

Trafford Cycle Forum

17th October 2017

Minutes (DRAFT)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Present:

DJ	Daniel Jerrome	Trafford Cycle Forum, Co-Chair
JF	Jonathan Fingland	Trafford Cycle Forum, Co-Chair
MN	Mark Nesbitt	Trafford Cycle Forum, Member Liaison
SS	Stella Smith	Trafford Cycle Forum, Secretary
SAd	Cllr Steve Adshead	Stretford ward, Labour shadow for Highways, Parks & Environment
CTR	Clare Taylor-Russell	Trafford Council, Strategic Planning and Growth Manager
DC	Damien Cutting	Trafford Council, Senior Strategic Growth Officer
ML	Martin Ledson	Trafford Council, Strategic Growth Officer
ST	Steve Tilby	Amey / OneTrafford, Principal Engineer
DS	Dominic Smith	TfGM, Cycling Infrastructure Manager
MK	Martin Key	GMCA, Cycling and Walking team
NK	Nadia Kerr	JMW Solicitors, Cycling Injury Lawyer
TB	Tim Blackwell	MCC Cycle Forum member and cycle commuting parent
AB	Alan Boyd	
CL	Chris Leakey	
CT	Chris Trueblood	
CH	Christopher Howarth	
DB	David Barker	
DT	Dominic Torrisi	
ES	Esmeralda Smit	
GG	Geraldine Goggins	
GC	Graham Cooper	
HS	Hani Salih	
IS	Ian Stuart	
RAld	Richard Alderson	
RAII	Richard Allan	
RK	Rodger King	
SL	Steve Leicester	

Apologies:

JB	Cllr Jane Brophy	Timperley ward, Liberal Democrat cycling champion
MiC	Cllr Mike Cordingley	Gorse Hill ward, Labour cycling champion
RC	Cllr Robert Chilton	St Mary's ward, Conservative cycling champion
BS	Bob Sweet	
DM	David Morris	
DW	Debbie Watson	
JC	Judie Collins	
PC	Paddy Carrington	

2a. Update on outstanding actions

Actions completed since last forum:

ST	Provide update re Ashton-on-Mersey to Urmston scheme re removal of barriers	*1
PB	Additional warning sign onto Kingsway – instructing motorists to not overtake cyclists.	
SS	Draft letter regarding TCF support of Mobikes	
PB	Ensure Stretford Road contractors use “narrow lanes / no overtaking cyclists” signs	*2

PB	Sign the route via Chester and City roads before Stretford Road works commence	*2
PB	Cycle Parking Grant PB to provide the list of locations to TCF	
PB	Provide overview map of Mersey Valley routes to be upgraded	
AM	Road Maintenance Scheme: short turnaround AM to provide scheme information to TCF	*3

*updates received from Steve Tilby:

1. The Ashton-on-Mersey scheme has been delayed by problems associated with land agreements. Once this has been resolved the barriers will be removed as part of the scheme.
2. Signing for the Stretford Rd scheme and on Chester and City roads will be considered as part of the project development.
3. Work is ongoing with regards to ensuring the Cycle Technical meeting have future resurfacing schemes to consider prior to the works being programmed and at a stage when comments can be taken and incorporated within the proposals.

Ongoing actions:

CTR	Creation of new Trafford Cycling Strategy	on agenda
TCF	Forum to revise its cycle lane widths position statement to reflect current best practice	on agenda
MN	Explore options to promote events and work of the Forum and raise funds	ongoing
CTR	Provide details of cycling roles and officers across TMBC	ongoing
ST	Provide updates on cycle route parking enforcement (when available)	ongoing
JF/ST	Consider cycling content and its place on the revised TMBC website	ongoing*
AM/TCF	Arrange meeting with Andy Mills re: Road Maintenance Schemes	ongoing
AM	Provide Jackson's Boat bridge drawings to TCF	ongoing
TCF	Members to compile a list of priority cycle schemes should funding become available	ongoing
TCF	Add suggestions to Cyclestreets map to enable creation of a list of priority schemes	ongoing
SS/ST	Metrolink Trafford Park Line - ensure TCF is invited to receive updates from TfGM	ongoing

* Trafford Cycle Forum Website – Claire Taylor Russell (CTR) to take this away and get an update

2b. Approve minutes from last meeting

Minutes from forum held on 25th July 2017 were circulated in advance and no amendments were received.

AGREED: Approve minutes from last forum.

