

Camden Cyclists Meeting

Minutes 15 November 2021



19:30-21:30 On Zoom

Attending John Chamberlain (Chair), George Colouris, Jean Dollimore (Minutes), Susan Seymour, Simon Pearson, Stefano Bertolotto, Steve Prowse, Ema Arvati, Rachel Wrangham, Jean-François Paris, Steven Edwards, Luke Pearson, Paul Allen, Elena Moynihan, Jordan Creed.

1. Introductions

Introductions were not needed as everyone had met before on Zoom.

2. Minutes of the 16 August meeting

[The minutes](#) of the previous meeting were read through and approved.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

JD reported on the school streets schemes due to be consulted on for making permanent. The [Hampstead Zone consultation](#) opened on 1st November. Consultations on the following schools are expected in November - December (Mulberry House – Minster Road, Brecknock School, Camden School for Girls, Haverstock School, Rhyl School, UCS Junior and Hampstead Parochial and Netley School soon after). She also noted that six new school streets had opened in September - Brookfield School, Kentish Town Church of England Primary School, Christopher Hatton, Argyle, St Mary and St Pancras, Ecole Jeanine Manuel.

4. Cycling to school over the Heath

Green School Runs (GSR) had made a proposal that a small number of routes should be made available for 45 minutes in the morning and evening. They approached SB and Camden officer Liz Helyer. An article in the CNJ reported that the Heath Consultative Committee had deferred making a decision. This was followed by hostile letters e.g. from Heath for Feet. CCC's position is that the campaign should be run by GSR.

Action: SB will speak to GSR.

5. Neighbourhoods of the Future Healthy School Streets Zone

We support this scheme but are against exemptions for electric cars. RW explained that the funding for the initial scheme was based on encouraging the take up of electric cars and SB pointed out that the exemption is due to end in July 2024.

EM said that the scope e.g. at New End School was too small. RW noted that in east Kentish Town the Sandal Road closure combined with the Islip Street school street has made a big difference.

EM volunteered to draft CCC's response to the consultation

Actions: **Jean** to send Elena a link to a Google Doc template for responding to the consultation; **Elena** to draft the response and get feedback from committee members. **Stefano** to send email to CamdenCyclists@groups.io about the consultation

Topic for next meeting - Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs)

Education Strategy: RW: birth rates are declining with a corresponding effect on school numbers. 40% attend private schools and transport helps pupils to get to them. RW suggests a deputation to the Education Committee to say that safe travel should be a part of Education Strategy (it should not be made easy to drive). Simon P suggested that we should attend Camden Conversations Building Back Stronger Zoom sessions.

Action: Simon to attend one of the sessions and to put points suggested by us. Others were encouraged to sign up and attend - Simon has emailed details to the committee.

6. LCC Climate Safe Streets - Steve Prowse

Campaign for May 2022 elections: 20 LCC borough groups now have champions. They should be picking asks based on the 2030 Net Zero CarbonTarget. Our asks will be based on the presentation to Adam

JD: concern about being consistent in what we say about the main asks related to the targets for more LTNs and the expansion of the network of protected cycle routes and that they should be expressed as a combined task of everyone living within 200m of an LTN or a protected cycle route.

JD: are these to be ward level asks or borough party level asks?

RW: an ask such as an LTN target could be asked at either level

Response to Health and Wellbeing Strategy: SteveP will work on the draft and get our feedback

John reported that officers had refused to have a dedicated meeting to discuss our CSS proposals. The meeting asked him to try again.

Actions: Steve P to convene subgroup and to draft response to H&WB strategy

JC: contact officers again

Sub group members: SteveP, JC, GC, JD, SE, JFP, SimonP

7. Kentish Town Bike Workshop (KTBW) Report

JD reported that KTBW which had held drop in bike workshops at Kentish Town Health Centre from summer 2012 until the start of lockdown has held one workshop on 1st November and will hold another on 6th December at 19 Highgate Road. After that those premises will no longer be available.

We did our best to make the sessions Covid safe (participants to wear masks and no more than 15 people in the room at one time). The sessions were by booking only with two one-hour sessions on offer. We had 6 mechanics and 11 customers. [Here are a few photos.](#)

8. AoB - the consultation process.

SB summarised the new consultation and decision making processes agreed by the Camden Council Cabinet on 11th November ([see here](#)). The main aim was to reduce the consultation work load for officers but it will also help us as there will be fewer to respond to. The main changes are:

- Minor schemes: e.g. signage, cycle stands. No consultation. As before
- Small schemes: e.g. EVCPs, bike hangars, parklets, permeability measures, zebras. Public and TMO consultations in parallel. To be permanent as they always have been.
- Medium schemes: Some, e.g. School Streets, to be permanent from the start, more complex schemes to have a trial as now but amended consultation process at end of trial.
- Large schemes: e.g. LTNs: public consultation, ETO, decision after engagement but without public consultation unless major changes planned. E.g. Grays Inn Road

9. AoB: Arlington Road area consultation on making the changes permanent - 5th Dec deadline

[See the consultation.](#) Some ideas: ask for school street for Cavendish School; suggest a cycle lane where the cycle hire station is being moved from Parkway

Actions: Everyone is to contact people they know there
JD to put on website, CycleScape and groups.io and prepare response

10. AoB: FtF get together on Sat 27th December at Noon. Roni's bakery. Belsize Village

11. Next Meeting

7:30 Monday 20th December, online. Minutes EA

Topic: LTNs and in particular the expansion of school streets or their linking together as a way towards an LTN