

Bicycle Users Group
Wednesday, 27 July 2011, 10:30-11:30, ABF028

Present:

Leigh Fraser (Sustainability Officer), Simon George, Graham Seaman, Sigrun Wagner, Matthew Woodham

Apologies:

Mike Dolton, David Simon, Giacomo Benedetto, Fiona Moore, John Enright, Nigel Raine, Jennifer Lardge, Jeanne Shinskey, Martin King, Digby Entwisle, Stefanie Gerke,

Notes on previous meeting's minutes:

1. Airtrack project is no longer going ahead
2. SW Trains cycling policy: it appears to be randomly enforced but the policy is very clear.
3. Cycle map of campus: **This has been corrected by the Design Studio.** How is this promoted to students? **LF will discuss with SU re Freshers Week events**
4. Shower facilities: **There are shower facilities in Bourne that can be used by cyclists. This has been added to the cycle map.** Showers in Founders aren't well signposted, not always nice to use but this could be because of higher usage during term. They are also unisex which could be an issue for some.
5. Bike rack at Sports Centre: **This is still uncovered.**
6. Mobile cycle repairs: it would be useful to have someone come to campus more often e.g once a month on a Tuesday as part of the SU market. It was suggested that it would be useful for there to be a set of tools available for communal use. Not everyone has a full tool kit with them and it would be nice to have one available. **LF will see if there is budget to spend on putting together a toolkit and will investigate mobile bike repair. Some queries have been sent but nothing has been finalised yet**
7. Go Green Week: some activities were held. This is done with the SU so LF will be talking to them re what is planned for next year

Issues raised and ideas:

1. Olympics:

Is there an opportunity to get funding for cycling improvements based around the Olympics?

The College has been awarded Sport England funding for 3 years – to promote healthy lifestyles. New person starting in post soon – about widening participation in sport – Mark Hyndman is the person to contact. **The funding has been earmarked for Dance, Football Fives, Badminton and Basketball.**

The question was raised about whether the back entrance will be available for use during the Olympics. If not, it needs to be advertised so that people are aware. **The back entrance will be closed off during the Olympics.**

2. Parking issues:

If booms are going up for the Olympics is there an opportunity to introduce parking restrictions making use of the booms? It is noticeable that many students are driving

to the college because there is so much extra parking available now during the holidays. Other universities charge for parking. We should charge and put any funding made back into greener travel improvements e.g bus service, extra facilities for cyclists. **There are no booms going up on parking areas but FM has been looking at other ways to control parking. A decision on whether to charge for parking will ultimately rest with the Principal.**

If pay parking was introduced it should be done in a way that doesn't penalise those who come in by car occasionally (this is where the booms could be useful, link to access cards?).

This issue of parking will be raised in the green travel plan update (see item 6).

3. Events promoting cycling:

In 2009 there was an event about cycling done by a community interest company (Get cycling?) – event possibly subsidised by college and council The suggestion has also been made to run the CTC Workplace Challenge. **LF will look into costs/options** to see if there is budget to cover one of these. We will be running a Green Impact programme next year which works on similar lines to workplace challenge so it may be possible to incorporate cycling as an element into that. It would be a good idea to promote the health aspects of cycling. **If anyone would like to be a Sustainability Champion for Green Impact please contact the Sustainability Office, the launch is in October.**

4. Signage between college and station:

It would be useful to have signs for the campus from the station and vice versa. The route between the station and the back entrance of the college is not well known and better signage may encourage more people to use it. **There have been issues in the past with residents complaining about noise and unruly behaviour at the back entrance so the college does not promote the route to the back entrance. LF will look into signage for the main route.**

5. Facilities for cyclists:

It would be useful to have an area where wet clothes can be left. Are facilities for cyclists being planned into new buildings/refurbishments? **LF will ask if this can be raised with FM/project teams.**

6. Cycle to Work scheme:

Is there any data on who took up cycle to work scheme – has there been a change in the number of people taking it up since the rules have changed? The college guidance is very vague – won't say what will be paid at the end – this may put people off. College website doesn't reflect the changes to the scheme. It may be useful to provide some case studies to illustrate actual costs and savings. **All: If anyone is willing to provide some figures and information for a case study please contact the Sustainability Office.**

6. Green Travel plan update:

We will be updating the Green Travel plan this year which will probably cover many common issues such as measuring and targeting of initiatives to promote change. Offering incentives when doing a travel survey may help to get a better response.