ACTION TCF-Admins: Publish minutes

3. Creating Safe Space for Cycling

3a. Sale Town Centre Consultation – Damien Cutting

DC introduced the proposals for Sale Town Centre, which had been circulated in advance of the meeting. <http://www.investintrafford.com/TownCentres/Sale-Town-Centre-Consultation.aspx>

DC described it as a “Study into public space including Waterside Plaza – a strategy to regenerate, improve and create a nice environment as well as boost the local economy”.

Two week consultation has just finished – one meeting was held with stakeholders, and one open day was held for the public in Sale Town Centre – the consultation is now concluded (though there is opportunity for TCF to feedback immediately after this meeting). The consultants are now drawing up draft plans. The Public Consultation attracted 300 attendees and 600 responses. The initial results show that 10% respondents use bikes, 80% agree with design principles, 86% support improved walking and cycling infrastructure.

DC listed the issues raised which mentioned cycling: 1. Sale Cycling Infrastructure 2. Better bike access 3. Safer cycling 4. Better access from canal 5. More enforcement on School Road 6. Blue and Green corridors

7. Links to other initiatives 8. Shared Space – School Road and Northenden Road 9. Open roads to all traffic

Conclusion: The consultants will now draft the overall plan. It will include more space for walking and cycling plus better cycling provision. There was a brief discussion of the need to open up routes from A56, Sainsbury's, Curzon Street and School Road.

TCF members responded as follows:

JF: Welcomed narrower lane widths to slow motor-traffic. He highlighted the need for two-way segregated cycle lanes.

DS: This is a very positive plan. School Road is a key link. Several difficult issues to get right but similar schemes in Leicester and Norwich may provide good examples. DS offered to share with DC examples of good practice schemes which cater for both pedestrians and cyclists. TfGM will work with Trafford Council on improvements for cyclists crossing the A56 and also for cyclists travelling along the A56. (*****Check DS happy with this**).

CH: Crossings on the A56 are poor and dangerous for children to use as pedestrians or cyclists.

CL: Cycling must be separated from motor-traffic to be truly safe.

SL: Must reduce traffic in that compact town centre area.

JF: Should aim to decrease traffic on Northenden Road.

IS: Suggested that DS contact the Bridgewater Canal Company regarding improved access. Peter Parkinson is the key contact. Current improvements on School Road still not proceeding. IS asked where is the money coming from for this?

DC reply to IS: This preliminary work should lay the foundation for getting future funding.

ACTION: SS to circulate the cycling summary from the consultants and gather comments from TCF, return these comments to DC by 20/10/17.

ACTION: DC to invite TCF to any future stakeholder meetings regarding the Sale proposals.

ACTION: DS to supply examples of harmonious walking and cycling for DC to consider for School Road.

3b. Refreshed Stretford Masterplan – potential opportunities

JF gave an introduction: The original plan wasn't as ambitious as many people hoped for. The Masterplan has now been refreshed with new impetus and a consultation. UA92 University Campus is at the centre of the revised plan, proposed to host 6,500 students on Talbot Rd with many accommodated in Stretford town centre.

The plans were announced on 20th September 2017. The consultation dates are from 10 October to 19 December.

SA (Labour response): we don't support this tower block and the impact on residents. There will be displacement and it is not welcomed by local people, though we will not block the other improvements.

JF: Aware of and personally share local concerns about building heights however this forum should be mindful that density can help active travel and low-car living - we need balanced and achievable suggestions.

Graham Cooper: Condition of the Trans-Pennine Trail has declined and this needs improvement.

JF: Hawthorn Lane is a useful active travel route from Lacy St to Turnmoss, avoiding Edge Lane's congestion and pollution.

Claire: Please put all these comments into the ongoing consultation.

JF Proposal: This meeting approves the process of creating our response using the TCF Google Group.

AGREED: As above.

ACTION: TCF to respond to revised Stretford masterplan consultation

3c. A56 to Talbot Road Junction Improvement - potential scheme

Dom Torrisi introduced the potential improvements: A meeting was held on 3rd Oct with Mike Cordingley, Dominic Smith and Junaid Javaad (Amey) to review the pedestrian crossing of Longford St and the cycling right turn from the A56 to Talbot Rd. We considered three options to introduce a new signalled crossing and

a waiting area within the existing junction layout, enabled by amending the entry to Longford St. A general consensus was reached on the most suitable approach (a hybrid of two of the original options).

