

CCC 21-9-2015

Minutes of the Camden Cycling Campaign meeting of 21-9-2015

Primrose Hill Community Centre

1) Present : Angela Hobsbaum, Geoff Stillwell, Steven Edwards, Helen Vecht(chair), Stefano Casalotti (minutes), John Chamberlain.

2) Apologies: Ben Edmonds, Jean Dollimore, George Coulouris, Meade McCloughan, Ursule Thurnherr.

3) Minutes of the August meeting were approved.

4) Cobden Junction:

The inspection was organised by George and attended by John, Angela, Jean, Paul Braithwaite and Douglas Schwab. We found the newly implemented scheme very unsatisfactory and wrote a report on the findings which was sent to LB Camden with a request for a meeting. We have put Cobden junction on the agenda for the next regular quarterly meeting with officers (October 13th).

George asked our very helpful GLA Assembly Member Andrew Dismore to raise this formally with the Mayor. The response from the Mayor's office was unsatisfactory.

Details of Andrew Dismore's letter, mayor's response and the findings of the inspection are on the website at:

<http://camdencyclists.org.uk/2015/07/cobden-junction-a-protected-junction-for-cycling-approved-18th-march-2014/>

5) Regent's Park . Introduction of humps on the Outer Circle road is controversial. It was agreed that cycling money should not be used for the humps and the humps, if absolutely required, should be of the broad sinusoidal type.

6) Hampstead Heath: A number of letters have been published in the CNJ regarding the incident in which a lady was charged in excess of £500 for cycling on the Heath (after being cautioned once before) John Hartley's and Steven's letters were accepted. Despite the deep frustration felt by the committee it was decided not to take further action

7) Tavistock Place : The start of the trial closure seems to be somewhat delayed.

8) On 10th October Sidings community centre will host a Vintage fair.

9) Future meeting chairs : October: Geoff (Sidings); November: Stefano ; December: Steven. January: Helen; February: John Chamberlain.

10) Speakers suggestions: Paul Gasson, Mark Treasure

11) Ongoing consultations: Delancy/Pratt Street, response being prepared by John . Royal College Street response being prepared by Jean

12) AOB 1 HS2: We still hope the line will stop at Old Oak Common. There will be huge disruption to cycle routes if it comes in to Euston.

AOB 2 Ride 4th October: West London Parks

Main Meeting

Attendee as above and Tom Franklin.

Ben Knowles Cycling to School Project

Ben is heading the 'cycling to school project' for Camden Council. The project is focussed on Somers Town, in partnership with UCL (Bartlett School of Architecture), community organisations and local schools.

Ben presented statistics on health and cycle use in other countries and compared them to the UK.

The mission statement of the project is : *Overcome barriers to children cycling for useful journeys.*

The word 'useful' is intended to project the idea that children should be able to integrate cycling into their other activities.

The project has focused on Somerstown as an area to test initiatives, which have included: fun activities, training for parents and teachers, lending buggies. They have also organised pop-up markets (Peddle my wheels) where used bicycles are bought, fixed and resold. Additionally they have installed bike parking and distributed bike locks.

Funding from Sports England has allowed him to run cycling sessions for up to 50 children. With the help of UCL, data arising from the project is being captured.

They are also trying to develop Bikebus where children can cycle together in small groups to school. Reception of these ideas in schools has been generally good but with some resistance from parents and some teachers. Schools where there is more acceptance of the proposed ideas are being targeted to get the scheme off the ground.