

Minutes of Quarterly Meeting CCC, LLS and Camden Council

Monday 12th September 2022 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Online (Teams)

Present:

Camden: Sam Margolis, Steve Cardno, Anthony Christofi, Cllr Julian Fulbrook

LLS: David Harrison

CCC: Jean Dollimore (chair), George Coulouris, John Chamberlain (minutes)

Apologies: Steve Prowse, CCC

[Agenda in black Arial font, notes in blue Times font]

1. Matters arising from May meeting

- a. SM: Will consider adding LTN targets to CTS

SM: Still under consideration but will report on progress and include new action items in the updated 3 year plan. Will be ambitious and radical but funding and resourcing an issue and Camden do not want to be hostage to fortune. JC: the principle of having targets for LTNs is the issue.

JF: Need to bring councillors on board early and should consider a 'shopping list' of subsidiary targets that could be funded with CIL and S106 funds. Development in central Camden could fund projects in outer parts of borough. Should do more to dissuade commuters from driving into central London. SM: Work Place Parking Levy is still in the plan and survey teams are adding sites to list, would welcome suggestions.

- b. AC: make permanent York Way (July), Chalk Farm Road, PoW Rd (Sept) and St Pancras Way

AC: Prince of Wales Road is imminent, then York Way in two stages (south this year, north in new year). Then Chalk Farm Road and St Pancras Way. Grays Inn Road is funded by S106 money so is more flexible but want to give residents a break from construction so probably Q1 2023.

DH: Can zebra crossings be closer to desire lines? AC: Can do anything in principle but general rule is to keep 1 car length from side roads so a vehicle can pull out and stop. Examples were discussed including Bury Place.

Agenda item 8 was taken here (see below).

- c. SM : LTNs: there is a study in progress on Gardens Area; Dartmouth Park next

SM: Still working on plans for the Gardens area. Need to discuss with ward councillors for South Hampstead and Kilburn. On Dartmouth Park, have met Islington officers, expect to consult this year.

- d. JF Proposal: Seminar for officers and representatives of groups to celebrate successes and target future up to 2026 for the Cycling Action Plan and the Walking Action Plan.

JF: Happy to wait till SM is ready but would be good to fix a date. Discussed issues where development had prevented good cycle and pedestrian links, for example opposite Red Lion Street on Holborn, and emphasised the need for councillors to be on board to flag issues before it is too late. SM: Regarding the update to the plans, these are required by TfL and Camden will add new material including new actions. There will be a presentation to the Scrutiny panel; does JF suggest doing more than this? JF: Yes, all councillors should be invited to a meeting to update them one hour before a council meeting. SM: Will revert on this issue. JC supported JF on this; often councillors have so much going on that they are not aware of the plans. Led cycle rides for councillors would also be useful. Need better alignment between Transport and Planning. SM: There are high level meetings on this. SC: His team are involved in planning applications but some

legacy projects are still having a negative effect. DH: Can there be standing instructions to increase public realm and permeability in all projects? SC: This is all core policy and they do work hard on it. JF: It is long term and it is difficult to keep focus, especially for new councillors and short-term councillors.

ACTION: AC/JF to progress idea of briefing session. CCC to arrange led rides for councillors.

- e. SM agreed to look into the provision of counters on Tavistock Place and Midland Road.

AC: Counters have been installed on Tavistock Place as part of the planned upgrade works and will also be installed on Theobalds Road. GC: Welcome this. Can we have a strategy to monitor the cycle network with counters on all key routes? AC: They are not designed for monitoring the network but replace traditional counts before and after installation of cycle facilities. SM: They will be in place for several years before re-allocating. AC: will look at the opportunities for broadening their use and volunteered to meet GC offline to discuss. GC: Would be really useful to see the flow across the borough. **ACTION:** CCC to arrange a meeting with AC to discuss.

- f. Outcome of Kings Cross walkabout on 9th December. SM: writing to TfL expressing concern about slow progress.

