

# Minutes of CCC AGM 21st May 2012

## **Present**

John Chamberlain (Chair), Stefano Casalotti, Helen Vecht, Alex McKinnell (Notes). Rita Branshaw, David Cohen, George Coulouris, Charlie Fernandez, Norman Franklin, Martin Freeman, Ellen Gates, Michael Gormally, Angela Hobsbawm, Sheridan Kelly, Luca Salice, Alexandre Santacreu and Geoff Stillwell joined us.

## **MINUTES OF THE 2011 A.G.M**

These had been published by means of a [link on the website](#). Approved by the meeting.

## **COORDINATORS REPORTS (see report on website)**

Stefano Casalotti reported, thanking the committee members for their hard work. On the LCC front the main work had been on the Mayoral Campaign where 5 candidates (including the successful one) had signed up to the LCC Mayoral agenda, and the Go Dutch campaign.

On the Camden front much work was going on on permeability in Kentish Town and West Hampstead, and a lot had been achieved in the area south of Kings Cross station. There had been 5 inspection rides, and regular meetings with Camden. The number of bike hire docking stations in the north of the borough had increased.

CCC had had stalls at several local fairs.

We needed to increase membership and sell the idea that campaigning cost money (particularly London wide campaigning).

Euston Circus (junction of Euston Road and Tottenham Court Road) and the Swiss Cottage Gyration were included in the TfL junction review. There was a lot going on.

## **ACCOUNTS**

Helen Vecht presented these in Meade McCloughan's absence. There was a £265 loss over 2011/2012 but the financial position was still reasonably healthy.

A question was raised as to the bank balances, which totalled about two times turnover – was this too large? In response it was noted that the Camden financial support could fluctuate, and money was being committed to bike maintenance workshops, and that a reasonable balance was needed to cover these.

The accounts for 2011/2012 as presented were approved.

[See accounts on website](#).

## **ELECTION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR 2012/2013**

George Coulouris took the chair for this item.

James Brander, Stefano Casalotti, John Chamberlain, Meade McCloughan, Alex McKinnell and Helen Vecht, being willing to stand, were re-elected.

Nominations were made for Angela Hobsbawm, Alexandre Santacreu and Geoff Stillwell and, all being willing to stand, they were elected to the committee.

The Officers (Joint Coordinators, Treasurer and Secretary) were willing to stay in post and were duly elected.

### **ADDRESS**

Helen Pidd addressed the meeting on Cycling in Berlin.

Helen had been a journalist with the Guardian for 7½ years, and had just completed a one-year posting in Berlin.

She thought that Germany was a cycle friendly country. In Berlin 13%/15% of journeys were by bike. This figure had been 6% in the mid 1990's and the Berlin City Senate had a target of increasing this to 18%/25% by 2020. There were 720 bikes per 1,000 head of population – the analogous figure for cars was 320.

The big hazards were trams and cobble stones (mainly in the former Eastern Zone).

There were lots of bike paths – she instanced Karl Marx Allee (the main thoroughfare of the old Eastern Zone) where she had lived – wide separate motor vehicle free cycle paths throughout its length. If there is a bike path cyclists must use it.

There were accidents (381 cycle fatalities in Germany in 2011). About 10% of cyclists wore helmets. But Helen felt safer cycling in Berlin than in London.

There was a bike hire system not unlike that in London, and hiring a bike from a bike shop was easy. Blocks of flats tended to have locked backyards where bikes could be stored. Bikes could be taken on the S-Bahn outside the rush hour and there is plenty of bike space on the trains, and ramps to help getting bikes up and down steps.

Helen fielded questions, and proceedings ended with applause for a very interesting talk.

### **NEXT MEETING**

18 June 2012 at Primrose Hill Community Centre, 29 Hopkinson's Place NW1 8TN  
Chair Jean Dollimore.