

East Lothian Cycle Forum

Notes from the evening meeting held on Thurs 20th September 2018

Present: Iain Reid (IR) Note Taker/Acting Chair

Derek Williams (DW) Alastair Seagrott (AS) Robin MacEwen (RM) Mark James (MJ) Fay Stanton (FS) Philippa Barbour (PB)

Apologies: Douglas Kirkham, Paul Ince, Iain Monk, Mark Holling, Nicola McNeill

		Action
•	Welcome & Apologies: IR welcomed the members and noted the apologies received. In the absence of a Councillor IR would act as chair for the meeting. DW commented that whilst he understood the demands and pressures on councillors, the Forum required a local politician to attend the meetings, especially at time when there are so many developments in East Lothian where cycling and active travel are being discussed. The other members present supported this point. IR asked to discuss this with the councillors.	IR
•	Notes of Previous Meeting held on 8th March 2018: Meeting notes were been circulated prior to the meeting and accepted as an accurate record.	
•	Matters Arising: Local Transport Strategy (LTS) – IR reported that the Draft LTS, had still to be ratified and approved by Councillors. It is on the agenda for the next planned Cabinet meeting in October 2018.	
	See item - Sustrans Community Links Fund 2018-19 - Projects Longniddry Railway Path & New Rail Station Car Park IR reported that there has been a delay in the commencement of proposed works for the new car park to due to planning consents, which had now been resolved. However, the rail company now wish to conduct remedial works to a wall adjacent to the main railway track, thereafter the construction of the new car park will commence. ELC has received additional funding from Scotrail that will allow a new shared use cycle path to be constructed on the south verge of the B1377 connecting the car park to the current access/egress of the Railway path at Old Kiln Cottages.	IR
	NCN 76 Route at Tarmac (formerly La Farge) – ongoing maintenance IR reported that he was unsure if the path clearance work of vegetation had been undertaken on the section of the route on the bridge and he would check with colleagues. Discussions are ongoing between ELC officers and Tarmac the owners of the former quarry on the quarry's future, and the identification of a route for a new connecting section of the NCN76 on the north side of the rail track.	IR
	NCN76/A1 Torness Section – Weeds damaging Surface IR reported that he was unaware if remedial action had been carried out by Amey, he would check and if not take up Councillor McMillan offer at the last meeting to take up this issue on the Forum's behalf.	
	Sustrans Community Links Fund 2018-19 - Projects ELC were successful in receiving funding from Sustrans for projects in 2018-19. • West Barns to Beltonford new shared use cycle path — This project, in two phases, due to the bird-nesting season and for a hedgerow to be cut back,	IR
	has commenced. The first phase is now complete with the second phase to commence in October 2018. • Dury Way to Railway underpass cycle path, Wallyford (connecting with the 2017-18 project) – This project (part of the SATC) commenced in early September and is due to be completed by end of October 2018. (A final connecting section to Pinkie is be constructed through a	IR

planning condition on a nearby housing development. It is anticipated this will happen before the end of 2019)

• The <u>Drem village section</u> of the Drem to Gullane cycle route

There are ongoing discussions with ELC officers, landowners and Sustrans officers, who are supportive of this route.

Musselburgh's Future Sustainable and Accessible Transport Network

IR informed the members that AECOM, transport consultants had, following consultation and detailed surveying, produced a report, however this had not yet been finalised and was expected to be made available in October 2018, at which time it would widely circulated to key stakeholders including the Cycle Forum. **DW** asked what would happened thereafter, to progress any of the route recommendations as he knew there was a lot of public support for many of the proposals suggested at the consultation events and raised expectations. IR said that ELC would be discussing the report with key stakeholders, including Sustrans on how to take forward the recommendations. **DW** commented that this was a great opportunity for the council and the Forum to deliver the study outcomes and make a real difference for cycling in Musselburgh.

Dropped Kerbs on cycle route

Following on from a request by **FS, IR** has asked for dropped kerbs on the NCN76 route crossing at Tynefield (A199). This will be included in a works programme, carried out annually, normally in the summer months.

Route Signing Project - Dunbar

MJ reported that there had been little progress on this project and he would update the forum at the next meeting.

Removal of Metal Guard Rail on NCN76 at Beltonford

IR reported that the metal guardrail has been removed and new road markings to inform users they are approaching/crossing a road. A decision was made to increase the gaps between the bollards at this section, from 4 to three, and **FS** reported this was much better and bikes with panniers could easily pass through now.

4. Any other Business

<u>Safer Routes to Schools and other locations Dunbar and North Berwick</u>

IR reported that following concerns by the school communities over road safety and safer routes to schools, ELC had secured funding from Sustrans for a focused study on various locations around the Primary and Secondary schools in North Berwick and Dunbar. The study to be conducted by an independent Transport Consultant would also include Back Road, Dunbar where the Dunbar Area Partnership have highlighted the need for safety for pedestrians. The study will include consultation with local communities. The contract for the study will be awarded via a tender process by late October and a report by early summer 2019.

Cycle Route Maintenance issues

- **AS** raised concern over the loose material on the NCN76 route between Phantassie and the Knowes Farm, East Linton. The weed growth through the pedestrian guardrail on this section reduces the path width on what is already a narrow section of the cycle route.
- **DW** commented on the poor surface on the westbound cycle lane on the A199, Edinburgh Road from the junction with New Street towards the Eastfield junction.
- Members referred to the metal chicane barrier on the lagoons cycle route, near
 Prestongrange as a barrier for cyclists and access and members ask for its removal, in lieu of
 any future developments in this area.

IR to take these concerns to the relevant officers in the council

On- road cycle route A199 between Macmerry and Tranent

IR informed the members that a works for re-surfacing of the road between Macmerry and Tranent was to commence very soon. The cycle lanes in particular are rutted and the new surface will be a significant improvement. The cycle lanes will be re-instated, however transport engineers staff are exploring other possible options.

Pencaitland Railway Path - NCN196

IR reported that colleagues had recently been involved in the creation of a new walking/cycle connection from the NCN196 to Glenkinchie Distillery and it is hoped that this will encourage more patrons to use the cycle route.

IF

IR

IR

IR

MJ

IR

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Launch of - Go East Lothian Trail	IR
IR informed the members of the launch of a new cycle trail, Go East Lothian Trail developed by a	
Markus Stitz, aimed at families and the cycling enthusiast. This project, supported by ELC Economic	
Development Department officers, will have the official launch on 2 nd October at National Museum of	
Flight.	IR
IR will be attending along with representatives of the Forum.	
Date of next meeting:	
7 th March 2019 at 1415hrs in The Adam Room (Marriage Conference Rm), John Muir House,	
Haddington.	

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