

Camden Cyclists Meeting Minutes 17 February 2020



Committee Meeting

Monday 18.30 - 19.30

Primrose Hill Community Association

Attending Chair: George Coulouris, Minutes: Steven Edwards, John Chamberlain, Jean Dollimore, Paul Allen, Geoff Stilwell

Guest Luke Pearson

Apologies Berwyn Rutherford, Simon Pearson, Rachel Wrangham, Helen Vecht, Sean Howes, Meade McCloughan

1. Apologies received (as above)

2. Minutes of 20 January 2019 meeting

a) The minutes were approved. [See minutes on our website.](#)

3. Matters arising from the minutes

a (2b) CEC draft Transport Plan ongoing.

CCC had advised Alice Brown as cycling aspects of CEC transport strategy.

Disappointed that Alice Brown had passed it on to CEC without adding anything else Steven is working on it and had met Alice Brown and Dee Searle with David Metz.

b) (2d) JC to organise a count of cycles comparing Midland Road with Ossulston Route Have been in discussion with TfL for 15 years with regard to improving the crossing over Euston Road into Mabledon Place.

Effect of measures at Lansdowne Terrace would make Judd - Midland crossing an even more desirable through route for cycling.

c) (5) St Marks Square. Luke reported that Simon has this on his 'To Do' list. Rachel has confirmed that the vicar at St Marks is the same who previously opposed the cycle lane proposal due to lack of parking near the Church. The hope is that a combination of Church of England climate change strategy (a permanently parked 'bull-barred' SUV is not the right message) and moving the parking to the church side will see a change of heart. Rachel will approach him when we have some specific proposals. Paul suggested options of removing the gyratory and/or reducing three traffic lanes to two.

4. Reports on meetings attended:

a. CCC/LLS Quarterly Meeting with Camden Officers (JD)

- Grays Inn Road consultation report and decision planned for 27th April
- Brunswick Roundabout scheme implementation started 10th February
- Discussion of Camden's policy re EVCPs: Camden has acknowledged our concerns, but is going ahead with most of the proposals. This includes extending existing charging points, rather than relocating the points to the side street. It seems a shame to invest in infrastructure that will need to be moved in the future when the borough-wide cycle network is installed.
- Jean has presented a 20-min version of her talk on [Barriers to Cycling to School](#). Officers appreciative and agreed we could make contact with a School Travel Plan Officer to obtain more data and other help.
- Prince of Wales Road scheme implementation due to finish end June 2020,

b. Proposal for traffic calming in Monmouth Street and the Seven Dials area (GC)

Shaftesbury PLC have asked Camden to reduce traffic and make the area more attractive to pedestrians (to increase retail footfall). Shaftesbury will provide some funding. Steve Cardno is leading for LB Camden.

Filtering is proposed for the southern end of Monmouth St

c. Meeting with officers responsible for Holborn Liveable Neighbourhood (JC)

We had had a rather disappointing meeting with Kevin Stears, who is leading on the Holborn Liveable Neighbourhood scheme, and Agnieszka Jezierska, the transport officer assigned to the project. We were not convinced that they were committed to the radical changes needed and, specifically, that they would involve us early in the design and modelling process. We wrote expressing our concerns and will take it up with Adam Harrison as well as at a more senior level in Camden.

5. How to publicise the Camden Town LEN and Kentish Town Healthy Streets program

Everyone here ought to post on [Commonplace - a map based platform](#) (here: <https://healthystreetsforcamdenmap.commonplace.is/>). On these maps, users place responses detailing issues and possible improvements they would like to see (selected area - feedback - response).

George felt it was important to let other groups know about this.

6. Approach by Chance UK, who mentor children (usually 9-12).

They wanted to know if we could suggest anything bike-related that they could involve them in. John asked for suggestions for anything bike related for this scheme for mentoring children with behavioural difficulty, aged 9 - 12 years.

Bike maintenance was considered, but it was felt to be difficult to include the children in any existing activities.

Cycle training via Camden council was felt to be a more feasible option.

JC to revert to Chance saying we hadn't anything suitable but would be glad to provide help for one-on-one bike maintenance but as regards training, better to go through Camden.

7. Major upcoming road closures and construction projects. (JC)

John publicises major road closures on groups.io and via Cyclescape. Some upcoming issues:

- Gower Street closure for resurfacing is coming up before TCR becomes 'motor traffic free'/buses and cycles only (with time constraints) in April - once Gower Street has been completed.
- The St Pancras Way - Agar Grove cycle lane will be closed in early March for fibre optic cable installation. Cycle lane to be provided in the main carriageway.

John commented that Thames Water and UK Power Network were two companies that repeatedly demonstrate they are not up to scratch with regard to facilitating cycling during such occurrences whereas, sf stefan (cable) and Cadent gas had made real efforts to keep roads open for cyclists and were to be commended.

It was noted how useful a QR code could be to inform those impacted by possible obstruction and hasten resolution.

We gave a vote of thanks to John for his tireless attention to, and maintenance of, ensuring the network is kept open during all of the roadworks that occur.

8. Plans for future monthly meetings

March (chair: Helen, Speaker: LCC Trustee Sarah Strong who will introduce herself and give a short talk on cycling and mental health)

April (chair: John C, Staff from LCC's legal partner Osbornes Law will give a talk on their relationship with LCC and some hints and tips on what to do if you are involved in a collision)

May (chair: Geoff, AGM, speaker to be arranged)

9. Any Other Business

General Meeting

20th January, 19.30 - 21.00

Attending: All of the above plus Ema Avarti, Stefano Bertolotto, Norman Franklin Daniel Coleman, Martin Nelson, Paul Braithwaite, Veronika Rettich, John Lowe

Karl Brierly: Camden's New Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

See [report on our website](#).

Next Meeting

Monday 16th March 2020, 19.30 - 21.30 (committee meeting at 18:30); Chair: Helen Vecht; Speaker: LCC Trustee Sarah Strong