOR WITHAM**

The Cycling Map was considered.

A possible river crossing and cycleway project had been recently discussed by the Town Centre Regeneration Group and a possible route had been identified. National Highways' plans in the Whetmead area had still to be finalised.

Members welcomed the news that the District Council had appointed consultants to carry out a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) who would be looking at key routes in the town and potential links to Kelvedon and Hatfield Peverel. The Town Council as a stakeholder would be involved in consultations and the Group offered assistance.

Key points on the map were identified such as the ransom strip between Woodend and Lodge Farm estates, problems at the railway station, conflict with pedestrians at Moat Farm Chase and the lack of width on the rail trail.

### **6. BRAINTREE DISTRICT CYCLING ACTION PLAN**

Proposals relating to Witham from the Braintree District Cycling Action Plan along with key recommendations were received.

## **7. BRAINTREE DISTRICT CYCLING STRATEGY 2021**

The strategy was a five year implementation plan used as an overall reference. Quick achievements would be carried out in the first year and thereafter more complex or expensive projects. There were ambitions to take this to 2030 in conjunction with the Climate Change Strategy and BDC's Local Plan. BDC and ECC are working closely together.

## **8. ACTIONS**

**It was an ambition of the Group to meet with the consultants to discuss the LCWIP.**

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Members agreed that residents ought to be encouraged to cycle. Mention was made of the Tour de Witham event and a suggestion was made that something similar could be considered by the Town Council involving the local cycling shop. The next pop-up stall would include police post code stamping bikes.

**It was agreed to wait for details concerning LCWIP before calling the next meeting.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2.45 p.m.

GK/19.8.2022