

Minutes CCC Meeting 21st March 2016

Committee Meeting and Members' Meeting Combined

Present: Angela Hobsbaum (AH) (chair), George Coulouris (GC), Helen Vecht (HV), John Chamberlain (JC), Jean Dollimore (JD) (minutes), Ursule Thurnherr (UT). From 7:30: Martin Nelson.

Apologies: Ben Edmonds, Stefano Casalotti, Geoff Stilwell, Meade McCloughan, Steven Edwards (SE).

1. Matters Arising from Minutes of February meeting

a) JD reported on outstanding issues from Feb quarterly meeting with Camden Officers:

- *Holborn:* the proposed big gyratory project has been 'de-scoped', as TfL is holding back funding until West End Project is in place. Two short term measures to go ahead:
 - Junction Vernon Place/Southampton Row: eastbound left turn to be banned and the east and west sides of Bloomsbury Square to be closed to through motor traffic.
 - Junction outside Holborn Tube Station: pedestrian improvements. Red Lion Street to have a central closure as part of a route supported by GRID funding.
- *Cobden Junction:* no arrangement for inspection yet arranged. JD to ask for support from Julian Fulbrook.
- *Pancras Road and its junction with Midland Road:* Camden called us (JD, JC, GC) to a meeting on 29th Feb to be told HS1 has refused to let Camden use the taxi rank to gain extra space in the tunnel and they tabled a very poor draft design without a westbound cycle lane and only an ASL. We proposed an alternative in which the two motor lanes were reduced to one and Camden agreed to get it modelled. Camden sent us modelling of a scheme that was different from our proposal, refusing to accept a proposal that they said would make things worse for pedestrians. We replied with a 'Note' explaining our scheme, pointing out that it does not penalise pedestrians and requesting an urgent meeting.

b) GC reported on the initiative for *Engaging New Members* (put to the LCC board by GC and Terry Patterson). GC had notified Terry Patterson that JC and SE will be the Camden Cyclists 'Engaging Members team' after their volunteering to do so at our February meeting. AH agreed to get a list of new members since February 2015 from LCC – which can also be used to update the membership of *news@CCClists*. *Engaging New Members* will be discussed at the LCC board meeting on 22nd March.

2. Matters to report:

a. AH reported on the Save CS11 demo Friday 11 March:

- a great deal of preparation went into the event; 150 cyclists joined us and extensive publicity resulted (London Live, ES, CNJ...). Although CNJ reported both sides of the argument, it was fair, attitudes seem to have shifted. See our report: <http://camdencyclists.org.uk/2016/03/demo-to-save-cs-11-savecs11/>

b. AH reported on the CS11 meeting in Hampstead:

- Meeting chaired by Jessica Learmond-Criqui who allowed the meeting to insult TfL officers and Andrew Gilligan. AG was firm, pointing out that Hampstead residents didn't look at plans before opposing the scheme, misunderstanding the CS was not on Finchley Road and being unaware of the part of the gyratory named Avenue Road.

c. JD reported on the King's Cross Development Forum meeting:

- Tom Harrison had given a presentation on the CCC/ICAG/LCC response to the TfL consultation on ideas for changes to the King's Cross Gyratory. This was well-received and later on Cally Residents praised the proposals on Twitter. See: <http://camdencyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/ResponsetoConsultationonChangestotheKingsCrossgyratory-CCC-ICAG.pdf>

3. Consultations

AH reported that we had responded to the following consultations by the deadline of 20th March:

- extension of CSH N-S to Kings Cross,
- Cycle Superhighway Route 11,
- Changes at King's Cross Gyratory,
- Midland Road and Euston Road Judd Street junction,
- Brunswick Square.

We had also needed to encourage others to respond so as to outweigh objections, particularly on CS 11 and Midland Road.

JC pointed out that it was hard for people to tackle the complex feedback forms and that the big cluster of pre-purdah consultations had disadvantaged supporters of cycling infrastructure because the local opposers had usually only needed to respond to a single consultation .

4. Planning for future meetings and other events

- *April 18th*: chair JD, minutes AH, will need draft treasurer's report from Meade.
- *May 16th AGM*: chair HV. AH will invite Max Goldzweig to talk about his long distance cycling trips. He is due back in England about 6 May.
- *June 20th*: chair JC. Minutes Meade if he chairs July?
- *July 18th*: possibly at Sidings and ask Meade if he will chair.

