

## **TWO TUNNELS GREENWAY**

### **MEETING OF THE TTG/BathNES/Sustrans STEERING GROUP HELD AT THE GUILDHALL BATH ON 16 SEP 08**

#### **MAIN POINTS AND ACTIONS**

**Present:** Chair Frank Tompson Chair TTG  
Sustrans Adrian Roper Director South West  
BathNES Council Neil Butters Councillor  
BathNES Council Mark Cassidy Parks Arboriculture Officer  
BathNES Council Adrian Clarke Transportation & Planning  
BathNES Council Alison Sherwin Area Traffic Engineer  
Secretary Martin Sadd TTG

#### **1. Apologies**

Gitte Dawson, SG Chair; Cllr Paul Crossley; Alison White, BathNES Council Property Dept; Richard Backhouse, Head Monkton Combe School

#### **2. Review of Main Points and Actions from 28 July 08 meeting**

These were all covered under agenda items.

#### **3. BathNES Council Commitment - Report and Decision**

The BathNES Council report on the Two Tunnels Project - Reference E1842 - had been submitted to Cllr Charles Gerrish, Cabinet Minister for Customer Services. This included provision for £100k for each of the first two financial years and a further £100k for the last two years 'subject to the project's performance and subject to annual review of the Council's Transport Capital programme': it also included a resolution to the VAT issue.

In general the Two Tunnels Group and Sustrans were happy with the report which was about as good as could have been wished for in the circumstances; however they considered that the proposal that all council expenses should be met from project costs was unwarranted.

NB had spoken with David Trigwell (Divisional Director Transportation) who would require a full business case from Sustrans and who advised that BathNES Council Major Projects organisation would be required to monitor ongoing costs.

AC advised that following the report's endorsement, work would need to be undertaken to draw up the 'Head of Terms', preceding a contract between BathNES Council and Sustrans. This would include identification of set up costs, legal requirements, scope, liability,

insurances, roles of the two organisations and possible risks. He requested that Sustrans provide details of lighting and maintenance costs and advice on land purchase issues.

**Action:** AC and AR to set about drawing up the necessary bespoke contract by mid Dec 08 latest, as no work could be started until it was in place: it was imperative that no more time was lost to start on site than absolutely essential.

#### **4. Project Planning**

**Phase 1 Implementation:** While the drawing up of a contract would impact upon the start date for work on the route, it was agreed that in parallel, work on the submission of planning application for the bridges would be undertaken. While the bridges could, in theory, be left to the later phases as possible sacrifices if full funding was not met for the project, the Sustrans/TTG view was that full funding of the project could and would be secured.

At AR's request, in order to progress the bridges planning application, MC agreed to conduct a survey iaw BS5837 to identify those trees that would require removal.

**Action:** MC (FT to assist if required)

**Work Plan for Tucking Mill Viaduct:** A licence for leasing the viaduct was awaited before work could start and this was the primary cause of delay.

**Action:** AR to chase with Rupert Crosbie

There was a need to identify which work will be carried out by Sustrans and what would be completed by TTG volunteer group/community groups. Nigel Bryant had submitted a work-plan which awaited AR's agreement. In the meantime TTG were seeking quotations for bricks/coping and bricklaying work.

**Action:** AR

No further progress had been made on the Midford Castle stretch owned by Nicholas Cage, currently a public footpath, although his agents had given an initial indication that the proposal to use the path and upgrade it to bridleway status would be viewed sympathetically.

**Lighting:** No change from last meeting. Buro Happold had been engaged to produce an initial outline specification and this was awaited.

**Action:** AR to enquire what work had so far been conducted by Buro Happold and press them into action.

#### **5. Funding**

**BathNES Council Contribution:** See Above

**Safe Routes to Schools:** It was hoped that this would provide significant revenue to the project. Sustrans had delegated approval authority. AS agreed to contact Kevin Amos for information needed to make the bid. Sustrans (Robin Latchworth poc) would prioritise the bid as part of their Connect 2 funding and AR was optimistic that it would be successful. The bid would have to be made on a school by school basis and required considerable work to establish specific routes, usage patterns, area populations etc.

Action: AS to lead on this most important piece of work. AR and FT to provide background documentation

**TTG Group Campaign:** Revenue was due from the King Bladud Pig sale on 31 Oct 08. Other funding areas were being investigated by Rosie Fairchild of Sustrans and a Sustrans/TTG meeting was to be held 6 Oct 08 to consider potential funding streams and the way ahead.

Action: AR/FT

## 6. Northern Links

Gary Lewis, the Highways Officer, was now on long term sick-leave so no action had been taken to arrange a joint on-site meeting to discuss the Eastern link through to BWR.

Action: AS to take forward

Bath Western Riverside S106 funding was still the subject of discussion with Crest Nicolson. It would remain on the project's hit list.

The route down Inverness Road to Lower Bristol Road was discussed yet again. This time it was proposed that the widening of the pavement down to the Halfpenny Bridge, and the upgrading of the 'pelican' crossing to a 'toucan', would be subject to a submission into the BathNES Council cycling budget. Priority would be determined in accordance with competing projects.

Action: AS to take forward

## 7. Community Involvement

Possible volunteer projects had been identified after a route walk by AR and TTG committee members and it had been proposed that a presentation would be made to interested community groups in October so they could agree to undertake certain tasks. Identification of small project areas was needed to ensure that initial enthusiasm to help was not lost. With the lapse in Phase 1 it was agreed to put this meeting on hold so that it could be held closer to the start of work.

Action: AR to agree FT's submittal/notes regarding possible projects. MS to advise MC when Arts group had proposals had been received

In conjunction with Culverhay School an Arts Group had been set up to provide some sculptures and other works, although this may be some time away.

## **8. Use by Horses**

AR advised that Caroline Claydon from the Cotswold horse user group had contacted him regarding use of the path for horses. The meeting expressed concerns, including cost and safety in tunnels. AC suggested that consultation with the BathNES Public Rights of Way group was also required.

Action: AC

It was important to make an informed judgement on the issue and it was agreed that Caroline should be invited to the next meeting to discuss it. AR would email her in advance outlining potential concerns.

Action: FT and AR

## **9. AOB**

20 Sep 08 – TTG route walk

19/20 Oct 08 - 'Goodbye to the Pigs' – Victoria Park Bath

## **10. Date and Location of Next Meeting**

Tue 28 Oct 08 at 2.30pm. Dome Room, Guildhall, Bath.

Action: Neil Butters to book room and refreshments please.

25 Sep 08 Martin Sadd  
Secretary