

SHREWSBURY TOWN COUNCIL

**ACTIVE TRAVEL WORKING GROUP
HELD AT LIVESEY HOUSE, ST JOHNS HILL, SHREWSBURY & VIA TEAMS**

19 JULY 2023

PRESENT

Councillors Rosemary Dartnall, Bernie Bentick, Julian Dean, Kate Halliday, Alan Mosley & Rob Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE

Helen Ball (Town Clerk)

10/03 APOLOGIES

None received.

11/03 DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

All members present declared an interest as Shropshire Councillors.

12/03 NOTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

The notes of the meeting held on 31st May had been ratified by Full Council. There were not matters arising from those minutes.

13/03 MINI-HOLLAND

Rose reported on the need to submit the Mini-Holland Feasibility Study to the Department for Transport. Whilst there wasn't to be any beauty parade for funding the DfT was still keen to learn of potential proposals. The Study could be submitted at any time and there was a need for the Mini-Holland Working Group to agree any changes to the document. Once it was able to be released it would be sent to Councillors.

14/03 LOCAL CYCLING & WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

A Sharepoint link to the spreadsheet detailing all LCWIP projects had been circulated to members on a number of occasions and submissions by Councillors was minimal. Instead, Councillors Dartnall and Wilson had gone through the document and included commentary on all proposals.

There were a number of overriding principles that the Town Council wished to follow:

- Generally supportive of the principles of LCWP those there was a disappointment that there were only 3 priority schemes included for Shrewsbury given the demand for cycling and walking locally
- There was a lack of mention of junction treatments including roundabout treatments – this is often where the conflict arises
- No trees are to be removed
- There were common areas particularly in the town centre where uses conflicted – these included the Quarry and Pride Hill

- There is a need for a through town cycle route
- Quarry needs to be a leisure route reflecting its park setting
- Tow Path was a to/from route
- Monkmoor/Abbey/Underdale did not have any primary routes
- Shrewsbury-wide paring of arterial routes to make one-way in one-way out to provide safe infrastructure for walking/cycling
- Routes needed to be free from vegetation encroachment – therefore maintenance regimes needed to be in place
- Highways have a responsibility for cycleways – this to include leaf sweeping in the Autumn
- Continued aspirations to access platform 3 from the Abbey area and the railway bridge

It was agreed that the spreadsheet be forwarded to Rose for her collective summary of responses

15/03 WALKING & CYCLING MAP

This was a project that the BID had been leading on with the Town Council agreeing to fund the printing of maps. It was agreed that this was the most comprehensive map of cycling routes and could this be utilised to update Google Maps. Rose would make enquiries.

16/03 BIG TOWN PLAN 'ON YOUR BIKE' PROJECT

It was reported that the Big Town Partnership had submitted a bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to develop a project to promote and support greater walking and cycling. The partnership had received excellent feedback and was hopeful that the grant will be successful.

17/03 SCHOOL STREETS

Rhiannon Letman-Wade updated the Working Group on her work on the School Streets Project.

Mereside School had been successfully chosen to be part of the Active Travel England School Streets Pilot. It was hoped to expand the project to other schools that had shown an interest. Bikeability training would be available for all Year 6 in person with other years on-line. Cycling was to be embedded into KS1 with children training on balance bikes. Hopefully a team of 3 staff would be recruited to expand the offer across the county.

Examples were given of Priory School and their initiatives during Active Travel Week. Activities included cycle safety, cycle maintenance, races and competitions.

Discussions included School Streets and the costs of ANPR Cameras both from a capital and maintenance basis. It was considered that they would break even. Discussions took place around the piloting of enforcement powers through Traffic Regulations.

Members were keen that as many schools as possible should take part and any help they could give in promoting that was welcomed.

18/03 NEXT MEETINGS

- Wednesday 20 September 2023
- Wednesday 25th October