DS TfGM response: Funding is yet to be confirmed, but this is hopefully a potential scheme. Detailed costs will be developed now. This is a good idea and should be achievable.

ST: I'm sure there's something we can do.

DS: We can refine these ideas as we do the design.

ACTION DT/JF: Provide examples of entry treatments to DS, for use across Longford Street.

ACTION DS: Consider plans, costs and funding for A56->Talbot Rd movement, then update TCF.

JF: Iltron site (due for development) had footway works that impacted on the cycle lane. Is there a potential to improve the cycling route around this constrained corner?

ACTION TCF: Alert GMSF when land is needed for route improvements, eg Iltron site, Talbot Rd

3d. Amey / Trafford Schemes Update – Steve Tilby

Sevenways update following 26/9/2017 technical meeting

- Remove 3x left-turn cut-throughs
- Improve visibility from Lyndhurst give-way line (and Manor's)
- Ensure the island is uncomfortable to drive over (ie >25mm upstands)
- No cycle icons on roundabout, consider adding them on approach arms (centrally just before any pinch-points created by pedestrian islands).

ST: Comments made at technical meeting have been forwarded through into new design. No updates since then. Will be completed this financial year (by end of March 2018).

4. Cycling Strategies

4a. GM Mayor's Office and Commissioner – update from Martin Key

MK provided an introduction: A report is being developed for April 2018. Walking improvements will be included alongside cycling. The report will include all 10 GM boroughs. The cycling lobby has proved the most organised and consistent. Chris Boardman (CB) spoke to Andrew Gilligan, who was previously the Walking and Cycling Commissioner for London, and then sought firm commitments from Andy Burnham (AB) that action will be taken to deliver walking and cycling infrastructure.

Chris Boardman and Andy Burnham have a monthly 1-2-1 meeting to discuss progress.

Cllr Chris Paul (MCC/TfGMC) and Jenny Wiles (Living Streets) have joined team at some meetings.

CB is committed to both walking and cycling in the strategy.

During the last 6-weeks CB has met all 10 Council Leaders and got financial support for the report and future implementation of plans.

CB has also met with GMP and Public Health to align the report.

MK: The report is about persuading people out of cars. This will need collaboration from all council leaders and their financial support is critical to the delivery of improvements.. Cycling improvements must be family friendly and for-all. Money will also come from the DfT. Congestion and air quality are high up on the list of problems which walking and cycling more can contribute to the solution of.

JF response: The sounds like a great strategic report. At the moment the 10 boroughs have different and varying approaches to highway planning.

MK: The report will form a manifesto for CB and so far nine of the ten leaders have pledged support.

JF: To address this group's interest, I believe Trafford's leader has committed and is enthusiastic.

MK: Confirmed.

CT: CB needs to credit local groups who have been articulating these issues for some time.

CL: Robust minimum standards are needed.

MK: Current aspiration is to present report to the GMCA meeting in November, for approval by LA leaders. (UPDATE Nov 2017: Now scheduled for December, and referred to as a "15-point action plan")

GMCA meeting agendas and live streams available at: greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/info/20162/meetings

ACTION MK: Provide TCF with an update if/when the report is approved.

4b. Trafford Cycle Strategy 2017-18

CTR: Trafford Council is awaiting updated instructions from the DfT on developing an LCWIP.

DS: GM will create a Local Cycling and Walking Cycling Plan in collaboration with LAs, as part of a national programme which provides a framework and is very prescriptive. Government also has an investment strategy since March 2017 which can release limited funds. In June 2017 TfGM bid for technical support and as of last week succeeded and have £86,000 in funding.

CTR: Trafford has agreed to provide staff resources to prepare the LCWIP.

DS: It's revenue funding – so this allows us time to review and use efficiently and wisely.

CTR: Trafford Council is keen to direct resources towards development of the LCWIP to provide a Strategy. LCWIP allows local projects at a very local level. This will work alongside any investment that CB is successful in securing.

JF response: We welcome this progress and Trafford's commitments, having wanted it for some time.

CTR: Agreed that Trafford Council has also been waiting for some time to develop its LCWIP.

DS: We will turn this into a delivery strategy and this will fit in with Chris Boardman's higher level plan

ACTION DS/CTR: Invite representatives from TCF to be involved in LCWIP process.

5. "Reasons to cycle" presentations from Manchester Cycle Forum

5a. Tim, from Fallowfield with two young daughters

Tim described why he loves riding his bike. For Tim and his family it is due to convenience. Also, people don't see non-journeys. We don't see the journeys that aren't taken because it's too difficult.

