23/09/21 - Transport Topic Group Notes



Issues & Actions (in red):

Roads

Future Chippenham – A petition is linked <u>here</u>. AN and Helen S have also started a Crowdfunder to raise initial £6K (stretch target £25K) for legal challenge of plan and process (predetermination from HIF). Link <u>here</u>. More information on WCA page <u>here</u>. **ALL please sign and share petition, and pledge/share Crowdfunder**.

Stonehenge Tunnel – Open letter sent to PM, plea for new approach – story with letter linked here. Should TTG forward to WC? WC are not now directly involved and may just say it's waiting redetermination by gov't. KF supports sending to councillors with responsibility for climate change: emphasis that Wilts has interest re CO2e emissions. WC heritage policies also relevant. **AN to forward to Clirs Clewer, McClelland, Botterill, Reay.**

Wiltshire Council

Discussion on the manifesto from KF linked here, and who in WC can really champion urgent decarbonization of transport with us. Robert Murphy (Principal Transport & Development Manager, Sustainable Transport), provided a constructive submission to all-party parliamentary group on Cycling & walking, witness evidence from Sustrans, accessibility groups etc – linked here.

AN to write to him for dialogue/ collaboration with WCA TTG (DONE).

JS, CR and Graeme M (WCA SG) have had meaningful conversations with Tamara Reay (Portfolio Holder for Climate Change). Past interactions, and a tweet here from Mark McClelland (now Cabinet Transport lead) underline the challenge! Clewer may have put MM in for hard decisions – RC in favour of Melksham bypass, not of Park & Ride. [Post-meeting: AN wrote to Dublin Cycling Campaign to check on the tweet.]

JWa and MW will ask questions at next Cabinet.

WC Climate Strategy Consultation

General - Please sign and share WCA e-petition on WC Climate Strategy, now more easily shareable <u>here</u>. And see WCA 'toolkit' page on responding to the consultations (G&B Infrastructure too) here.

CR says officers really need positive responses on transport and energy – **please** share with networks.

TTG Response – AN working on a concise document, based on responses given on the Google Drive, and meeting discussions: more rail, e-bikes, EVs aren't enough, AT co-benefits...

In 'G&B I' document – no link made on greenways for actual travel (not just leisure). Discussion re **air pollution** in light of WHO reduction in safe limits. Not monitored effectively by WC AQ group ('white elephant'). Need actual numbers and PM2.5 as well as PM10. Link here to WC AQ page.

AN to finalise Transport response, share with TTG and submit to WCA SG.

Wiltshire Active Travel Forum

AN attended webinar on cycling in rural areas, and talked to Sonia Kundu from <u>Somerset Rails to Trails project</u>. Advises forming a strong cohesive community-based Wilts-wide active travel forum, to gear up public support for step change in off & onroad active travel. It should unite health & wellbeing (Ramblers etc),

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vulnerable/disabled road users, families, commuters, etc, no political agenda. Could TTG launch this? Members undecided, concerns over diluting energy with too many groups/initiatives. May need a separate group with dedicated coordinator.

AN to ask SK to talk to TTG at a future meeting and revisit.

CR feels Cllr. Reay is keen to lead a project on AT, this may fit well. KF Suggests Officer Martin xx – involved in canal improvements, could support.

CR and Graeme M meeting Cllr Reay soon - will try to scope interest.

Area Boards

AN has drafted a 'rolling presentation' on transport aimed at Area Boards. AN to condense and share / present to BoA in this round, perhaps others later.

Please liaise with AN / your Community Engagement Manager to suggest an adapted TTG presentation to your local Area Board.

Other links / info shared

From	Information
JJ	Useful FotE policy insight on transport:
	https://policy.friendsoftheearth.uk/insight/radical-transport-response-
	<u>climate-emergency</u>
JJ	Campaign to stop road building in comprehensive spending review:
	https://transportactionnetwork.org.uk/tell-rishi-sunak-to-stop-funding-ris2/
KF	Government link to input to spending review:
	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/autumn-budget-and-
	spending-review-2021-representations/guidance-for-submitting-your-
	budget-or-spending-review-representation (portal now closed)
JWi	POST MEETING
	Greener Transport Solutions Manifesto for Decarbonising Transport

Outstanding actions from previous meetings

ALL - Cycling (& E-bike) Shop List – add to this, (to be used to scope availability of bikes/e-bikes, potentially organize displays, training, events, buddying for nervous cyclists. **Agreed to round up over next month and publish (JJ/AN)**

ALL* Town Cycle Networks – Investigate how <u>these old maps by WC</u> relate to actual progress on the ground - Use spreadsheet tool published on our website to report. *If exercise not already effectively done by local Cycling campaign group.

ALL - Create 1-2 page briefing notes to help educate and engage Councilors and others on why/what changes should be made. Suggested theme list on Google drive - add your name against one and spend an hour or so writing one?

Next Meeting: Thursday 28th Oct at 7pm (6.45pm for newcomers & chat)