



Warwickshire
POLICE



West Mercia
POLICE



Safety Advisory Group - Regulated Cycle Events on the Highway

Wednesday 4th March 2015

Leek Wootton

NOTES OF MEETING

Present:	Phil Moore	Police (Traffic Management Advisor) Chair
	Ian Connolly	Police (Traffic Management Assistant) Minutes
	Patricia Lewer	Police (Community Volunteer)
	Keith Davenport	Warwickshire County Council (Traffic Manager)
	Barrie Mitchell	LVRC
	Mick Ives	LVRC
	Laurie Bird	Rugby Racing Cycle Club
	Steven Walker	LC and AC CTT (Midlands and National)
	Sheila Hardy	CTT Mid Open Event Sec./ CTT National Chairman
Apologies:	Simon Edwards	Amey (Highways Agency Area 9)
	Frank Bird	Highways Agency (Contingency and Event Planner)
	Keith Evans	British Cycling (Regional Events Officer)
	David Barry	CTT Midland District (Secretary)
	Copy to:	Rod Reynolds

Ref.	Item	Action
1.	<p>Introduction</p> <p>1.1 PM Opened and introduced the meeting at 19:05hrs.</p> <p>1.2 Introductions given and apologies noted.</p>	
2.	<p>Matters Arising From Previous SAG</p> <p>2.1 Mick Ives & Sheila Hardy not showing as “apologies” from previous meeting. Noted by IC</p> <p>2.2 IC confirmed that 2015 many of the time trial applications for the 2015 season were now including alternative courses in the event that the first choice course was unavailable for any reason.</p>	
3.	<p>Warwickshire & West Mercia Police</p> <p>3.1 PM advised that after a period of leave due to commence mid March he was due to have another operation which would mean him being away from the office until around mid/end June. IC to now be the main contact in the event of queries around cycle events in Warwickshire & West Mercia Police areas.</p> <p>3.2 PM/PL requested where possible that organisers provide a SAE for return of replies as there was no franking machine available in the office where Patricia was based. There followed some discussion around how replies were sent to TT requests.</p> <p>3.3 IC confirmed that most requests were coming in with the “K” course number on which was appreciated. Both IC & PL reiterated the importance of applications being received in a timely fashion, especially as PL as a police volunteer may be away from the office for a period of time and replies may not be sent immediately requests are received in the office.</p> <p>3.4 So far this year 381 notices have been issued by Warwickshire.</p>	<p>PM/IC/PL to look into possibilities of issuing one letter to cover multiple TT requests.</p>
4.	<p>Highways Agency</p> <p>4.1 Frank Bird had sent his apologies as he could not attend the meeting but had confirmed verbally that he had no issues to raise.</p>	

	<p>SH confirmed that Frank had accepted an invitation to attend the CTT Events Organisers workshop on 14th March 2015.</p> <p>MI commended the work done by Galliford Try on cycle routes around the Toll Bar Island works, but raised concerns about some “commuter” cyclist who were not following the signed routes and wearing dark clothing and showing no lights at night.</p> <p>PM confirmed that workshops had been run with local employers to educate and advise on safe cycling in the area following a recent fatal RTC in the area.</p>	
5.	<p>Warwickshire County Council</p> <p>5.1 KD reported that Warwickshire County Council were part of a group of local authorities who were in talks with HS2 regarding the building of the scheme. 25% of the total route will be in Warwickshire.</p> <p>The scheme is expected to receive Royal Assent in 2016 with construction commencing in the second half of 2017. Major road closures and disruption should be expected in 2017/18 & 19.</p> <p>Event organisers will need to take this into account when scheduling events for these years.</p> <p>The HS2 website is live and gives some basic detail of the work area, but nothing specific is expected until the 2nd or 3rd quarter of 2016.</p> <p>SH commented that there would be implications not only on the roads directly affected by the works, but also to expect extra traffic on other routes due to diversions and traffic avoiding congested areas.</p> <p>KD then explained a little about the improved www.roadworks.org website. WCC are soon to adopt the Streetworks Permit Scheme for roadworks which is due to go live on 16th March 2015. There will be ongoing changes in how roadworks and highway events are handled within the authority but it is expected to be an “evolving” process so things will change gradually over the course of 2015.</p> <p>It should be noted that the A445 is being used as a route for large lorries taking “spoil” from the Tollbar Island works, so the public should expect an increase in traffic on this route and an increased likelihood of there being mud on the road. This has obvious safety implications for cyclists.</p>	
6.	<p>Cycling Time Trials</p>	

	<p>SH advised that she had recently attended a workshop with the HA in the SW area. One proposal was for a large “Fold Down” type sign showing the red warning triangle with “Caution Cycle Race” wording on it. The proposal is that on certain HA roads that are used regularly for Time Trials, these signs will be erected on existing street furniture by HA staff early in the season and taken down at the end of the season. When races take place on the affected roads, the signs can be opened to display the warning as appropriate, removing the need for the current temporary correx signs.</p> <p>A discussion around the suitability of the signs followed and KD/PM/IC all agreed that they were broadly in favour of the concept, but the signs were not suitable for all locations and their use would need to be considered on a case by case basis.</p>	<p>SH to take this issue forward with Frank Bird/HA to get their thoughts on the use of the signs.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>None</p>	
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1</p>	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>Proposed Leek Wootton: End June/Early July date TBC. Preferred day would be a Monday to avoid clashes with midweek club races.</p>	
<p>8.</p> <p>8.1</p>	<p>Close</p> <p>PM Closed the meeting at approx 20:30hrs.</p>	