

# Camden Cyclists Meeting

## Minutes 17 July 2023



**19:30 - 21:00 On Zoom**

### **Attending**

Steve Prowse (SP, chair), John Chamberlain (JC), Jean Dollimore (JD, minutes), George Coulouris, Melanie Elliston (LCC), Tanuj, Paul Allen (PA), Elena Moynihan (EM), Luke Pearson (LP), Simon Pearson (SiP), Ema Arvati (EA).

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### **1. Introductions**

The group introduced themselves to Melanie and Tanuj. Mel is in the LCC marketing team and lives near Prince of Wales Road, Tanuj works in Camden.

### **2. Minutes from the June meeting**

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/2023/07/ccc-meeting-minutes-19-june-2023/>

The minutes were approved. Matters arising:

- JC had written to Abbas Raza at TfL regarding CCC's response to the plans for Hampstead Road but has had no reply.
- JC has had no reply to his request for a discussion with Camden officers on potential improvements to permeability around Euston station during the HS2 'pause'. However, he has attended a 'meanwhile uses' meeting.
- Possible involvement with North London mental health partnership. JC reported that LCC had asked for help with leading a ride from the Greenwood Centre. After the first ride (to Regents Park) there have been two more rides scheduled but nobody turned up. They could be linked to Cycle Buddies - more informal.

### **3. Haverstock Hill consultation**

<https://consultations.wearecamden.org/supporting-communities/haverstock-hill-permanent/>

JD gave a brief presentation, noting the additions to go with making the scheme permanent and how Camden had replied to our various points. See [presentation](#). Some discussion followed mainly about the disregard of the loading bay hours of operation and lack of enforcement:

Tanuj: Do we report infringements?

JC: we need a campaign to keep reporting illegal parking and missing signs. He put details of contact names in the chat. The Head of parking Operations is [Peter.Mardell@camden.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Mardell@camden.gov.uk).

The official route is via <https://www.camden.gov.uk/report-a-parking-problem>

Si P: wardens are outsourced to NTL so Camden has less control

PA: Haringey has now insourced their traffic wardens

JD: we asked an officer why Camden isn't using blended junctions at junctions with the most motor traffic. This hasn't been done elsewhere and they don't want to experiment here.

JC: Our campaign (leafleting people on the street) must have drawn a lot of support for the scheme, which helps the officers.

#### **4. Cycleway 41**

JD gave a brief presentation, pointing out that this route which TfL has recently signed has a high standard due to recent interventions including stepped tracks in Midland Road, a safe crossing over the 'barrier' at Euston Road and the closure of Judd Street (part of C6). Also an LTN in the Red Lion Street area and a big public realm project in Brunswick Square. See the web post [here](#).

SP asked how the route numbers got onto the maps used by route finding apps.

GC: those maps are all based on Open Street Map (OSM); the route numbers are added to OSM when the signs are installed.

Tanuj: the infrastructure details such as segregation and contraflows are also in the OSM database. An (inconclusive) discussion arose as to which factors in the OSM database (e.g. infrastructure or traffic levels or cycleway numbers) might be used in these route finding apps.

#### **5. Cycle buddies website**

PA reported that he has recruited 40 experienced and 30 new/returning cyclists by means of the Google Form. But he hasn't had much feedback.

PA showed us [LCC's new webpage](#) to be used for future recruitment. People enter postcodes for their home and office and are able to 'chat' with other participants. He has registered as 'experienced' and written to the original participants and suggested that they register on the new LCC site.

EA confirmed she has received PA's email but hasn't yet tried the new site.

#### **6. Diversity & Inclusion in Cycling & CCC's plan to be more inclusive**

SP presented [a set of slides](#) based mainly on information in [TfL's Cycling Action Plan \(2\)](#) and [TfL's Cycling potential in London's diverse communities Oct 2021](#). He encouraged us to consider the share of Londoners considering taking up cycling by ethnic group, and the key barriers (safety, personal safety and theft), particularly for the under-represented groups who face additional barriers (fitness and relevant role models). Young ethnic minority women in particular are strong targets to encourage cycling (PA confirmed that this shows in Cycle Buddies). This talk provoked a lot of discussion e.g:

Tanuj: is other data e.g. ethnic group biased by age? See page 6 here

<https://content.tfl.gov.uk/cycling-potential-in-londons-diverse-communities-2021.pdf>

Melanie: See '[Is Urban Cycling worth the risk?](#)'

JC: 'Wheels for Wellbeing' note that the percentage of disabled people cycling is similar to that of the rest of the population.

GC: Is it known what groups are using the rental bikes? The availability of hire bikes helps with difficulties related to bike storage.

EA: cycling looks more dangerous to non-cyclists

Si P: Air quality is the worst for people in cars. Also pleased to see that the two lowest barriers were: 'it looks unprofessional' and 'people will think I can't afford a car'

**CCC's Actions:** look at ride publicity; everyone to think what to do to encourage a more diverse participation on CCC rides and membership involvement in our meetings and campaigning.

GC to calculate the price of using a bike vs public transport.

PA suggested getting involved with Lime bike users.

SP to send the Cycle Sisters Ride Guide to Geoff (Done).

## **7. Cycling Code of Conduct: what are the positive behaviours that CCC members should embody?**

LP: I observe cyclists on the pavement, jumping red lights, being abusive, having headphones that make them oblivious of what they are doing.

SP presented the suggestions which received suggestions (noted):

- Promote the Highway Code (e.g. [LCC website](#)). In particular the hierarchy of road users. E.g. give way at bus stop bypasses
- Park hire bikes in hire bike bays; ensure footpaths are kept clear (tidy bikes up that are parked badly or have been knocked over).
- Give Way at bus stop bypasses and SUBBs to pedestrians getting on and off buses.  
JC: Following our suggestions, Camden marked all the missing zebras.  
GC: Simon Munk (LCC) wants to work on an LCC policy for bus stops on cycle routes but we are waiting for a report from Edinburgh Living Streets.
- Avoid cycling on the canal towpath through the Camden section; JC: we don't promote it.
- Considerate riding on Shared Paths. Social distancing e.g. arm's length away. Max speed similar to a 'fast runner'
- Waving, saying 'hi' and chatting at traffic lights.

Melanie: suggested the possibility of an 'etiquette' statement on the LCC website - we note there is a brief section on following the rules in this page on [tips for cycling](#).

SP: Many people who use Hire Bikes, don't have a driving licence and are unaware of the Highway Code (especially 2022 updates).

JD: we could consider putting such a statement under the 'About' tab on our website.

**Future Minute takers:** Aug - Steve (decide next minute takers from Sept)

**Next Meeting 21st August** at 7:30 pm on Zoom

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/events/members-meeting-2023-08-21/>