



## **Minutes of meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025 Parish Room Helsby Community Sports and Social Club 19:30**

**Introductions and Attendance:** Steve Pemberton (SP), Sarah Temple [Helsby parish councillor] (ST), , Ashley McCraight (AMc), Frank White (FW), Tom Rawlings (TR), Chris Copeman [CWAC Councillor] (CC), Heather Green (HG) Liz Holmes LH ( Secretary Mid Cheshire Bridleways) Sue (?) (Treasurer Mid Cheshire Bridleways)

**Apologies:** Patrick Milroy (PM), Nick Sljivic (NS), Andy Chapell (AC),

**Next meeting:** **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – 7:30 pm Helsby Sports and Social Club**

### **Notes:**

#### **Mid Cheshire Bridleways**

Liz Holmes and Sue (?) talked of the work creating suitable safe routes for horse riders that they have done in the area, Delamere Loop and Whitegate way links good examples of their excellent work. Notably Liz is an officer of CWaC with responsibility for PROW! There **is** clearly potential to work collaboratively, especially on:-

Leisure aspects withing the proposed paths on the proposed solar farm.  
Helsby – Mouldsworth greenway

We will add them to our circulation list, invite to meetings and explore how we can achieve our shared goals at greater speed

#### **Deputy Chair**

- Frank has volunteered to be deputy chair on a temporary basis

#	Topic	Background and Latest status	Action Needed	Who
1	Integrated Sustainable Taskforce (ISTT) (previously Active Travel Forum)	<p><b>Background:</b> The purpose of the 'ISST' was to enable CWaC to consult a diverse group of engaged members to provide feedback in respect of projects that the council decides to pursue. Formed from 3 separate groups including the Active Travel Forum. The ISST leader is Rose McArthur.</p> <p><b>Latest:</b> CC has asked Rose McArthur who said it would be looked at and will bring it up with Louise Gittings. One way of progressing could be to table a motion @CWAC meeting.</p>	Waiting for a response from Rose McArthur	CC
2.	Road Surfaces - Pothole Reporting	<p><b>Background:</b> Experience has shown that CWAC's Highways Dept. respond quite promptly to specific requests to fill them. However, they need to pass criteria which don't take account of cyclists needs.</p> <p>CNC members are encouraged to report as many potholes as possible using the report-it app  <a href="https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it-app.aspx">https://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/residents/contact-us/report-it-app.aspx</a></p>	Collate website responses on top 3 potholes and orchestrate a reporting campaign, over a 3-4 month period	SP
3.	Frodsham Solar Farm Planning Application	<p><b>Background:</b> 2<sup>nd</sup> stage consultation has been published and SP &amp; AM met with Axis and Cubico</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Latest:</b> We have had a verbal agreement that horse riders and cyclists will be included in the planning documents for users of the paths within the scheme and that efforts will be made to make some paths useable by those with mobility challenges</li> <li>○ Ashley has asked Cubico to put this in writing</li> </ul>	<p>Waiting Cubicos response</p> <p>CC to contact Cheshire West Planning (Rob Charnley). He should cite DM37 which states that developments should improve access where possible. Ashley has offered to help</p>	<p>AM</p> <p>CC</p>
3a	Hy Net H <sup>2</sup> Gas pipeline	<p><b>Background:</b> A Hy Net hydrogen gas pipeline is due to be built across the Frodsham marshes.</p> <p><b>Latest:</b> CNC response submitted by AMc in Nov 24</p>	Waiting for Hynet to respond to our inputs to their consultations	<p>All</p> <p>AMc</p>

