



Harwell Campus Bicycle Users Group (HarBUG)
Annual General Meeting 2018

1230 Tuesday 16th October 2018
Room G59, Diamond House, Harwell Campus

Meeting Notes
and Annual Accounts

Attendees

K Wilkinson (DLS, Chair), T Canfer (STFC), C Colborne (DLS), R Cooper (DLS) A Harrison (DLS),
A Haynes (MRC), S James (STFC), V Khotkevych (DLS), N Paterson (DLS), E Polehampton (STFC),
M Popkiss (DLS), N Portsmouth (Nuvia), D Rolfe (STFC), M Wild (STFC), G Wilkin (DLS, Secretary)

Apologies for Absence

M Gibson (Treasurer), A Collings (Ricardo), I Roberts (Ricardo)

Report from Chair and Matters Arising

Attendees welcomed to meeting.

Campus Cycle-to-Work Days 2018: HarBUG ran two cycle days this year, in April and June. These were both well-attended. As always, free breakfasts were available, and guided rides were provided from local towns. The June day included the cycle surgery. Sponsorship for the April event came from Campus management, and Element 6 sponsored the June day.

Campus Infrastructure: HarBUG has commented on a proposal to add traffic lights to the A4185 Thomson Avenue junction, which should see the provision of advanced stop lines for cycle-users.

Also, it is planned to start routing buses around the campus, and the campus speed limit may be reduced to 20mph.

A Campus Travel Survey is about to be undertaken – HarBUG members are encouraged to respond.

HarBUG AGM 2018 Minutes

Routes to/from Campus: HarBUG attended the official opening of the Backhill tunnel, at Milton Park. This is part of a strategy to develop a good quality north-south cycle route from Abingdon to Harwell Campus, which will include a new cycle bridge over A34, south of the Milton interchange.

In Didcot, HarBUG has commented favourably on proposals to install proper hybrid cycle lanes on B4493 Wantage Rd. This is challenging, there is not much space available.

A planning application to build a Service Area at the A34 Chilton Interchange has been withdrawn.

Local Development: HarBUG participates in development forums for the Crab Hill & Grove Airfield housing developments in Wantage. Whilst cycling provision within the developments will be reasonable, it is a matter of great concern that connectivity to surrounding areas will be poor or non-existent!

HarBUG attended the launch of a report by the 'Transport for New Homes Association'. This includes a case-study of Gt Western Park in Didcot. It is clear that the connectivity problem is being repeated across the country.

HarBUG has also tried to get better cycling policy into the new White Horse Local Plan – with mixed success.

Science Vale Cycle Network: The Local Enterprise Partnership has a £5m fund for developing cycle routes in the area. These funds have to be spent by 2021! In consultation with HarBUG, the County Council some time ago planned a network of routes.

On specific routes, the preferred new route between the Campus and Wantage was to have passed through the Hendred villages. Unfortunately it has proved impossible to secure the necessary land beside W Hendred church within the spend timescale. Whilst this is a major disappointment, an alternative route bypassing the villages to the south will be developed.

In order to ensure the funds are spent before the deadline, HarBUG has now provided the Council with an updated list of preferred routes for development. These include new and improved routes between Campus and local towns & villages, also the development of routes within towns. Upgrades (including drainage) to existing routes are important. HarBUG is in regular and ongoing contact with OCC officers regarding the Science Vale Network.

Winnaway: There is still some remaining work required to complete the upgrade works. Once these are complete, HarBUG will apply for conversion of status to Bridleway.

Looking forward: We would like to update the HarBUG website.

We would also like to conduct an up-to-date survey of campus cycle-parking and showers. There has been a considerable amount of new build since we did this before.

Report from Treasurer

2017-2018 accounts: These are appended below. Note that these are made up to 31st August 2018 but start from 5th September. It is suggested that 1st September to 31st August is used as the standard accounting period in future.

HarBUG AGM 2018 Minutes

Membership subs: There has been a very positive response to request for membership subscriptions, with payments from 23 accounts. Most of these have been paid monthly, 1 was annual and 1 quarterly. One person switched between the two categories.

Thank you to everyone who has paid. This has made HarBUG far more sustainable financially.

Contributions to Cycle to Work Days: Harwell Campus continued to show its strong support for cycling by sponsoring our first cycle to work day this year. We were delighted to get support for the second cycle to work day from a new source: Element Six. It is great to see other organisations showing their support. (Thank you to our Chair for facilitating this.)

Internet banking: There was an action from last year to set up internet banking. This is now functioning well. We have also changed the official address of HarBUG to the Harwell Recreation Society premises.

