

MINUTES OF THE CYCLING DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD 15TH MARCH 2022 VIA ZOOM

Present: Councillors R. Playle (Chairman), K. Atwill (Vice Chairman), P. Barlow, C. Lager and S. Rajeev.

G. Kennedy (Planning Officer)

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

It was agreed to appoint Councillor Playle as Chairman and Atwill as Vice Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE & GROUP REMIT

It was **agreed** that the Mission Statement on the Terms of Reference should be amended to read **'To develop a strategy to improve Witham's cycleways and associated infrastructure with stakeholders, public and other third parties to achieve end to end cycleways.'**

It was considered inappropriate at this time to formally seek a co-optee from the Witham Cycling and Running Club but it was hoped that in the future they might wish to give input.

5. BRAINTREE DISTRICT CYCLING ACTION PLAN

It was noted that there had been a review in 2021 (Members would be circulated with this document).

6. ACTIONS

It was suggested that in the light of the recent refusal to grant planning consent for the cycleway in Collingwood Road, it was imperative to agree an alternate route. A proposed route from the Forest Road development across to Motts Lane, through the industrial estate at Eastways under the Catholic Bridge and onto the Blackwater Rail Trail was promoted. Members recognised that it was not an attractive route through Eastways particularly at night.

It was agreed to circulate the map from the District Cycling Action Plan with the proposed route marked on it.

The importance of consultation was key.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Witham Cycling and Running Club informing them of the Cycling Development Working Group and that their comments on proposals would be welcomed.

The importance of an up to date cycle route map was stressed so that analysis could show where there was a lack of cycleways.

It was agreed to obtain an up to date cycle route map.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.25 p.m.

GK/16.3.2022