

EAST GRINSTEAD TOWN COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 30TH MAY 2024 AT 7PM

Committee: Cllr S Ody (Chair & Town Mayor)
Cllr H Farren* (Vice Chair)
Cllr J Belsey* (Deputy Town Mayor)
Councillors: M Belsey*, Gibbs, Godwin, Mockford, Pond* and Scott*.
*= absent
** = present on zoom (this does not qualify as present for decision making)
+ = Ex officio membership is as virtue of another role and attendance is not mandatory

Also Present: Deputy Town Clerk

26 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

27 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr. C. Pond	Personal commitment
Cllr. H. Farren	Personal commitment

28 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were noted.

29 **MINUTES**

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on the 18 April 2024 and 13 May 2024 having been previously circulated were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

30 **CHAIRMANS UPDATE**

Bike Bus – Cllr. Mockford and Cllr. Ody recently attended Halsford Park Primary School to explain the Bike Bus and engage with parents to find further volunteers, leaflets were handed out with QR code to the What’s App group, but no further volunteers came forward. The Deputy Town Clerk will contact Mrs Godwin to see if she can assist with getting a small bike bus together for Friday 14th June, a route and risk assessment would be required. It was noted Councillors should support this if they were able to attend on the day as well. Cllr. Ody advised he had received an invitation from St Marys Primary School inviting, councillors to come in and explain the scheme after half term, Deputy Town Clerk will also attend with other councillors..

Environmental & Sustainability Policy/Environmental & Sustainable Travel Project Assessment Document – these are still being worked on by Cllr. Pond and Cllr. Farren and will come back to the next meeting for review.

Bike Hire Scheme – Although the site is confirmed off the A22, no update is available in relation to the station site, this has been chased. The Deputy Clerk has spoken to a company in respect of potential sponsorship for this scheme and will go back to them with more detailed costings.

Cycle parking at East Court – another contractor has been approached and is preparing a quotation.

31 BIKE WEEK

Further meetings have been held and the Community and Tourism Team have been working with the Deputy Town Clerk, Cllr. Ody and Cllr. J Belsey on the week's events. The banner and a board for the week have been produced.

The current proposals are for the week to comprise of the following events:

- Sat 8th June - Repair café to promote repairs for bikes for the forthcoming week.
- Sun 9th - Kidical Mass will be held run by EG Cycle Club – two routes on the day starting at 10.30am, shorter route for the younger kids. Councillors welcome to come along.
- 10th June – Promotion via social media via Community Tourism Team and banner to be put up in advance to promote the week.
- 11th June – Promotion via social media, for example bike routes and where cycle racks are in the town.
- 12th June – 'Learn How To' event at Queens Walk with On Your Bike outside Carlo's Lounge 4pm to 7pm
- 13th June – Potential of promoting cycling to the EGBA Summer gathering BBQ – Councillors invited, please inform the Cllr. Ody if you wish to attend. Cllr Ody will be doing a talk to promote bike week as Mayor to get business involved and to promote employees to cycle to work.
- 14th June – Bike Bus – still looking for volunteers at Halstead Primary School so this will not be possible if volunteers are not confirmed. The Deputy Town Clerk will contact the volunteer to see if it is viable to get a small bike bus up and running.
- 15th/16th June – EGCC to potentially run a couple of cycle rides around the town/Forest Way, bridleways/country lane type rides, routes on the website and Cllr. Ody doing the risk assessments. 20k bike ride being arranged as a fund raiser event, plus additional route which involves a quiz sheet to encourage children to get involved with a certificate to be available from Community & Tourism team.

It was noted that the planning for next year's bike week should start early and incorporate a working party.

32 WALKING/CYCLE LEAFLET

The report detailed the costings for the production of a leaflet including design and 1000 printed copies on recycled paper, with a QR code being made available to try and encourage less printing.

RESOLVED: To agree the costs of the design and printing using recycled paper at the cost of £2,263 plus VAT to come from the E & S T Committee budget and move forward with the leaflet.

It was agreed a working party comprising of Cllrs. Godwin, Gibbs and Mockford would be set up to move this project forwards. The Deputy Town Clerk will look at potential funding options from sources such as the Mid Sussex Community Grant and will contact Ian Myhill (WSCC) and Lara Southam.

33 COMMUNITY HIGHWAYS SCHEMES

The Committee discussed the following ideas that would potentially benefit the town in respect of safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Any Community Highways Schemes would need to be submitted by the end of July and an email was sent round to all councillors in respect of suggestions, but not much feedback was received.

Cllr. Ody had recently met with Ian Mayhill (WSCC Principal Transport Improvements Officer) for a cycle ride around the town to get a better understanding of the issues and the LCWIP it was agreed the following ideas would be collated and sent onto Ian for his views.

- All school routes at 20mph with the ability to cycle or walk without the use of a car. Lowdells Lane would assist with this. To include all schools, rather than being on the road, although might not work with all schools due to locations. Linking up routes together.
- More 20mph indicators in the town – road signage in the town centre ie Delaware Road.
- Widen pavement at pinch point in West Street – this might not be possible due to drainage
- Zebra crossing at the fire station, this is a dangerous area to cross and pedestrians use the islands to cross which is potentially dangerous. It was noted this is part of the LCWIP route and Ian Myhill is looking at this.
- Traffic lights for pedestrian crossing outside Pizza Express in Middle Road
- Double yellow lines on London Road – the problem with parking will potentially get worse because of parking charge increases, plus potential weekend/bank holiday charges.
- Narrow bell junction at the Ship Street pub
- Pedestrian crossing at High Street by the fountain or island helping people to cross
- Roundabout in London Road near Lloyds bank could be reduced in size and the pedestrian area increased, making a positive effect on safety and less damage to railings.
- Bollards between the F A Andersons (gunshop) and Monsoon Dining Rooms. Unsure of land ownership.
- Estcots Drive school children zebra crossing
- Woodbury Avenue – zebra crossing
- Opposite Chequer Mead car park zebra crossing
- Disabled access from Cheque Mead
- Better service on the track from Hackenden Lane to Charlwood Industrial Estate (bridleway) A suggestion was put forward that it would be nice to erect a plaque in remembrance as to where the nuns are buried.
- 20mph on Lingfield Road
- Better crossing from A22 from Windmill Lane (between Dorset Avenue and Windmill Lane)
- Herontye where Forest way crosses Herontye Drive blighted by people parking up to the entrance and cannot see round – zig zag lines and raised crossing
- Zebra crossing Morton Road and Millway
- 20mph Dunnings Mill Road (care home, school, Sunnyside)
- Lewes Road opposite Herontye Drive – bollards opposite junction on the Lewes Road Sackville school side make it safer for pedestrians.

The above information will be collated and sent to Ian Myhill (WSCC) for his information as he is looking at the general improvements within the town for pedestrians and cyclists.

Christopher Road – Cllr. Gibbs advised a resident has been trying to establish double yellow lines; but had been in contact with Highways but nothing further has progressed. It was suggested that Cllr. Gibbs speaks to County Councillor Russell, so they can liaise with the resident and arrange a site visit.

34 ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING SCHEME

Connected Kerb are in the process of putting a proposal together, which will involve no upfront costs for the Council. The EVCP's are either funded by government grants or by Connected Kerb themselves. There is a small revenue generation opportunity, further information will be available in respect in their detailed proposal for the next meeting.

35 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

25 July, 5 September, 28 November and 16 January 2025

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 19:57 hrs.

The next meeting will be held on **THURSDAY 25TH JULY 2024 at 7.00pm**