

SPOKES Monthly Meeting



Date: 5 March 2025 **Venue:** The Globe, Newbury

Present: Joe Gregson, Alan Langley, Gordon Oliver, William Pitt, Paul Rumsby, Clive Tombs

Apologies: Rob Borthwick, Ed Cooper

Ref	Item	Action
1.	Minutes and Actions Arising from Previous Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Gordon had requested footfall data, but this had not yet been provided – will chase again. GO▪ Gordon had forwarded the invitation to William.▪ William confirmed that Spokes insurance would cover the event.▪ William had completed the risk assessments – Gordon to check. GO	
2.	Greenfest <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The following had volunteered to provide support for the stall:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Paul – whole day– Rob – AM only – assist with collection and setup– Ed – PM only– Gordon – setup and takedown.▪ William to confirm if the stall would be indoors or outside. WP▪ The following were proposed for the stall:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Gazebo, weights and table– Bicycle hoopl (Gordon to provide the bike) GO– Maps– Lands End to John O’Groats map– M-Check leaflets– QR code to cycle maintenance leaflet– Membership cards– QR code to Greenham Trust canal web page– Leaflets about key routes (Clive to share content for Eling Way)– Couch to 50k– Social bike rides	

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3.	<p data-bbox="188 203 215 1041">Cycling Festival</p> <ul data-bbox="215 203 1356 1041" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="215 203 1356 369">William confirmed that the Safety Advisory Group had approved the plans, but some documents were still to be finalised for the parade and event management. <li data-bbox="215 369 1356 481">William had paid the deposit to Outspoken Cycles, and Spokes had reimbursed him with a cheque. <li data-bbox="215 481 1356 593">The event was proposed to run from 1pm to 5pm, with the parade starting at 1.45pm. <li data-bbox="215 593 1356 660">A variety of events would take place in the arena. <li data-bbox="215 660 1356 817">There would be a number of stalls, including: Sustrans, CRT, West Berkshire Council (x2), Greenham Trust (TBC), Newbury Community Resource Centre, Meadvale Bays/Jim the Bike Guy, Banjo Cycles, Cycling UK, Trek (TBC) <li data-bbox="215 817 1356 884">William to find out about the museum display. <li data-bbox="215 884 1356 952">Velo and the Road Club would be organising social rides. <li data-bbox="215 952 1356 1019">Publicity for the event was in production. <li data-bbox="215 1019 1356 1041">William to get prices for some polo shirts 	<p data-bbox="1356 203 1495 817"></p> <p data-bbox="1356 817 1495 884">WP</p> <p data-bbox="1356 996 1495 1041">WP</p>
4.	<p data-bbox="188 1064 215 1220">Google Docs</p> <ul data-bbox="215 1064 1356 1220" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="215 1064 1356 1153">William to give other Spokes members access to the shared folders. <li data-bbox="215 1153 1356 1220">All committee members to review and upload relevant documents. 	<p data-bbox="1356 1064 1495 1153">WP</p> <p data-bbox="1356 1153 1495 1220">All</p>
5.	<p data-bbox="188 1232 215 1411">Vegetation</p> <ul data-bbox="215 1232 1356 1411" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="215 1232 1356 1411">Clive reported that he had prepared a list of 45 sites along the highway/ cycle route network where overhanging vegetation was an issue. These had been passed to colleagues in WBC Highways for action. 	
5.	<p data-bbox="188 1422 215 1825">Eling Way</p> <ul data-bbox="215 1422 1356 1825" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="215 1422 1356 1601">It was confirmed that highway works had been ordered for Phase 1 within Hermitage, with public rights of way works to follow. However, some footpath sections were currently flooded. <li data-bbox="215 1601 1356 1713">The strategy for future phases had been sent to the Executive Portfolio holder. <li data-bbox="215 1713 1356 1825">The aim was to set up a charitable organisation to oversee future route development. 	
5.	<p data-bbox="188 1836 215 1995">WBC Cycle Schemes</p> <ul data-bbox="215 1836 1356 1995" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="215 1836 1356 1995">Linkway 2 signage had been installed for the Newbury-Thatcham corridor between Victoria Park and Broadway. This used journey times based on 10mph for on-road sections and 8mph for other sections. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A dedicated web page had been created for the Old Bath Road Scheme: Old Bath Road, Newbury and Speen - West Berkshire Council. Consultation was underway to reclaim the kerbside parking areas, with cycle symbols proposed on the carriageway. A cycle gate was proposed part-way along for Kings Road. Signs would be erected to warn motorists of cyclists emerging from Kings Road onto Hambridge Road. It was agreed that at the next Cycle Forum, Spokes to request at the next Cycle Forum that the existing crossing be upgraded to a toucan to help cyclists cross to Sainsbury's. 	
6.	NCN4	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was confirmed that West Berkshire Council had approved £700K as part of next year's budget to reinstate the section of towpath between Costa Coffee and Victoria Park. This section had been the subject of significant erosion behind the sheet piling. Greenham Trust and West Berkshire Council had each allocated £80,000 towards the for the section between Hambridge Road and Bulls Lock. 	
7.	Cycle Parking	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycle stands were being installed to serve the shops at: Wash Common, Kiln Road, and Turnpike Road. 	
8.	Comms and Engagement	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joe had been given website access. As agreed, Spokes account on X had been deleted. Joe to set up a Bluesky account. Gordon to give Joe access to the Spokes Facebook account. William to set Joe up on Spond. Suggested articles for the website / newsletter included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dropped kerbs at Hampstead Norreys Village Hall. 	<p>JG</p> <p>GO</p> <p>WP</p>
Next meeting:	Wednesday 2 April @7.30pm	
Venue:	Bacon Arms, 10 Oxford Street, Newbury, RG14 1JB	