

**EAST LOTHIAN CYCLE FORUM**

**Notes from the afternoon meeting held on Tuesday 21st June 2016**

**Presen**t: Iain Reid (IR) Note Taker

 Cllr Michel Veitch (MV) Chair

 Martyn Pegg (MP)

 Paul Ince (PI)

 Fay Stanton

 Colin Baird (CB)

 Philippa Barbour (PB)

 Douglas Kirkham (DK)

 Mark James

 John Gray (JG)

 Derek Williams (DW)

**Apologies:** Robin MacEwen, Tim Harding, Jennifer Lothian, Derek Williams, Mark Holling, Keith Burns, Nicola McNeill, Nick Morgan

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|  |  | Action |
| **1.** | **Welcome & Apologies: MV** opened the meeting and welcomed new members to the meeting.  |  |
| **2.** | **Note of Previous Meeting held on 9th February 2016:** correctiontoItem 8, should read Tarmac, not Blue Circle. Meeting note thereafter accepted. | **IR** |
| **3.** | **Matters Arising:** **Local Transport Strategy – IR** reported that colleagues are still working to produce the revised draft LTS and this would be made available in the coming months. One of the LTS supporting documents will be an Active Travel Improvement Plan (ATIP) and within that document will be references to the 6 Area Partnerships, action plans which will be locally prioritised short, medium and long term actions on active and sustainable travel. Some of the AP’s have formed transport sub groups to assist in this process and Forum members can engage with these groups in their respective areas. **Segregated Active Travel Corridor****IR** informed the meeting that the consultants have published the Segregated Active Travel Corridor Feasibility Study and shared copies with members present. A copy of the report will be circulated with the meeting note. **IR** commented that the SATC budget costs, which are indicative and cover the whole corridor route from the county boundary with Edinburgh to the county boundary with Scottish Borders. At this stage the SATC route is a concept and if agreed the proposed route of the SATC will be included in the LTS/ATIP. The SATC would be a long term delivery project with particular opportunities to progress the route in the west of East Lothian around Musselburgh, Wallyford and Prestonpans where there are considerable planned or proposed developments including possible railway route/station works. **Community Links Funded Projects 2015-16 Update****IR** provided an update on these projects works:* **Phase 2 North Berwick – A198 Petrol Station to Dirleton junction**

The majority of this section has been constructed. There remains a short section from Invereill Lodge to Dirleton 30mph limit requiring surface treatment, vegetation cut back/paring and a dropped kerb installed. * **Gullane, Duncur Road A198 - Archerfield West Lodge**

This surface works are now complete, however discussions are taking place to improve the gated access at the West Lodge. These works are programmed to be carried out this summer and once complete the route will be signed promoting the route from North Berwick to Gullane. *(****MH*** *on behalf of Cycleforth had expressed their disappointment via email that this route was not signed and promoted in time for the summer season*)* **Tranent to Ormiston – Phase 2**

These works are now complete but will not be signed until the final Phase 3 is complete * **Elphinstone to Pencaitland Railway Walk** – surface improvements complete
* **Section of the Pencaitland Railway East to Puddle Bridge** for c. 1.7km – surface improvements complete
* **Section of the Pencaitland Railway Walk east of Puddle Bridge** towards Pencaitland for c. 1.8km surface improvements – surface improvements complete
* **Gateside, Haddington – Longniddry Railway Walk**, sections of path upgrade to tarmac with path lighting – surface and new lighting works completed

