

Minutes of Camden Cycling Campaign meeting on 9th February 2004

Present: David Arditti, Jane Boardman, James Brander, Stefano Casalotti, Jean Dollimore, Paul Gasson, Daniel Glaser (chair), Meade McCloughan (minutes) and Helen Vecht.

David's proposed letter to the press regarding traffic on Hampstead Heath

- It was agreed that this should go from CCC.

Annual General Meeting

- This will take place at the next meeting, 8th March, starting at 6:30 pm.
- Daniel will chair the meeting, provided that other commitments do not prevent this.
- Nominations will be invited for the post of co-ordinator and for committee members - these can be submitted in advance or at the meeting itself.
- The post of co-ordinator has already been simplified to some extent. The possibility of having two people sharing the post, one focusing on the administration and co-ordination, the other acting in a more representative capacity, was considered.
- Paul will talk about what he's learnt from his experience as co-ordinator.
- Paul will produce a report on the last year's activities, to be circulated in advance via the newsgroup.
- James will likewise circulate his treasurer's report.
- Stefano will raise the idea of hiring a part-time administrator

Party for Paul

- This will take place after the AGM, starting at 7:30 pm, in the Stag's Head.
- Jane has left message with the publican and is arranging the traditional snacks.
- Jean will issue invites to councillors, officers, cycling campaigners and others.
- Daniel to pass onto Jean the contact details for Hermione B. (ex. Bikefix, now at Sustrans – she has also agreed to speak at a future CCC meeting).

LCC Borough Groups Forum meetings (alternate months, starting January)

- Next meeting: 4th March – Stefano to attend.
- Stefano will raise the idea of hiring a part-time administrator, perhaps in conjunction with neighbouring borough groups? Could LCC assist with this?
- Paul to arrange for Jean and Stefano to be added to the Borough Groups newsgroup.

LCC Cycling Planning and Engineering Group (alternate months, starting February)

- Daniel reported back from the last meeting. The LCN Design Manual *won't* feature Royal College Street type schemes, as these contravene Department of Environment regulations. Such non-standard schemes *can* be built, but exemption has to be obtained from the DoE (boroughs may be legally vulnerable if not). Daniel said that he was

alone in speaking up for what (tendentiously) is referred to as ‘cyclists being in the wrong place’. The issue is not two-way segregation but (‘contra-flow’) cyclist priority. Some borough co-ordinators are not opposed to two-way segregation as such.

- Daniel will inform Doug Amer (LBC) of the above.
- Daniel will try to obtain a copy of the Transport Research Laboratory report on Royal College Street, which we believe has been completed.
- Stefano will elicit cyclists’ views about these issues at the Cyclists’ Breakfast (below)
- Next meeting: 6th April – James to attend.

Cyclists Breakfast, 8 – 9:30 pm, 17th February, Byng Place

- Stefano has preparations for this in train.
- James to produce a press release.
- Paul to provide James with relevant press office e-mail addresses.

Members Meeting

Present: the above plus Lionel Shapiro and Alix Stredwick. *Apologies:* Paul Gannon.

Rides

- James is organizing a ride along the new LCN north-south route for the 25th April (details to go in the next newsletter).
- Alix and Paul are to organize an ‘ice-cream’ ride on the 9th May for the Women’s Design Service’s trainees.

Women’s Design Service

- Alix outlined the forthcoming training and maintenance classes for Camden women. There will be morning and afternoon training sessions each Saturday in March at a school in Somers Town. Three maintenance classes will be held on Sundays in March at Bikefix. For more details, contact astredwick@wds.org.uk

Bike Fest

- Bike Fest this year will be held as part of the Green Fair on the 4th July, i.e. two weeks or so after Bike Week. This means that it will not be covered by LCC’s bike week insurance. Anna at LCC is looking to see if it can be classified as a LCC event so as to be covered under LCC’s general insurance. Bikefix have not yet said whether they will be able to participate. Stefano is applying for £1,500. Alix may have some funds which could be applied to Bike Fest.

Bike Week

- Stefano suggested that we could set ourselves a target, e.g. to get 1,000 members by the end of Bike Week (this would raise our income and make the part-time administrator idea more realistic).
- Cyclists Breakfast: could we do more at this to publicize what CCC does?
 - David will organize a ride, perhaps feeding into the Transport for London festival at Trafalgar Square on the 13th June?

- James will hold a ‘Dr Bike’.
- Meade will arrange some sort of ‘Cyclists’ Tea’ type event at Swiss Cottage.

Treasurer’s Report

- James’ treasurer’s report was approved, subject to item I3-3 being split between the two stated costs centres.

WCRSAG

(pronounced ‘rucksack’, i.e. LBC’s Walking, Cycling & Road Safety Advisory Group)

- The Eton Avenue cycle lane is to proceed through the new market area, with no ‘cyclists dismount’ signs.
- The Council has drawn up a map of cycle routes in the borough. Could this be used as the basis for a new ‘Camden Cycle Map’? The utility of the previous map was debated, particularly given the existence of the new Transport for London maps. At the very least, a Camden map would have to show roads outside the borough boundary (perhaps greyed out, so as to give definition to the boundary). The old map was certainly quite a good publicity tool and marked an important degree of co-operation between CCC and LBC. James and Jean to investigate further at the next WCRSAG.

Consultation issues

- If the Council proposes a scheme which we are not happy with (but are not forcefully opposed to), do we approve with reservations or formally object? Paul’s view was that we should keep the formal objection for cases where the Council is continuing to make what we consider to be a mistake, so as to jolt its attention.
 - Daniel suggested that we should write up some of the principles we apply in responding to consultations (such as the above) and then offer the results to other borough groups which are starting to devote more attention to this kind of work in their own areas.
- Seven Stations Link: consideration by the Council of the eastward extension is being held up by the problems on with the traffic lights at the Bedford Way and Woburn Square junctions. Once these have been fixed and monitored for *six* weeks, the proposals will be able to go before the Council committee (probably April at the earliest). We will need to be represented at the meeting which decides on the proposals.

Next meetings

- The next meeting will be held on **Monday 8th March**.
- The April meeting will be held on Monday 19th April (avoiding a bank holiday).

Meade McCloughan

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