

Camden Cyclists Meeting Minutes 20 September 2020



19:30-21:30

On Zoom

Attending John Chamberlain (Chair), Jean Dollimore (Minutes), George Coulouris, Steven Edwards, Helen Vecht, Paul Allen, Rachel Wrangham, Stefano Bertolotto, Simon Pearson, Geoff Stilwell, Daniel Glaser, Luke Pearson, Susan Seymour, Ross Tivey, Manda Evans, Adam Gagen, Eilidh Murray (guest speaker).

1. Introductions

John welcomed Ross, Manda and Adam, who were joining us for the first time and the rest of us introduced ourselves.

2. Minutes of 17th August 2020 meeting

[The minutes](#) were read through and approved

3. Matters arising from the minutes.

3-2b) Holly Lodge gates: John reported that a small gate for cyclists had been installed in the big gate at Langbourne Avenue so that cyclists can avoid using the footway. He asked if anyone passing could check to see if it was effective. **Action:** Anyone

3-5) **Action:** John to talk to Steven Taylor about Hampstead issues.

4b) John reported that we had discussed with Camden officers the problems of excess traffic in Calthorpe Street arising from the Euston Road cycle lanes but we are not aware of any action that was planned.

4. Update on Low Traffic Neighbourhoods in Camden – how can we promote and support them? Guest appearance from Eilidh Murray, Cycle Islington coordinator, who made the following points:

- At the end of 2019 Eilidh contacted community groups in Islington (CI, Living Streets, Fossil Free, Islington Clean Air Parents). They held:
 - An event in the Town Hall with presentations and an audience of 40 people
 - A meeting with Richard Watts (council leader) and Rowena Champion (environment lead)
 - Since COVID, meetings have been on-line
- CI has contacts in 14 out of 15 wards, and other groups had contacts too. XR and Transition Highbury joined the campaign

- Islington Council had a plan for 2025 but, for Covid, rushed things forward and promises 6 LTNs before Christmas. St Peters, Canonbury East and Canonbury West have been installed and went reasonably well but officers and councillors are having a hard time with opposition. Some people have legitimate concerns; we need to make sure that all households know the changes in advance (with a map) and that the closures are well signed on the approach roads.
- Event on Saturday in St Peters ward; people in Hi-Viz (green hearts on back) giving out [leaflets: "All you want to know about LTNs"](#)
- CI are making videos about people's reactions in the wards with the new LTNs ([here's the first one](#)).

Points arising from questions and discussions:

- Regarding Healthy School Streets, broaden the discussion. Get parents onside and lobby relevant cabinet members (e.g. Angela Mason in Camden) about school streets
- Eilidh to put Rachel in touch with Amy Foster, a LCC Trustee, who is a seasoned School Streets campaigner.
- Councils dislike comparison with neighbouring boroughs of the same political stripes, can use this to leverage response.
- Emphasise clean air or climate as some people don't like cyclists

Action: Eilidh to send John the leaflet (the one linked above)

4. Cycle Buddies programme: status and how to publicise

Slow to get going: 20 people have signed up (of which only 4 want help)

Susan reported on the ride she had led.

The following places to advertise were suggested by attendees:

- Social Media (Facebook groups, NextDoor etc) Susan had already advertised on the local NextDoor.
- Institutions (Schools, (incTAs), Hospitals, Colleges - Halls of Residence)
- Bike shops
- Notice boards in council blocks
- TAs live near schools and cycling would be an advantage for them
- Business Improvement Districts
- Landlords(?)

Action: John and Paul

5. Update on progress of TfL and Camden Covid-19 initiatives related to cycling and walking in Camden

[See presentation](#)

a) Status of Pop-Up Cycle Network in Camden

Progress is good on York Way and Prince of Wales Road while Chalk Farm has started and Grays Inn Road is due to start.

Haverstock Hill: Conservative councillors have leafleted local residents opposing the scheme in the guise of asking them to fill in a very loaded survey and have written to the CNJ. John

has written to our members and supporters asking them to write to the local councillors in the four affected wards. George is composing a letter to CNJ.

Concern about lack of routes in the west and north west of Camden; AG suggested getting involved in linking to routes from Brent and Westminster.

b) Arlington LTN

Pleased to see an LTN at last; some concern that the proposed scheme allows cut throughs. RW asked why Jamestown Road was not being closed instead of a one-way

c) Healthy School Streets

Three new ones but people would like to see many more. JC noted that the installation of ANPR cameras on lamp posts is very expensive. How do other boroughs manage without them?

6. Any Other Business

Next Meeting

19th October 2020, 19.30 - 21.30; Chair: JC; Topic: ?