

**CAMDEN CYCLING CAMPAIGN**

**COMMITTEE MEETING**

**10/3/3**

**Present:** Jane Boardman, Chair Stefano Casalotti  
Paul Gannon Paul Gasson  
Daniel Glaser David Arditti  
Lionel Shapiro James Brander,

Notes

**Apologies:** Jean Dollimore

**Matters arising from meeting of Feb 10th.**

Paul Gasson agreed to follow up with LBCamden the Committee's concerns over the Eton Avenue market arrangements.

ACTION Paul Gasson

**Summary of events planned for BikeWeek**

Sunday June 15th: Bikefest to be held with Camden Green Fair

Tower Feeder ride leaves Crouch End Clock at 10am and Islington Town Hall at 10:40.

Weds June 18th: Cyclists' breakfast in Ossulston St

Thurs June 19th: Evening ride TBA

Sat June 21st: Dr Bike at West Hampstead Library

Sun June 22nd: Ride TBA

ACTIONS Stefano Casalotti to ensure Paul Gasson has Bikefest/Green Fair details correct.

James Brander to provide ride details to Paul Gasson, and liaise with LBCamden regarding Dr Bike location. Stefano Casalotti to apply for publicity budget grant from LBCamden. Part of this should be 'ring-fenced' for Bikefest publicity.

Jane Boardman to make usual arrangements for cyclists' breakfast.

**Seven Stations Link Update**

Paul Gasson described how latest plans for the extension to this facility included two major shortcomings: inadequate widths (down to less than 2.2m in places); and at least one switch of sides of the road. He described the Royal College St lane width as 2.4m. Even this is not wide enough for pedicabs, however, and may not satisfy new disabled access legislation.

Paul Gannon reminded everyone that the original concept of the SSL was as a route on which cyclists' needs and safety would take precedence, even where this entailed inconvenience to other road users (eg through one-way streets and loss of parking). Agreed to uphold these principles in discussions with officers.

ACTIONS Paul Gasson to respond to LBCamden officers restating the minimum width requirement (2.5m) and expressing concern over the proposed side switch. He will also try to arrange a meeting with Cllr Thane to clarify the political position.

Daniel Glaser to send Jane Boardman details of publications including design criteria of cycle

facilities so that she can purchase them on behalf of CCC.

#### **Agar Grove/St Pancras Way**

Discussed at length during last meeting.

#### **Next WCRSAG (Council) meeting**

Paul Gasson offered to circulate the minutes of the last of these to the Committee.

ACTIONS Paul Gasson to circulate minutes.  
All to propose agenda items.

#### **Trams and Cycling Conference**

Paul Gasson reminded members of this event in Nottingham on June 26th, asking if anyone could attend on behalf of CCC.

ACTION Jane Boardman to ask Jean Dollimore.

#### **Visit of Belgian Councillors**

Paul Gasson passed on a request from Tom from LCC that we put together a day's tour of Camden's cycling for a group of around 30 Belgian Councillors on May 31st. Offers of help were made by Lionel, Daniel, David, Stefano and Jane.

ACTION Jane to put together a programme with the others.

#### **Regular apolitical engineering meetings with LBCamden**

Paul Gasson reported that he was unable to give these the attention they needed, and asked if anyone else could take them on. Daniel agreed to continue attending them.

ACTION Daniel to arrange a further meeting which Paul will attend if possible. Otherwise another to be invited.

#### **Cycle parking and security**

This was deferred to next meeting.

#### **LCN+ meeting**

Paul Gannon described how LCN+ has succeeded the LCN. It will be of reduced extent, only 500 miles, but higher quality. LBCamden is lead Borough. Paul expressed admiration for the presentations by both Doug Amer (LBCamden) and Festus Agwu-Jones (LCN+ lead officer), being pleased that Doug had referred to the need for early consultation with cycling groups in planning schemes.

Paul is keen to see the Cycle Planning and Engineering Committee reestablished, and warned that local facilities (not on LCN+) still have to fight for funding with other traffic management schemes, usually on safety grounds. He also reported that Local Transport Plans will not be required from 'Top Tier Boroughs'.