Overall position: In 2014, HarBUG received a grant of £3,000 from STFC to show support for cycling. By the end of last year, £1,167.63 of this remained. No expenditure has been allocated against this funding in the current year.

HarBUG had been operating at a loss, using the STFC grant to pay for revenue items. This year the costs of cycle to work days were covered by company donations and other costs were more than covered by member subscriptions. We therefore had a surplus income over expenditure of £195.40. This is a good to have but is obviously a small amount.

More income from members would increase our ability to act and to influence others. It is suggested that we try to increase the number of subscribers.

ACTION Further communications to encourage contributions from other Harwell cyclists.

Election of Committee

All committee posts are elected annually. Election for 2018-19 as follows:

Chair:

K Wilkinson (proposed by G Wilkin, seconded by D Rolfe)

Treasurer:

M Gibson (prop G Wilkin, sec K Wilkinson)

Secretary:

G Wilkin (prop S James, sec D Rolfe)

Committee Members:

S James (prop G Wilkin, sec K Wilkinson)

D Rolfe (prop G Wilkin, sec K Wilkinson)

A Collings (prop S James, sec G Wilkin)

I Roberts (prop G Wilkin, sec K Wilkinson)

E Polehampton (prop G Wilkin, sec K Wilkinson)

Post Meeting Note:

M Popkiss has also expressed willingness to join committee.

Further Cycling Issues

Promoting HarBUG: There was general agreement that HarBUG needs better promotion and publicity. Suggestions for increasing awareness include more advertising banner placement (not just on cycle-to-work days). Posters could be displayed in changing rooms. More links from campus organisation websites could help, as could mentions in campus newsletters. HarBUG 'hangers' or flags could be attached to cycles to promote awareness (removable)! Displaying maps of cycle routes could help, not just directing people to websites, etc. Placing flyers in local cycle shops is another idea.

We need to continue promoting HarBUG in the various organisations around the campus.

Other Cycling Issues: There was concern about the lack of effective gritting of cycle routes in winter. The provision of salt boxes was mentioned. HarBUG should write to the various authorities about this.

Cycle-repair classes were suggested. Sustainable Didcot and Broken Spokes were mentioned in this regard. It was confirmed that the Campus management is responsible for maintaining the on-site cycle-repair stands.

Clarification was sought as to how to set up regular payments to HarBUG. Payments are made by setting-up a Standing Order to HarBUG, using bank details provided by treasurer@harbug.org.uk. This information is currently missing from website!

ACTION New message to be posted explaining how to set up regular payments to HarBUG. Website to be updated with more information.

The provision of 'free-to-use' bicycles on campus was discussed. Mention was made of Bromptons, second-hand bicycles, also the 'HarBUG' branding of campus bikes.

There have been reports of 'near misses' caused by people cycling along the footway in front of the Library building. This is not a cycleway.

The A34 'Bridge to Berkshire' was discussed. This is a proposal to build a path alongside the A34 between Chilton and the Ilsley junctions. Highways England has funding to implement some cycle infrastructure on trunk roads. We are hopeful the Bridge to Berkshire will be included, as there is only one other project from Oxfordshire. HarBUG has met the design consultants and a report will be submitted to Highways England. The difficulty is predicting the level of expected use – most likely to be for leisure.

G Wilkin

HarBUG Secretary

12th November 2018

HarBUG AGM 2018 Minutes

HarBUG Accounts to 5 September 2018

<i>LAST YEAR FOR REFERENCE</i>	
Opening balance 5 Sep 2016	£1,075.61
<i>income</i>	
Monthly subs, 12 months at 4.00	£48.00
Yearly subs, 1 payment of 5.00	£5.00
total income	£53.00
<i>expenditure</i>	
Banner mods (April 2017)	£30.00
total expenditure	£30.00
Closing balance 3 Sep 2017	£1,098.61

This year	
Opening Balance 4 Sep 2016	£1,098.61
<i>income</i>	
Monthly subs, payees months at £2 - £5	£440.00
Other subs, 2 payees	£64.00
Harwell Campus CTW sponsorship	£400.00
Element 6 CTW sponsorship	£400.00
total income	£1,304.00
<i>expenditure</i>	
banner modifications (x2)	£60.00
Breakfasts for CTW (3 inc. 1 from 2017)	£896.00
IT costs	£152.60
total expenditure	£1,108.60
No cost accruing to next year.	
Closing balance 31 Aug 2018	£1,294.01
Suplus of income of expenditure (loss)	£195.40