**DW** commented that a section of the Phase 2 shared use Tranent to Ormiston route was less than the Sustrans design guide recommended minimum 1.8m width and asked why the Council were not applying this? **CB** stated that the Sustrans widths were recommendations and at this location the available road width and low usage meant that it was not possible to increase the existing path width by narrowing the road nor extend the path into the adjacent land as this was not owned by the Council. **IR** commented that he had discussed this section with the project officer from Sustrans, and given the circumstances, the relatively low use and good sight lines, it was agreed that this width was acceptable and this short section should not stall or halt the delivery of the whole project route. Once complete and signed and promoted this section would be monitored and if there were issues or complaints, additional appropriate signage could be considered. **Cycle Parking in Town Centres** – **IR** reported that new cycle parking had been installed in Haddington town centre and Musselburgh and North Berwick. These had been co-funded by the Local Area Partnerships and East Lothian Council. **IR** commented that these had been identified and supported through the “*East Lothian on the Move*” community consultations, funding. **MJ** asked about how to get facilities in the Dunbar area and **MV** said that he should contact the Dunbar Area Partnership to discuss and consider including any projects he may have in their Action Plans. **Alternative Route to Becky’s Strip section on the John Muir Way cycle route****IR** reported that this matter had been discussed and is being progressed with Scottish National Heritage, who manage the John Muir Way and an appropriate sign will be erected at either of end of the path and reference made on about this uneven section of the route on the SNH’s website. **Lighting at the underpass Longniddry Railway Path****IR** reported that the lighting had now been installed. **PI** reported that this was a significant improvement. **PB** said that the cyclists could now see the cobbled surface which she felt could be improved as there were gaps. **IR** to check the surface and ownership, responsibility for maintenance. Note: Any works close to the main rail line had significant H&S issues placed on contractors by the rail authorities. **Central Islands Audit Report**At the previous meeting **MV** hadrequested a council officer with responsibility for road safety to attend to discuss the report. **(CB)** commented that unfortunately he had not had time to examine the report in detail, he asked for questions from the members. There followed discussions, including why there was no consistency across the range of locations and how the central islands can contribute to road safety. **CB** advised that he would pass the Audit Report to the Signs & Lines Officer to progress suitable alterations (where possible) to the “cycle bypass” marking locations that were considered to have sub standard widths. He also advised that due to likely excessive costs only markings (no surface colour) would be considered at this time. If nearby developments permitted, surface colour would be pursued with the developer.**Addendum for next meeting: DW commented**-**MV summed up the discussion with a recommendation that, going forward, cycle lanes have a consistent standard of a 1.8m cycle lane through them.  If officers felt that this could not be achieved at a particular location then the cycle forum should be informed**.**NCN 76 Route at Tarmac (formerly La Farge) – ongoing maintenance** **MV** reportedthat he had recently attended a meeting with Tarmac management however this subject was not discussed. He would pass the contact details to **IR** and **NM** to progress. **A199 - Cycle Path junction concerns and maintenance** **IR** reported that he had asked for the paring of vegetation/detritus material from the cycle path from Monksmuir west to Abbeymains between to be included in the 2016-17 works programme. **JG** commented that he had noted that the cycle route verge had been treated with weed killer which would help keep the available width. **CB** discussedthe suggestion of realignment of the various crossing points along the A199 and how the existing arrangement provided a safer option than what was being proposed. **MJ/JG** commented on the restricted sight lines at the A199/A198, Kirklandhill Cottages and **CB** said that he would discuss this with colleagues to consider a ‘cyclists crossing’ warning signs at this location.**Longniddry Railway Path – Access and drainage issues/St Germains Crossing** **IR** reported that this had not been progressed and was included in the routine maintenance programme for 2016/17. There had been no update from colleagues on the proposals to consider improvements to the crossing points on the B1377, Longniddry Railway Path opposite Old Kiln Cottages or at St Germains Crossing on the north side. **PB** commented that she had noted some recent ground works at the latter location. **IR** said he was unaware of any council works at that location. **IR** to report update at the next meeting.  | **IR****IR****IR****IR****IR/CB****MV/NM/IR****CB/IR****IR** |
| **4.** | **Any other Business****Sustrans Community Links 2016-17 Fund****IR** reported that the Council had been successful in their funding applications for two projects to be delivered in the new financial year: * **Tranent to Ormiston Phase 3** which involves the final connecting shared use path section to Ormiston and includes a new footway and footbridge adjacent to the Puddle Bridge.
* **Gullane to Luffness New Golf Club**  footway adjacent to the A198 upgrade to shared use width
 | **IR** |
| **5.** | **Smarter Choices Smarter Places 2016-17 Fund**East Lothian Council had been successful in an application to this fund to continue for a second year with the “*East Lothian on the Move*” project. This Area Partnership led project provides joint funding totalling £60k, to be spent by the 6 Area Partnerships (£10k each) on sustainable and active travel initiatives in their respective areas. **MV** said that Forum members if that are not already involved, can engage with their AP’s and influence how the money is spent in their areas.Contact details can be found at: <http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/200135/community_planning/1586/community_planning_in_east_lothian/11> |  |
| **6.** | **Sustrans Volunteers**Forum member Nicola McNeill, who is also a member of Sustrans Volunteer’s offered the service of the volunteers to carry out any cycle route/path maintenance in East Lothian. Coincidently a lengthy section of the NCN1 near Queen Margaret University had generated some user concerns over the vegetation encroaching the cycle path, and following discussion with Nicola, the volunteers carried out path maintenance work on this section in early June. **MV** asked that the Forum note their excellent work and contribution to cycling and convey thanks to the volunteers.  |  |
| **7.** | **Cycle Friendly Communities Award****MP** informed the members of a Cycling Scotland community initiative which may be of interest to members and also the respective Area Partnerships in promoting cycling. There may be funding available. **IR** to circulate details to the Area Partnership managers. Full details can be found on the following link:<http://www.cyclingscotland.org/our-projects/award-schemes/cycle-friendly-community-project/cycle-friendly-community-award> | **IR** |
|  |  **Dates of next meetings: Tuesday 11th October at 1900hrs, at The Buffet Room, Haddington Town House, Haddington**  |  |

**Roads Helpline – 01875 824305**

**To report all road and street lighting defects**