

Report from Current Issues group for October Newsletter

PATHS UPDATE

1. Dalnacardoch to Dalnaspidal

Approximately 6km of path has been upgraded. Excellent report.

During the works cyclists were offered the use of a shuttle surface.

There were signs on the A9 warning motorists of cyclists on the carriageway.

Bear are to remove the bollards on the section north of the county boundary, as they created a hazard for cyclists with trailers.

2. Luncarty to Stanley

£77,000 has been awarded from the Scottish Government Places for People scheme which is operated by Sustrans. TP & E have been appointed as engineers.

There is to be public consultation on 2 route options.

ByCycle will be Stakeholders at the consultation.

3. Almondbank to North Inch

Upgrades on the path are now complete.

There is a narrow section near Almondbank where residents have been allowed to purchase bits of river bank for their gardens.

Chicanes have been put in place on the Huntingtower section "Share with Care".

Sustrans permanent signage at the new Almondbank Bridge and riverside works needs to be improved. Action K Melville

INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES

1. Scone to Willowgate

Councillor David Illingworth, with his Sustainable Transport remit, had accompanied Richie Neill and Margaret Scott along the route and they had made notes on short term defects such as potholes, and more far-reaching changes to make the route safer.

After some delay Councillor Illingworth has undertaken to follow up:

1. Pothole fix in Scone Road.
2. Clearer markings for the cycle lane in Bridgeend.
3. Road markings for cycle lane between bridges need replacing
4. A dropped kerb on the road Island View turning at end of 30mph limit and then cycle on a dual use pavement to Willowgate.
5. Clear foliage by Willowgate.

Incident with Jewson's lorry

The lorry driver had bullied Margret at the back of the group, then gestured rudely when the group let him pass.

Councillor Illingworth had written to the CEO and received a reply that they would "ensure that this behaviour does not happen again".

2. Spaces for People infrastructure

K. Melville on behalf of ByCycle had sent a letter expressing disappointment at the lack of social distancing infrastructure put in place during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Part of the problem seems to have been procurement of lane separators, but also antagonism from the public and local councillors.

Here are some useful links explaining the current situation:

The proposed modal filter in Balhousie has been dropped after a petition:

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/pressure-group-says-failure-block-22364040>

https://www.change.org/p/perth-kinross-council-prevent-perth-kinross-council-from-restricting-access-to-balhousie-street-hay-street?source_location=topic_page

High Street pedestrianisation and parklets removed (again, a petition):

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/victory-traders-battle-open-up-22722273>

https://www.change.org/p/perth-kinross-council-scotland-request-perth-kinross-council-to-remove-planters-placed-in-front-of-perth-high-street?source_location=topic_page

Automated crossings removed despite being supported by local disability groups:

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/perth-kinross/1530547/touch-free-traffic-lights-face-review-amid-claims-they-are-causing-traffic-congestion/>

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/in-your-area/perth-traffic-getting-snagged-red-22740646>

I would also like to highlight the hard work and determination of Perth & Kinross Traffic & Network officials for working to install these measures in often challenging circumstances.

One doesn't know what happened to the considerable funding allocated!

3. Cycle Parking at Tesco

Alasdair Dutton has written to Tesco requesting improved cycle parking at the Crieff Road branch.

He had received a "stock" response. K.Melville has written again.

4. Dropped kerb at Berwick Brae

Margaret Scott had reported this. Bill Fiskien had replied for PKC saying this was still in the hands of the developers.

"The situation at Berwick Brae is slightly unusual in that rather than the kerbs being dropped at the crossing point it is the road that is being raised. As you approach the bridge there will be a raised table which will take out the current height difference. I don't know at present when A&J Stephen are planning on carrying out final surfacing."

Action: ByCycle should keep an eye on this.

5. Craigie Pocket Place

Jane Anderson had responded to this request for feedback for local residents.

She commented on the lack of dropped kerb at Windsor terrace, which has been reported before by ByCycle.

Katharine Melville

Coordinator Current Issues Group

14 October 2020