

NEWENT CYCLING GROUP AGM 2022 - TISH'S REPORT

1. Newent - Gloucester Cycleway: phase 1 and 2

(see the Campaigning page of the website for background)

Newent Cycling Group's campaign for a safe cycling route between Newent and Gloucester is finally beginning to bear fruit.

After carrying out a survey in 2021 with Hartpury University & College, which demonstrated overwhelming support for the Cycleway, we now have the Vice Chancellor's full backing, and are working as the community link with their fundraising department. GCC Cycling Strategy Planners and the Public Rights of Way Team are also on board. The Hartpury - Maisemore Link is phase 1, and once that is kicked off, it will galvanise action on phase 2 the Hooks Lane Link at Newent.

The Newent - Gloucester Cycleway is now featured in **the Forest of Dean District Council's Regeneration Department's Capital Project Portfolio Fund**. I have yet to discover from the Officer in charge exactly what this means.

2. Forest of Dean District Council invited NCG to participate in the **Active Travel Strategy Group**. This means NCG now has a voice in the planning of safer cycling in the area.

This is where our local knowledge, as riders, really comes into play. Martin has already provided the Active Travel Group with maps showing where improvements need to be made.

Howard mentioned the deleterious state of our local roads so maybe 'Pothole Watch' would be one for the strategists?

Tish Rickard
22nd March 2022