

Adam Reynolds

The Bath Transport strategy specifically mentions the desire to “break” the Pines Gate Gyratory.

The Bath Quays bridge scheme has a real problem with how it deals with people cycling when they reach Lower Bristol Road. In fact the scheme is looking to use some of the £3.1million of Cycle City Ambition Grant money to solve this problem. This money must be spent by the end of 2018.

The Pines Gate island has just had planning permission granted and, after speaking to the developer, is planning to complete their works by the end of 2018.

The Bath Press site has just had permission granted to deliver 243 new homes

The developers of Roseberry Place have been given permission to build 200 residential flats.

Sustrans is being engaged in April for 3 months to identify and draw up a set of cycle routes to planning stage.

This is an immense opportunity to solve the horror that is Pines Gate, freeing up an immense amount of urban space, AND connecting the Bath Quays bridge to Brougham Hayes, Windsor Bridge, the Two Tunnels and Twerton.

Given political will, we can block off the 12 to 3 o'clock section on Pines Gate, replace the three traffic light systems with dutch style roundabouts reducing 4 lanes of traffic down to 2, and deliver a two

way 2.5m wide cycle track that runs from the Bath Quays Bridge, along the south side of Lower Bristol Road all the way to Twerton.

This opportunity is huge and easy to do right now given the cycling money, the section 106 money, and the willingness of the developers to work on delivering this in the coming two years.

This will be extremely hard, if not impossible to do in 6 months time without being significantly more expensive to the council.

The planets did not align to give me the opportunity to stand as mayor. The planets appear to rather like this proposal however.

Seriously though, this really is a one-off opportunity and you need to get the officers on to this tomorrow. Sustrans begins work drawing up detailed cycle routes in two weeks time. If we can get Sustrans, the developers, and the council working toward a solution, cycling will transform this south side of Bath. You have to act now.

In finishing I would also like to thank this Conservative led council for their dedication and belief that cycling is something we should encourage and build on. It is heartening to see that they budgeted £5000 pounds from the council budget towards cycling in the 2016/2017 or about two and a half pence per resident of Bath and North East Somerset. It is good to know how important cycling is to this cabinet.