

ATAF meeting notes 16/7/19

Attendees: Mark Minkley (B&NES), Mandy Bishop (B&NES), Nigel Sherwen (FOBRA), Adam Reynolds (Cycle Bath), Sam Willitts (Transition Keynsham), Alison Sherwin (B&NES), Frank Thompson (Two Tunnels), Stephen Little (Bath BUG), Alasdair Barron (Bathwick Estates RA), John Taylor, Mary Young (Bath Ramblers), Bryn Jones, Cllr Joanna Wright (B&NES), Justin Reeve (B&NES)

Apologies: Cllr Sue Craig, Neil Terry (B&NES), Gillian Risbridger (Living Streets)

Council Vision

JW: new administration, majority for LIBDEM. Manifesto based on significant transport changes, declared climate emergency which will drive all aspects of Council delivery. 37% carbon created through transport. Active travel is significant objective, requires community involvement. Looking for members to contribute to changing dynamic of forum.

Suggest meetings quarterly, move locations around B&NES, think laterally about venues which can be inclusive to people eg hospitals or schools? AR noted engagement with CycleBath members over their meeting format meant greater participation of women – positive change.

Invited comments:

Mary Young: green spaces increase attractiveness. Trees in walkways. Traffic signal timing not conducive to pedestrians. Inconsiderate behaviour of cyclists on shared paths, eg towpaths not dismounting on bridges.

John Taylor: safe routes to school was a commitment from Mark Shelford. Considers this has to be a priority. *JW – still assessing overall picture of transport and identified that not simple answer.* JT can it remain on the agenda going forward?

Nigel Sherwen: domination of vehicles: parking on pavements, better pedestrian crossings – ie Paragon needs a solution. Vehicles ignore advisory cycle lane on Weston Road, parking needs to be removed to create space. *JW – committed to 20mph city, looking at residents parking zone strategy, etc to make walking/cycling more attractive than driving. Need the community to create a shared vision that will help drive change. Cars are massively subsidised through government expenditure on roads etc, needs to be communicated better.*

JW – five categories of users which aren't represented in forum eg young people.

Sam Willitts: need greater enforcement of 20mph. Footpaths connecting Keynsham/Saltford etc reliant on farmers maintaining rights of way. Connectivity between communities and schools more important than just focus on area immediately outside schools.

Frank Thompson: closing roads with Bath city centre should be a priority within next four years. *MM – trial closure of Milsom Street planned and will be evaluated to determine possible benefits.* Issue with P&R buses turning – could they run site to site? Demonstrate retail benefits of road closure to increase attractiveness. Look at Seven Dials area to reduce traffic or consider AR 'heart of Bath' strategy. Green Park connection critical for cycle connectivity.

JW – offer of accompanied ride on any routes that people suggest for consideration.

Alasdair Barron: what is the broader approach to tackling air pollution which has not been improved over last ten years. *JW – CAZ category C chosen based on consultation response. New administration has to commit to previous decision.* AB – quality of roads exceedingly poor, damaging to bicycles, where has historical investment been in road surfacing? Tree planting in roads to replace loss of old trees. Why aren't farmers prosecuted if not keeping footpaths open. Agrees canal towpaths being abused by cyclists. *JW – combining walking and cycling together is inappropriate compared to speed differential. Need to rethink.* AR – stepping of cycle lanes much better. AB – pollution from buses, notes Isle of White Euro 6 complaint. *JW - From 2021 will have to be compliant or charged.*

Adam Reynolds: One Path initiative is important to address cycle/pedestrian conflict. Disabled mobility is impaired by poor public realm design. Notes Oxford cycling/walking standards; when will be adopted? MY – courtesy crossings ignored by motorists. JT – inconsiderate behaviour around schools, parking on DBYL etc. *JW – current legislation not helpful to behaviour change.*

Stephen Little: more children by bus, financial contribution required to support?

Bryn Jones: segregation of pedestrians/cyclists, modern cars have high levels of acceleration. Notes speed differential, but weight differential also important.

Open discussion – how do we bring more people into the forum and engage more widely on active travel?

Needs a better name.

Find more groups within Bath, walkers etc.

Invite Sulis Scorpions cycling group. **Action: all to suggest groups for future invites.**

What alternative venues can be considered for future meetings? Universities? Midsomer Norton? WASPS?