SM: Has written to TfL, hoping that some of recently announced funds for active travel can be used here. Adam Harrison is also very concerned about the lack of progress. JD spoke about the meeting with LCC and TfL – the proposed southbound route is much too circuitous; JC agreed. SM agrees it is not ideal but compromise will be needed. JC stated that some plans are so poor they are not worth implementing and may delay better ones. DH asked about pedestrian crossings, SM said they are included in the plan. JF: Kings Cross and other stations are a long-running nightmare, with poor facilities for pedestrians and cyclists.

- g. Camden Town gyratory: DH: interest in east-west links such as Plender-Miller and D-P. AC: Pratt-Delancey core corridor, red line: must provide safe cycle crossing of CHS

AC: Camden are having ongoing meetings with TfL. There is a Cabinet decision on the 28th to decide whether to go ahead with consultation. DH asked about the Miller-Plender alignment. AC: This is included.

2. Congratulate Camden on achievements since the May meeting (Haverstock Hill cycle lanes; Southampton Row-Theobalds Road junction; Camden Square and C50; Queen's Crescent and C6 extension made permanent and Angler's Lane in April)

SM thanked CCC for their comments and will pass them on to the teams.

3. Impact of TfL funding settlement

SM: This is all under discussion. £80 million for TfL, £69 million for boroughs, some of which will be assigned to Local Implementation Plans (LIPs). Boroughs have more autonomy over LIP funds but they need to be spent on projects consistent with local and London plans. There is 6 months left in the 2021 budget cycle so if funding becomes available Camden will be looking to implement projects that can be done quickly.

JF: Clutter on footways is bad but 'clutter' in roads (e.g. Streateries) can be very good. Also suggest replacing guard rails outside schools with planters etc. SM: Already doing this, e.g. outside Brookfield School on Croftdown Road. But can't obstruct bus routes.

4. Officers' plans for next steps in cycle network, safe junctions, LTNs and School Streets

SM: See [LIP Implementation report](#), which will be updated as discussed.

5. WEP 12 month report: safer junctions, particularly at Gower/Torrington; cycle route signage

SM: [Report is published](#), mostly favourable, and the project was written up positively in the Evening Standard. Gower Street cycle counts may be affected by Covid patterns but are now increasing again. Need to look at linkages to north and south and look at lessons to learn. GC: Some aspects do not conform to consultation and the discussions CCC had with officers, particularly the Gower Street/Torrington Place junction where we expected separate northbound and southbound phases to allow cycles to turn right safely or go ahead without being cut off by right turning motor vehicles. Also Grafton Way is poorly implemented. SM: Suggest a separate meeting to discuss WEP issues. AC: Happy to discuss offline; are already looking at the signal timings at Gower Street/Tavistock Place. **ACTION:** CCC to arrange a meeting with AC.

6. SM's new ideas for permeability

SM: Looking for examples of cycle infrastructure such as ASLs and lanes being blocked, for example by parked vehicles. CCC to ask members for examples and pass them on. **ACTION:** CCC

7. Standardisation of Bus Stop Bypasses and SUBBs

SM: Suggests having a separate meeting with AC. **ACTION:** CCC to organise meeting

8. Side road zebras

AC: Waiting for DfT to sign off on rules for zebras across the mouth of side roads with no Belisha beacons. There were already some in Camden, e.g. Pond Street but that was removed. SM: Good example at [Mountgrove Road, Islington](#).

9. Cooperation with Westminster Council: Swiss Cottage and Great Queen Street

SM: Camden are having a series of meetings with Westminster colleagues to discuss joint projects in the context of 3-year plans. Ongoing projects include C40 (Cleveland Street) and Seven Dials. Also making permanent the changes to Great Queen Street.

JC mentioned that CCC have been asked to help facilitate a ride through Camden for Westminster councillors plus Adam Harrison to highlight the role of LTNs and protected cycle lanes. This will not involve officers.

10. Mobility hub in empty space at Belsize Park station

JD thanked AC for his support on this, CCC are in discussion with TfL

11. AOB

Gordon Square: DH: Can Gordon Street be closed to motor traffic? SM: This is part of a broader perspective for the area south of Euston station, including Gower Place, and is linked to HS2 plans. A report is due to be published in the autumn. DH: Should be first step in the creation of a largely pedestrianised (with bikes) student quarter.

12. Date of next meeting

December 5th 10-1130 am