5. Planning the season ahead:

- a. *Bike Week 11th - 19th June*. JC suggested that we make a poster showing the new routes.

Sun 12th: Peripherique. JC willing to lead and will check whether Julian Fulbrook will participate; will need publicity, cycle trainers for marshalls and police escort. AH to ask Camden for grant.

Wed 15th - Bike Breakfast

Paul Davis has programme of other events that we might support.

- b. *Rides*: JC will put together a programme for the summer led by the usual volunteers.
- He will lead an 'infrastructure ride' visiting the new cycle routes (E-W and N-S CSs).
 - Feeder to Ride London/Free Cycle 30th July.
- c. *April 18th* LCC conference in Camden Town Hall (am) and outdoor event in Battlebridge Square (pm)
- d. *LCC Hustings* 29th April Times Building - only a select list of people to be invited.

6.a. Facebook for Camden Cyclists

Ursule presented a draft version of a new FB page at: <https://www.facebook.com/camdencyclists/>

We agreed:

- that we prefer a small logo with a large banner photo (the one used on CS11 demo leaflets);
- we want to include some photos from our Flickr site. JD to provide UT with login details for our Flickr site so that she can merge in photos;
- we have some videos on Vimeo and YouTube that could be included;
- we would like the FB page to list 'Events' – these to be sourced from our website;
- 'about' page to include AH's home address, info@camdencyclists.org.uk email address, but no phone number and AH to write the description;
- Ursule, Geoff and Helen are to be moderators for visitor posts as well as authoring our own posts.
- Ursule will finish the details. Then JD will tell David Hastings that it is ready so that he can include info about the page and extracts in the new Home page of our website.

6.b. Optimising our use of social media

GC led this agenda item about 'what goes where, and who does what', for example, are we spamming people?

Website: statistics for this month to 20th March show 2000 visits, 70% new visitors, staying an average of 1.4 minutes. This month's usage was probably influenced by Tweets about two posts on how to reply to the Midland Road consultation and on the report on the CS 11 Demo. This is likely to have produced a higher number of new visitors and their staying for a longer time than usual.

Twitter: @camdencyclists: 1373 followers and 1619 tweets. Our Tweets drive people to information we want to give them and the effect is cascading. GC, JD and occasionally HV tweet as @camdencyclists.

Facebook: is more two-way than Twitter and will bring in participation from a separate community.

Yahoo list: *CamdenCyclingCampaign@yahoogroups.com* (275 members): we use this interactive list to contact people who are not on the committee. Recently the frequency of posting has increased since SE's posts about 'News from Elsewhere'. These are to appear in a third column on Home page of our website. When the new Home page has been installed, GC will carry out a Yahoo poll to find out whether subscribers want 'News from Elsewhere' on the list. And whether they use Cyclescape.

CycleScope: we have been using this for consultations for about three years. Tweets about consultations and emails on the Yahoo list usually refer to a CycleScope issue or thread. About 40 people follow each thread. GC noted that Cambridge CC uses CycleScope for everything. UT noted that she had joined CycleScope and could see very little activity from the Camden Cyclists group. We advise people to use GC's map as the main point of entry. See <http://camdencyclists.org.uk/cyclescape-issue-map/>.

news@CCclists (about 900 members): one way communication, monthly about news and upcoming events. Occasionally used for emergencies e.g. CS 11 demo.

SE's ad-hoc lists: Mainly the Ward lists from the 2014 election campaign plus some others. For contacting members at ward or borough level, better to use Engaging Networks because it is kept up to date and has facilities for filtering the list.

7. Campaigning for the Mayoral election, May 5

JC distributed LCC produced leaflets and things to hang on bikes.

8. AOB

AH reported how angry she feels about Camden's delay over installing the BikeHangars consulted on last summer. The delay is due to the consultation report not being signed off by the Assistant Director. AH wrote to the leader of the Transport Strategy team about spending the funding this financial year. His reply was that it could be spent on something else – which is totally unacceptable when people are crying out for cycle parking.