4.	Publicity	<p><b>Background:</b> CNC look to make people aware of its work and key issues via web site and Facebook pages. Encouraging more volunteers and driving forwards the CNC agenda.</p> <p><b>Latest:</b> Website hits go up markedly when we post news bulletins then advise through FB posts HG suggested we write articles for Chester Chronicle which we agreed was a good idea</p>	<p>Strategy to be continued</p> <p>Draft a suitable article for Chester Chronicle</p>	<p>TR</p> <p>Discuss at March meeting</p>
5.	Cycle Maps	<p><b>Background:</b> CNC have produced printed maps of local cycle routes in Frodsham and Helsby area. Which are also available on the CNC web site. These receive positive feedback.</p> <p><b>Latest:</b> We have run out of maps</p>	<p><b>21/1 Held over until MW can be present</b></p> <p>Add current routes to CNC website</p>	<p>SP</p> <p>TR</p>
6	NCN#5 re-route (previously Helsby Cycle Route)	<p><b>Background:</b> CNC commissioned study of possible cycle routes through Helsby has been adopted by Sustrans and extended to include Frodsham and the Helsby-Mouldsworth disused railway line.</p> <p><b>Latest:</b> Meeting held with Karen Stevens and a few queries raised, Sustrans to get these responded to then we need to close off the crowdfunding report off . HHS to Plovers La section to be carried forward into next stage, (assessment/prioritization by CWaCs consultants</p>	<p>Close off Crowdfunding report when KS responds.</p> <p>Agree our “what next” (if anything)</p>	SP
7	Frodsham Town Council	<p><b>Background:</b> A working group comprising CNC’s AMc, FW, MW and Cllrs Aidan Holman, Lucy Sumner &amp; Pauline Lowrie is working to improve Active Travel (AT) in Frodsham.</p> <p><b>Latest:</b> Excellent progress reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The town map has been completed and will be displayed at the station soon</li> <li>○ The map is being reformatted for display at two bus stations</li> <li>○ A crossing will be built on Church Street in the next few weeks</li> <li>○ There is funding for two crossings to be built per year</li> <li>○ Currently bidding for a 20 mph zone in Frodsham town centre</li> </ul>	CNC - monitoring	AMc

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sarah: the North Cheshire Rail Partnership have ringfenced funding for similar projects in Helsby</li> <li>CNC will support these efforts where possible</li> </ul>		
8	CWAC Highway Consulting	<p><b>Background:</b> CWAC have opened a consultation on Highways LTP 4</p> <p><b>Latest:</b> CWAC have backed off their commitment to engage with the main respondents and the consultation comments will be added to the report to the council meeting in September 24</p>	LTP 4 report awaited in Spring	
9	Indicators of success	<p><b>Improve cycle Safety</b> On surfaces there is no evidence On increased cycling there is no data, but anecdotal evidence suggests that more kids are cycling and walking to school.</p> <p><b>Increase Reach of CNC forum</b> The number of subscribers to the CNC Facebook page has increased to 270.</p>	AMc to attempt to get the cycling and walking data from CWAC & Sustrans 21/1 – Requests made to Sustrans & CWaC but no responses	AMc
11	Audit of Accounts	It is felt that some form of Audit of CNC's accounts should be done and an independent check	Complete with no queries <b>Item closed</b>	
12	E bike consultation	<p><b>Background:</b> Government consultation has two key elements</p> <p>1 Upping power limit to 500Kw _ helpful for cargo bike etc</p> <p>2 "Twist &amp; go bikes" effectively electric motorbikes, no need to pedal, CNC against this</p> <p><b>Latest:</b> No feedback from CNC response to the consultation</p>	Government has reported and all our inputs were successful  <b>Item closed</b>	
13	Secure cycle storage	<p><b>Background:</b> The provision of secure cycle storage as seen at some railway stations may encourage more use of cycling locally. The Frodsham doctor's surgery and railways stations are possible locations.</p> <p>This type of project may be suitable to apply for MCBF funding</p>	Chris will contact the doctor's surgery to see if they would support the addition of secure cycle storage	CC
14	A533 Crossing	Status of the A533 crossing that was planned to be installed is unclear	Waiting for HE/HBC to agree funding source.	SP
15	Climate Emergency Response	Ashley has circulated the CWaC Climate Emergency Response Plan 2025-203	Ashley to draft a response summarising our collective views, all to submit views. SP	AMc

		<p>The consensus was that the aims were vague and not measurable</p> <p>Ashley: we should aim to influence the design code</p> <p>Liz: the design code will be published soon</p>	<p>will submit a CNC response. All encouraged to submit personal responses</p> <p>Ashley will circulate the design code when it is released</p>	AMc
Retired Topics				