What does convenience mean? Cost savings and beating transport poverty, bikes are all-together cheaper. Time-savings - bikes are actually quicker during times when people want to travel most. 50% of car journeys in GM are under three miles. Cycling is enjoyable and can be fun, even in the rain.

5b. Nadia Kerr, JMW Solicitor, Cycling Injury Lawyer

Nadia described why she loves riding her bike. More cycling and cyclists on the road makes streets safer. Cycling is increasing. 80% say safety is the biggest block to cycling. Chris Boardman has told us that roads feel dangerous. Not the only narrative people should be hearing.

What do we need to win people over? More visible cyclists actually reminds all road users. Driver behaviour needs to change through better courses for HGV drivers and through the national driving test.

Reduce traffic volume = less pollution. Most car journeys under 3 miles which is only 15 minutes on a bike. Increased cycling a big voice for increased investment. Holland 27% modal share of transport, yet injuries here tend to be far more frequent (per mile cycled) and serious.

The group then had a general discussion, which included:

JF: We need road design with humans at the centre. Following recent negative media coverage GMCC has received more reports of abuse on roads, but we shouldn't forget that on average in GM 250,000 miles are cycled before any collision. For GB it's 180,000. Cycling is safe and we must put positive messages out too.

DS: 50yrs behind Holland but there's a positive vibe around planning.

CH: better facilities from employers would be a massive boost.

6. Cycling Safety

Prior to the scheduled agenda items the forum observed a minute's silence to remember Vicky Myers who was killed in a collision on Stockport Road, Timperley on Sunday 27th August 2017, aged just 24.

6a. A560 petition

JF: RK's petition was considered at recent technical meeting and the group's position was expressed to ST.

RK: Confirmed he felt the process and outcome was appropriate.

AGREED: all agreed the surface must be improved first then cycle lanes, ideally wider, should be repainted.

ACTION ST: Investigate operational / funding requirements to resurface & re-line A560 cycle lanes.

6b. Revision of TCF's position statement on cycle lane widths

DS: will support 2m minimum lane principle and only less on short distances. Need to address for design guidance.

CL: Width requirements for protected lanes should also be included

ACTION TCF: draft a revised position statement on cycle lane widths via google group

6c. Brooklands Road petition

JF thanked Bob for his informative video and briefly updated the group to highlight that it's not a clear-cut situation due to the limited width and lack of parking restrictions. No immediate action proposed.

7. Open Forum / A.O.B.

7a. Admin Team – JF commented that the current group of four are getting up to speed with what's required and would benefit from amending each person's role, ideally without requiring a formal vote. Request the group's approval for this - approved.

ACTION TCF-Admins: revise role descriptions then update members.

CT (former chair): great job so far

DS: great job and keep it up

8. Date and Location of Next Meeting(s)

8a. Social meet-up: Tuesday 16th January from 7.30pm at The Bridge Inn, Sale, M33 7QH

8b. Technical meeting (Amey/Trafford items, not Metrolink): Pre-xmas, date TBC

8c. 2018 Forums, 6-8pm at Trafford Town Hall: Tuesday 30th January, Tuesday 8th May

New and Revised Action Points

Item	Lead	Action
2a	CTR	Ensure TCF content on Trafford Website is updated, correctly located and signposted
2b	Admins	Publish July's TCF minutes
3a	SS	Circulate Sale summary, gather comments from TCF members, update DC by 20/10/17
3a	DC	Invite TCF to any future stakeholder meetings regarding the Sale proposals
3a	DS	Supply examples of harmonious walking and cycling for DC to consider for School Road
3b	TCF	Respond to the revised Stretford masterplan consultation
3c	DT/JF	Provide examples of entry treatments to DS, for use across Longford Street.
3c	DS	Consider plans, costs and funding for A56->Talbot Rd movement, then update TCF
3c	TCF	Alert GMSF when land is needed for route improvements, eg Iltron site, Talbot Rd
4a	MK	Provide TCF with an update if/when the report is approved
4b	DS/CTR	Invite representatives from TCF to be involved in LCWIP process
6a	ST	Investigate operational / funding requirements to resurface & re-line A560 cycle lanes
6b	TCF	Draft a revised position statement on cycle lane widths via google group
7a	Admins	Revise TCF-Admin role descriptions then update members