

Minutes of extra Committee meeting, 9th Jan 2015.

Present: Stefano Casalotti, John Chamberlain, Steven Edwards, Angela Hobsbaum, Meade McCloughan, Helen Vecht. George Coulouris, Jean Dollimore attended for item 1 via Skype.

Apologies: Ben Edmonds, Geoff Stilwell.

- 1. Infrastructure campaigning:** we considered the paper prepared by Jean Dollimore, which outlined the sources of funding for projects currently under way or planned and the current state of projects.

We noted:

Background:

- (1) Mayor's Vision funding is not secure after May 2016: this covers RCS, Tavistock Place and Clerkenwell Blvd as part of the CLCG; Quietways 2 & Jubilee, CS N-S and CS11.
- (2) LIP finding – less money but continuing beyond 2016 – covers lots of local schemes incl. WEP.
- (3) TfL safer junctions: Swiss Cottage & Kings Cross.
- (4) CLCG: these are the elements of the Mayor's Vision that we have told Camden (and Andrew Gilligan) we would like to see prioritised: E-W Delancy – Pratt, Goodsway, Tavistock Place, Theobalds Road. N-S: RCS - Judd St., Park Village East – Gordon St., etc. But there is no guarantee that there will be the time and money to complete them before May 2016.
- (5) Quietways: In principle we want filtering where traffic is more than 2000 p.c.us/day (it's an LCC Policy). Sustrans is working to 3000 p.c.us/day; it is doubtful if they will build them to a decent standard despite our input. We need to do a traffic count on Iverson & Maygrove Roads to see current level.

Agreed:

- (6) Our input is needed to ensure all these projects are as good as we can get for cyclists. Our agenda for improvements is not driven by TfL & Camden but these projects have funding and will be built and therefore it is important to engage with Camden & TfL to ensure that they are as good as they can be. Our infrastructure team (GC, JC, JD) already spend lots of time on these and can't take on any more at the moment; they need support.
- (7) We can consider wider plans (e.g. Steven's ideas for Camden High Street) but, while accepting that it's helpful to have our own vision for cycling in Camden with clear principles, we need to be aware of constraints (e.g. Camden High St is a TfL road with many bus routes etc.) and our team has not got the capacity to start planning new projects at the moment.
- (8) We need more people to help, especially with follow-up work: when projects are completed, they need to be inspected, checked, audited and a report written for the website + tweeted. We added a few names to Jean's list (but not enough, see attached).
- (9) We agreed to e-mail CC members by ward to ask for volunteers to help with specific projects starting with local inspection rides as a way of mentoring newcomers. We should plan and advertise dates for inspection rides soon.

Action: Agree dates for inspection rides: Fleet, Fortune Green, others? Then e-mail wards: Steven.

- (10) Quick Wins: the list is on the website: could the person who suggested them be responsible for checking that they've been done?

Action: AH would check list on website and e-mail relevant person.

Agreed: in principle that the projects listed in Jean's document should be the ones we focus on in the next 18 months, while recognising that we may want to think about others, although we are unable to devote much time to planning them at present.

2. **Plans for Dartmouth Park:** Steven reported that he has prepared a plan to reduce rat-runs in Dartmouth Park, to be presented to the local Traffic Action Group later in Jan. Sian Berry and Oliver Lewis (councillors) are supportive. We discussed the need for lots of work to persuade local residents that this will be an improvement, to head-off resistance.
3. **RCS North extension:** we decided against a buy-in; it was thought that few of the businesses would be likely to benefit from increased cyclist activity.
Agreed: to do a before-and-after photographic record, to put on website for publicity. **JC** to ask Camden if they are planning to do one? **SE** to ask Caspar if he's available to do this.
4. **Bikehangars:** AH reported that CC has identified about a dozen locations and she is asking local people to ascertain level of demand in their neighbourhoods. We clarified that Cyclehoop does all the installation, management and maintenance.
5. **BIG project: Kids' event?** We discussed this agreed: need a group to organise it; some opinion that Granary Sq is a better location than Skip Garden because more public; but decisions on place, date etc need to be taken soon. Volunteers for group?
Action: AH to organise a group & report strategy to next committee meeting.
6. **Press/publicity officer:** agreed that we need one! For regular publicity in CNJ/Ham and High etc. AH to approach Grace Livingstone. How to add more things to our website to make it something worth visiting more often?
7. **Using social media:** Helen offered to do more tweeting on behalf of CC. We discussed setting up a facebook page; still undecided. We should seek Mark Ames' advice.
8. **Regular area reviews:** We need seven Cycling Wardens for each ward, to be sought through e-mails to ward members, to cover pairs of wards:
 - (a) Kings X, Holborn, Bloomsbury
 - (b) Regent's Park, St Pancras & Somers Town
 - (c) Canteloves, Camden Town with Primrose Hill
 - (d) Kentish Town, Haverstock
 - (e) Highgate, Gospel Oak
 - (f) Hampstead, Frognal & Fitzjohns
 - (g) Kilburn, West Hampstead, Fortune Green.This recognises that the committee cannot maintain a 'watching brief' over the whole borough. The job of Wardens would be to (i) undertake inspection rides from time to time (ii) sign up for planning applications and inform the committee of large-scale developments likely to impact on cycling in their area (iii) anything else? [*to be discussed further*]. A warden could be one, two or three people, depending on their time, skills and interests.
9. **John Hartley's donation:** Stefano reported that as we could hire a cargo bike from London Green Cycles and store material there in the summer when we needed it, it didn't seem to make sense to buy our own. Could we use this money to buy expertise?
10. **Bike Week:** we should continue to have a Round Camden Ride but give it more publicity via CNJ etc.

11. Other business: Filming a meeting and having a discussion with members about Cycle superhighways etc. AH has been approached by a postgraduate student, Holly Collins, at City Uni, who is on a Current Affairs and Journalism Masters course, wanting to make a short film about the Cycle Superhighways and cyclists' perceptions of danger. **AH to check with Alix Stredwick**, speaker at next meeting, that she doesn't object to filming and will warn Holly that there won't be time for interviews at this meeting.