LCWIP

DfT process for development of walking & cycling routes. Prioritise with most potential, using population information etc. to create routes. Cycling has origins and destinations, walking has zones. Routes have been audited against key criteria, interventions can then be proposed. Walking zones have been modified to pick up more school destinations. Public consultation October 2019. AB- how much funding is included and is it forward looking? AS – known future developments have been included but no funding at present. BJ – LCWIP initiated before Climate Emergency, will carbon be considered in the plan in future? AS – pollution cannot be retroactively considered. Based on propensity to cycle. AR – PCT tool should emphasise schools. AS – employment also has to be heavily considered.

NS – what funding is available under clean air zone? *JW – awaiting release of government funding TBC*

JW – walking and cycling does not have a clearly defined vision. What should it be?

AR – routes should consider increased speed and range of electric bikes.

MM – lack of cycle parking will restrict potential to increase.

Milsom Street Closure

Love Milsom Street takes place throughout two days on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 September and will see the street closed to all vehicles. *Post meeting note: Two mini parks the size of a single car parking space, known as 'parklets', will be temporarily installed to provide seating and planting. The street will be closed from 05:00 on Saturday 21st September to 23:59 on Sunday 22nd September. All parking will be suspended from Milsom Street during the closure and the Park and Ride bus service will be diverted to Queen Square. The bus stop will be located on the eastern side of the square.*

AOB

AR – additional training for Council officers on cycle infrastructure design JW – presentation taking place in September from prof John Parkin, UWE (author of *Designing for Cycle Traffic*)

Next meeting 3 months. Mid October date TBC

Post meeting information

Actions from previous meeting(s)

Brougham Hayes junction: comment that desire line to Victoria Bridge is compromised and requires more hatching. NT has checked and hatching cannot be extended into crossing point. **Can AR clarify where additional markings required?**

Fosseway Radstock shared path: JR to circulate plans with ATAF members when available; **still awaiting feedback from Somerset County Council so currently ongoing.** Link to St Benedict's primary school needs improving which will require school land to deliver.

Red light jumping at Paragon/Broad Street: NT to investigate if camera can be used; Red light cameras are not usually used on signalised pedestrian crossings. Red light cameras are not classed as signal infrastructure and would have to be procured as per speed cameras through the road safety team.

Destructor bridge: Anticipated opening September, **TBC by developer.**

Scheme updates

2019/20 Capital programme

Sydney Gardens- traffic modelling to be carried to investigate restricting traffic on Sydney Road before a final option is drawn up for consultation

Broadlands phase 2 £70k – upgrade pedestrian routes in Keynsham

Cycle parking £5k—arranging works for George Street, o/s Holbourne Museum, Moorlands Road, replace stands o/s Guildhall, Terrace Walk. Also budget for Take Stand.

Enhancements to cycle route signing £10k list of requests but please forward any signing requests

Mobility Improvements £20k

Mulberry Park- TRO's for formal crossings & proposed parking restrictions due to be advertised in autumn.

The Fosseway, Radstock - This proposal for a shared use path is progressing however link to St Benedict's primary school needs improving which will require school land.

The Paragon zebra crossing –funding for investigation to improve crossing.

Kingsmead Square vehicle access - restriction now funded and scheme design in development, trader consultation underway and public consultation planned for Sept 2019. Implementation of TRO scheduled for April 2020.

Union Street – public realm project to be implemented in Sept/Oct to include new street furniture, planters and market stall pilot.

Keynsham High Street - £1.5m WECA funding secured to deliver the public realm improvements to Keynsham High Street. A Heritage High Street funding bid was submitted 12th July to seek funding to support shopfront improvements and additional public realm improvements to the Upper High Street – section between St John's church and Methodist Church.

Bath River Line - WECA funding for development of FBC for £3.5m approved. Focus on eastern section – Pulteney area public realm and replacement of radial gate with three step weir proposed, as well as enhancements from North Parade to Ferry Lane. Western section will also have additional funding.

Bathwick Towpath - In implementation with works on site – Canal & River Trust delivering on their land. Council's E&D Team secured £200,000 funding to deliver the project. Cost and feasibility of additional path width from 1.8 to 2m currently being scoped, following completion of groundworks, this element would require new funding to be allocated by Autumn/Winter 2019.