

Camden Cyclists AGM Minutes 17 May 2021



19:30-21:00 On Zoom

Attending: Geoff Stilwell (Co-Chair), John Chamberlain (Co-Chair), Jean Dollimore, George Coulouris, Steven Edwards, Paul Allen (Minutes), Susan Seymour, Jean-François Paris, Steve Prowse, Camilo Arturo Suarez, Helen Vecht, Meade McCloughan, Carl De'Athe, Simon Pearson.

1. Introductions

John welcomed everybody to the meeting.

2. Approve minutes of 2019 AGM

John summarised the minutes of the 2020 AGM which are at <https://camdencyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/CCC-AGM-18-May-2020-minutes.pdf>

Approval of Minutes of the 2020 AGM: Proposed by George Coulouris, seconded by Helen Vecht and agreed unanimously.

3. Matters arising from 2020 AGM

With regards the certificate of compliance, the Child Protection (Safeguarding) policy is in place, but an Equal Opportunities policy is still required.

4. Treasurer's Report

Meade summarised the accounts as follows:

- There was no Income
- The main costs were for the web site and for Zoom
- This lead to a deficit for the year
- Reserves are now less than £3,000
- LCC have confirmed that the previously ring-fenced £800 Bike Bus grant from 14 years ago, can be used for general expenses (see comments below about Bike Bus schemes)

For the budget

- As we have no income, but few expenses, we agreed to waive the grant from LCC for this year
- But our reserves are reducing, so it is likely that we will need the LCC grant in future years

Approval of Accounts 2020-2021 and Budget 2021-2022.

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Camden-Accounts-Return-2020-2021.pdf>

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/CCC-Budget-2021-22.pdf>

Proposed by Jean Dollimore, seconded by Helen Vecht and agreed unanimously.

Although getting children cycling is already a key aim of CCC, the specific Bike bus concept is quite laborious to arrange as it requires ride leaders and contacts at the many schools. With more cycling infrastructure and school streets in the area, we may be able to encourage cycling to school by other means.

5. Coordinator's Report

John started by thanking the committee, in particular:

- Stefano Bertolotto for having fast knowledge of what the council is doing
- Ema Arvati for volunteering to become secretary
- George and Jean for their work on infrastructure and consultations
- George for his creation of web tools
- The newspaper campaign to change the voice of the local media
- Steven Edwards for his XR Extinction Rebellion inputs
- Sean Howes who after many years of attending Camden (his old home borough) plus other boroughs, is now concentrating on his current home borough
- Geoff Stilwell for re-starting group rides and for providing new links to University of the Third Age and Cumberland Market Community Centre

Other aspects that were raised:

- If there are any problems with road works (e.g cycling dismount signs) then they should be raised with John Chamberlain as we can then contact the council and hopefully get them resolved.
- 2020-21 has seen an excellent increase of protected cycle lanes in Camden from 8 to 20 km, there is extensive reports on the web site.
<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/campaigns-2/camden-cycling-network-existing-and-committed-routes/>
- The many School Streets and Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTN), called Safe and Healthy Streets by Camden council are very welcome. As they have been implemented using Experimental Traffic Orders (ETO), there will be reviews and consultations over the coming months and will need our support.
 - for some LTNs we may not make a big deal of the cycling aspects, but will rather encourage locals to respond to the benefits.
 - positive emails to councillors are always a good idea as they mainly receive negative emails.

- Bike Hangers are being implemented at a good rate, although there are 5,000 people on the waiting list, so the council needs further encouragement and funding.
- There have been many recent Permeability gains, again a full report can be found on the website. In particular Fitzrovia now has two-way cycling on most of its roads. As ever West Hampstead is almost forgotten.
<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/campaigns-2/camden-cycling-network-existing-and-committed-routes/>

6. Cycle Buddies Programme Report

Paul Allen has been coordinating this. There have been 21 new & returning riders, and 36 experienced riders, the majority of the new & returning riders have been female and we've mainly been able to buddy them with female experienced riders. The ethnic mix of new & returning riders has been encouragingly diverse.

With the end of COVID measures and the potential return to work, we'd encourage people to advertise the scheme, enabling people to do more of their journeys via cycle. John Chamberlain has posters already printed, and they are also available for download from the website.

7. Existing Management Committee members

Everyone, except for Sean Howes (who is concentrating on other boroughs) are willing to remain on committee and continue their current roles:

Paul Allen, John Chamberlain, George Coulouris, Jean Dollimore, Steven Edwards, Sean Howes, Meade McCloughan, Simon Pearson and Geoff Stilwell.

10. Invitation to others to join Management Committee

Steve Prowse was asked to join the committee.

11. Elect committee for 2021-22

Confirming the committee and it's new member was proposed by Jean-Francois Paris, seconded by Meade McCloughan and agreed unanimously.

12. Election of officers for 2021-22

Re-election of John Chamberlain as Coordinator was proposed by Helen Vecht, seconded by George Coulouris and approved unanimously.

Re-election of Meade McCloughan as Treasurer was proposed by Paul Allen, seconded by Jean Dollimore and approved unanimously.

Election of Ema Arvati was proposed by Helen Vecht, seconded by John Chamberlain and approved unanimously.

13. AOB

A number of events are planned (COVID willing), these can be seen on the CCC Event Planner on Google Drive.

- 20th June at 19 Highgate Road coordinated by Susan Seymour
This will have a Dr Bike and Cycle Buddies leaflets
- 18th July at Somerstown coordinated by Debbie Bourne from Think & Do

Thanks were given to the chair and coordinator and the the AGM was formally closed.

General Meeting

Sarah Berry "From new cyclist to active travel campaigner".

This time last year, Sarah Berry hadn't given much thought to how the traffic in her neighbourhood impacted her life and feelings of safety. But when Lambeth Council introduced a local low traffic neighbourhood, that very quickly changed. Sarah bought a bike for the first time in her adult life, discovered the massive difference accessible active travel can make, and started advocating for Low Traffic Neighbourhoods across the country.