#### **2nd Annual Review of LBCamden Cycling Plan**

Paul Gasson described how the latest annual review is trying to reduce commitment to cycling in certain key ways. He is particularly concerned about the proposal to abolish target 4, which deals with identifying the resourcing needed to achieve LBCamden's targetted 4x increase in cycling by 2012. He undertook to circulate the draft annual review to all committee members and to publish intended changes on the Newsgroup, asking everyone to respond to this consultation either directly, or through him.

ACTION Paul Gasson to circulate 2nd Draft Annual Review  
All to pass on comments, either to Paul Gasson or  
directly to LBCamden.

**Agar Grove/Camley Street link**

Paul Gannon described having obtained a grant for £2K to study ways of linking these roads. He described a site visit in which it had been agreed that a ramp accessed through a hole in the wall over the railway bridge on Agar Grove would be the best approach, and how architect Tom Young has been asked to draw up a detailed plan. He was asked to ensure that this suggestion was forwarded to the developers of King's Cross Central.

**Hampstead Heath**

Paul Gasson described having emailed Simon Lee, Superintendent of the Heath, expressing Camden Cyclists' disappointment at the failure of the recent effort to extend cycle provision on the Heath. Paul Gannon and he agreed to write a 'holding' letter to Chair of the Management Committee while next moves are decided.

ACTION Paul Gs to write a letter.

THE MEMBERS' MEETING BEGAN HERE

**Present** Those at the Committee meeting, except for Paul Gasson  
Dave Perkins  
SC and WF Ruddoff  
Mayer Hillman

### **Cycle theft and attacks on cyclists**

Mayer Hillman described meeting the local police to discuss the rapidly increasing rate of theft: 1200 reported in 9 months of 2002, compared with 600+ in 2000. He reported that the police showed some willingness to help if we can identify 'hot spots'. They are not keen to use 'tracker' technology or decoys.

Lionel Shapiro described a slot on the police website at [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) for reporting minor crime. He recommended we should make use of that so as to indicate the scale of the problem.

Paul Gannon then described a spate of attacks on cyclists on the less-frequented sections of the Somerstown route. He read out a draft letter he had composed covering this and demanding action by the police to prevent it.

David Arditti proposed that this letter should be expanded to include concerns about theft, though it was agreed that 'one letter, one topic' is a good principle to follow. Anyway, Paul agreed to draft a combined letter and circulate by email for comment.

ACTION Paul Gannon to circulate draft letter to police.

### **Pancras Road and St Pancras Station Gyratory**

Stefano Casalotti displayed a map obtained from Laurie Baker of the King's Cross Team in LBCamden, showing the traffic engineering proposals for the St Pancras Station Gyratory. This shows a bidirectional cycle lane with two or three shared crossings up the east side of Pancras Road, some non-segregated lanes on Goods Way, but no cycle facilities at all on Midland Road (to be widened to 4 lanes southbound). Anxieties were expressed about priorities at the crossings, about the lack of segregation in the Goods Way section and a serious pinch point on the northern section of Midland Road (where it is 2-way again). There was also a lack of clarity about some of the details that it would be good to have resolved.

Daniel Glaser then reported having been contacted by Tony Antonio from TfL, and agreed to raise these concerns with him.

ACTIONS Stefano was asked to raise these anxieties with the King's Cross team.

Daniel to discuss the plans with Tony Antonio.

### **Other business**

Lionel Shapiro drew attention to a meeting at 8pm on Thursday march 13th at Old Hampstead Theatre to discuss transport issues.

He also described the positive effect that writing letters of complaint about driver behaviour to transport managers of well-known organisations. He stressed the importance of knowing the exact details of time and location of any occurrence, so write them down at the time. But it is worth the effort. He recommended the use of 'index number' instead of registration number, and 'unlawful' instead of illegal in any letters, which should preferably be addressed to the manager by name. This can usually be found by telephoning the organisation concerned.

Daniel Glaser gave his apologies for next month's meeting.

The meeting ended at about 9pm.

**Next Meeting:** Please remember that the next meeting, on April 14th, will include a presentation by Roger Madelin, CEO of the developer Argent St George, about the proposals and visions for the King's Cross Central Development.