

Summary of the Minutes of the Movement and Place Sub-Group – Wednesday 26th February 2020

In Attendance:

Councillors – Peter Abraham, Don Alexander and Paula O'Rourke

Merchant Venturers – Jonathon Baker (Chair)

Officers: Steven Riley, Ben Skuse and Jeremy Livitt

Also Attending: Mandy Leivers – Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project

Apologies: Gillian Camm and Tim Ross

Minutes of the Previous Sub-Group Meeting – 15th January 2020

The Sub-Group noted that the reference to the Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Trust was incorrect and should be altered to read Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project.

Leisure Loop

Steven Riley advised the Sub-Group that a meeting had taken place on 26th February 2020 concerning the Leisure Loop to advise Cycle Sunday on the process that was required for them to prepare their scheme. It was noted that Planning Permission would be required but that the permission of the Secretary of State may not be needed.

Vicki Cracknell and Jonny Wood were investigating how funding could be obtained for the scheme.

A report would be submitted to a future Downs Committee as appropriate.

Proposed Car Parking Restrictions on the Downs

Jeremy Livitt advised the Sub-Group that Mark Sperduty would be preparing a report on this issue to be submitted to Cabinet.

It was noted that, whilst this was a concern for the Downs Committee, the adjoining highway was the responsibility of Bristol City Council who needed to confirm whether or not they could provide the resources to properly tackle this situation.

Action: Jeremy Livitt to request that Mark Sperduty advises Downs Committee members when this report is scheduled to go to Cabinet to enable the Committee and/.or individual members to submit comments as a consultee.

Cycling Provision Alongside the A4018

Steven Riley reported that, following the vote at the Special Committee on 20th January 2020 to proceed with this scheme, work would start in more detail once

funding had been identified. Whilst there was currently funding for the northern end of the route, further discussions would shortly be taking place with Bristol City Council's legal representatives and South Gloucestershire to secure this part of the agreement and speed up the process.

He confirmed that design work was currently taking place on the scheme. Subject to the scheme remaining under budget as currently projected, there might be a small amount of additional funding which could be diverted from the cycle lane scheme at Crow Lane to speed up delivery. He indicated that the design would take approximately 3 to 4 months. It was noted that it was not yet clear how many comments were likely to be generated during the consultation process for this scheme.

Action: A full report to be submitted to the Downs Committee meeting on Monday 29th June 2020 – Jeremy Livitt

Play Park Near Water Tower – Residents' Request

Councillor Paula O'Rourke advised that Councillor Carla Denyer had received a large number of requests from constituents for a play park near this location on the Downs.

Sub-Group members suggested that Carla Denyer is advised to undertake a survey of members in her ward and neighbouring wards as appropriate in consultation with the relevant Councillors. On the basis of the information obtained, she could then contact Bristol City Council Parks Department concerning this request to seek their advice as to where would be the best place to locate it and what would be required to provide it, including appropriate cost and arrangements for access. It was noted that the area would need to be properly fenced to ensure it was secure.

It was noted that any such request needed to be considered in conjunction with the plans for renovation of the changing rooms and the new café.

Action: Paula O'Rourke to advise Carla Denyer accordingly.

