

Camden Cyclists Meeting Minutes 21 June 2021



19:30-21:30 On Zoom

Attending John Chamberlain (Chair), Jean Dollimore (Minutes), George Coulouris, Eugene Regis, Helen Vecht, Steve Prowse, Susan Seymour, Ema Arvati, Rachel Wrangham, Paul Allen, Stefano Bertolotto, Elena Moynihan, Jean-François Paris, Steven Edwards.

1. Introductions

John welcomed Elena, who was joining us for the first time and the rest of us introduced ourselves.

2. Minutes of 18th April 2021 meeting

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

3. Matters arising from the minutes.

John reported as follows:

Item 4: GLA elections: we (jointly with Barnet Cyclists) had contacted all five candidates for the Barnet and Camden Ward asking them to pledge to support the LCC asks. We had a very quick positive response from the Green candidate, followed by a response from the Reform UK candidate and a very thoughtful supportive response from Anne Clarke (Labour) who was elected. Our letter and the candidates' responses are [here](#). It was agreed that we should make contact with Anne Clarke.

Item 5: We had the AGM in May with Sarah Berry as speaker.

Item 6: Format of meetings: we will review the possibility of a Face-to-Face meeting each month.

Item 7: Rides: Geoff has led two rides. Paul had restarted cycle buddies with new sign ups. Dr Bikes held at Think and Do,

4. Report on quarterly meeting with Camden officers (14th June 2021)

Jean reported as follows:

- Consultations on Camden Square area, King Henry's and Elsworthy Road area and Haverstock Hill Pop Up lanes: decision to be made by Adam Harrison (Cabinet member for a sustainable Camden) early in August.
- Consultations on making ETOs permanent:
 - Pop Up lanes early August to September
 - Mini LTNs (Savernake Rd, Sandall Rd etc) June and July

- Arlington Road date about September; we will get in touch with local contacts to see whether help is needed
- Officers will be working mainly on consolidation (getting the ETOs made permanent) rather than on new schemes.
- Officers are working on a 3-year action plan to progress the Transport Strategy which was agreed in 2019. Stakeholders will be consulted.

Link to the Minutes of the meeting with Camden to be put here when they are ready. **Action** Jean

5. Support for Queens Crescent scheme

John: this is an experimental scheme for improving Queen's Crescent Market with a pedestrianised area and a road closure in Grafton Road. The CNJ has published [an article](#) based on interviews with very angry shopkeepers who believe that footfall has declined since the closures.

We support all schemes that reduce motor traffic. We discussed tweeting positive pictures with a view to persuading people to use the shops.

We understand that Camden will assign some staff to conduct surveys in the market and adjacent streets aimed at discovering more about the scheme's impact and our approach should be conditioned by that.

It was agreed that we should consult Mick Farrant about holding a Dr Bike e.g. outside the library in QC to generate a little extra footfall. **Action** John

6. Upcoming consultations

It was agreed that we should carry out on-street distribution of cards/leaflets to support the consultations on making the pop up lanes permanent:

- York Way, Prince of Wales Road, Chalk Farm Road and St Pancras Way

Action Steve

To liaise with George soon on card and leaflet design and printing schedules
Organise a meeting late in July (with George, John and Paul) to discuss the organisation of leafleting, recruiting of volunteers and storage points for leaflets.

7. CCC's latest toolkit for mapping infrastructure progress

Jean and George presented a set of maps showing [progress with cycling infrastructure in Camden](#) based on data about road closures and school streets, protected cycle routes, LTNs and permeability gains which had been recorded in spreadsheets (Google Sheets). To make the data mappable a Streetview link and a category (e.g. bollard or sign closure or School Street) are added to each row. George has developed *SheetMapper* – software to project the data from a spreadsheet onto a map with a pin at each Streetview position. Pins are coloured according to their category. Linear and area features can be added too - they are generated in Maphub and exported in json format.

We first looked at [road closures and school streets](#) which shows School Streets in green, bollard closures are red and signs in pink.

Users can click on a pin to find out details such as the name of the road, the school and the date it was implemented.

The map legend explains the pin colours and shows a summary of statistics calculated from spreadsheet formulas. Charts derived from the spreadsheet showing progress year by year are displayed below the map.

We also looked at the pages about:

- [cycle network progress](#) which includes maps layers showing the lines of the primary and secondary routes
- [LTNs](#) which includes map layers showing the areas of each LTN.

[Sheetmapper documentation](#) tells you what to put in your Google Sheet and how to display a map based on that sheet.

8. New cycle counters - results and implications

George noted that in addition to the two original magnetic cycle counters on Royal College Street, Camden now has 23 new working video-based counters. The data from these counters is available from [Camden Open Data](#).

He then introduced the webpage for [Browse Camden's Cycle Counters](#) which shows the list of street names of video counters in the left column (one of which is selected); the data from the selected counter is in the middle column; whose recent counts are displayed as a chart in the right column with the ability to compare with past values.

There was considerable interest in the data for example:

Why is Kentish Town Road so high (the highest)? Are scooters included? Market days in Queen's Crescent are high. Increases seem higher on the roads with new infrastructure.

9. AOB

a) Bike storage: Elena (who lives in Hampstead) said that, together with a neighbour, she had applied for a Bikehangar but that the Hampstead Councillors are not interested in helping with cycling matters. John showed [Camden's Bikehangar](#) map which shows how few there are in Hampstead Town ward. John noted that all new bikehangars are funded by CIL money which depends on local councillors. But the Neighbourhood Forum might be more supportive. Elena was advised to contact them, copying Adam Harrison.

b) Rides: John asks anyone willing to lead a ride to contact him (15 people allowed)

c) Ideas for future meetings:

- i) Steven reiterated the idea of asking Ed Milliband to speak at a future meeting.
- ii) Stefano would like to discuss consultations on [Electric Scooters](#) (deadline 12th July) and [Westminster Plans for New Oxford Street](#)
- iii) Committee meetings will be on first or second Mondays, every two months, (but Paul can't manage first Mondays). A committee meeting on 12th July would be too late to discuss the Electric Scooter consultation - Jean will put it on CycleScape.
- iv) As lockdown stage 4 is now delayed to 19th July (at least) the July meeting will be on Zoom

Next Meeting

19th July 2021, 19.30 - 21.00 on Zoom; Chair: JC; Topic: ? Minutes Ema