

Summary of the minutes of the Movement and Place Sub-Group – Monday 9th September 2019

Cycling Provision alongside the A4018

The Sub-Group's considered the drawings outlining the proposed route and made the following points:

Page | 1

- In addition to the existing footway, an additional path would be made accessible all year round which was currently too muddy to be used during the winter months
- An uncontrolled crossing on a raised table would be built where Upper Belgrave Road meets Roman Road. The proposed cycle way would continue in a north bound direction along the trees
- There would be uncontrolled crossings across both the northern and southern arm of Parry's Lane, the southern on another raised table
- The proposed path will come to an end south of Henleaze Avenue
- The flood risk team are currently looking at the possibility of an infiltration basin to provide sustainable drainage in this location; this has no relation to the new path

In response to officers and Sub-Group members' questions, the officer gave the following responses:

- Whilst signage would be used, it would be very difficult to enforce restricted use of the path to pedestrians with cyclists on the existing shared-use path immediately adjacent to the Westbury Road carriageway
- Officers would work with the Grounds Supervisor to ease difficulties to access at the corner of Parry's Lane for some events since certain major events ran access points right alongside this point (Foodies Festival and Funderworld)
- Work could also be done to help reduce any concerns about the potential loss of wildflower meadow at Parry's Lane
- A deeper sub-base would be provided along Westbury Road to help in improving the currently muddy conditions along this route
- There was currently cycle provision from Crow Lane down to Greystoke Avenue and it was hoped that this would help to provide it along Westbury Road
- Any future planning permission could be for the whole loop so that the Seven Sisters Loop could be completed in future with existing Planning permission

Sub-group members made the following additional points:

- People's habits are changing. Usage of the path could open up new areas to use. An improved leisure use up to Henleaze could encourage greater cyclists' use. Recent discussions in Brighton about urban parks demonstrated that the way the Downs was used would help to ensure its vitality

- A more formalised approach may be required in future to the use of wildflower meadows as a result of these proposed changes
- An alternative approach of upgrading the existing pavement should be considered. It was important to avoid setting patterns of use before they were fully understood. The proposed double pathway and cycleway was a cause for concern
- Funding for cycling was important to encourage its use and stop potential log jams along the Downs

The Sub-Group recommended that the proposals be considered in conjunction with the reservations expressed by some members and brought forward to the Downs Committee for a decision to be made.

Leisure Loop

Sub-Group members noted that further progress was required and acknowledged that work was required on the traffic survey to accompany the proposal. It was agreed that a meeting should be set up to discuss this issue further.