

Camden Cyclists Meeting

Minutes 21 August 2023



19:30 - 21:00 on Zoom

Attending

Steve Prowse (SP, chair), John Chamberlain (JC, Minutes), Jean Dollimore (JD), George Coulouris (GC), Luke Howard (LH), Paul Allen (PA), Meade McCloughan (MM), Susan Seymour (SS), Ema Arvati (EA).

1. Introductions

The group introduced themselves to Luke. Luke lives in the Kilburn area and is a long-time LCC member.

2. Minutes from the July meeting

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/2023/07/ccc-meeting-minutes-17-july-2023/>

The minutes were approved.

Matters arising:

- PA raised the continuing issue of the lack of enforcement of parking in the cycle lanes on Haverstock Hill, which has been going on for 18 months (since the trial started). This makes several sections of the southbound lane unusable. He had had an email discussion with Peter Mardell, head of parking enforcement, who had said that the continuing vandalising of the signs made enforcement very difficult but that he had asked the relevant officers to install vandal-proof signs.

LH referred to recent news articles on the huge cost to councils of vandalising of signs and other street furniture, especially those related to LTNs.

Action: SP to raise at next quarterly meeting with senior officers.

- Cycle Buddies: PA reported that LCC has set up a meeting with Lime Bikes to discuss potential collaboration. Among other suggestions was that Buddies could get free use during accompanied rides. SP asked if we had a profile on the LCC Cycle Buddies website yet; PA replied that was being prepared and that he would be emailing current buddies as soon as he had enough experienced riders signed up.

Action: PA to report back on Lime meeting and set up CCC profile.

- Diversity & Inclusion: SP: Dockless bikes address some issues with diversity but costs seem to be high. GC was to do a comparison of costs for bike hire vs public transport. SP: We should make an effort to emphasise inclusivity when promoting rides.

Action: GC to provide comparison at next meeting, All (especially JC and Geoff Stilwell) to emphasise inclusivity of rides.

- Etiquette: SP reported that LCC won't get involved in producing a guide for cyclists but that we are free to do so. Suggestions were received from all participants.

Action: SP to produce a draft document which JD will put on the CCC website when finalised.

3. Infrastructure update Tavistock Place

JD gave a presentation on the history and plans for the Tavistock/Torrington Place cycle lanes ([see Jean's slides here](#)). Key improvements will include:

- Larger ASL and early release at Tottenham Court Road.
- Separate N-S and S-N phases on Gower Street. This will enable cycles to make right turns into Torrington Place which are currently very difficult (CCC have asked for this since the first designs were published).
- Separate signals for eastbound cycles at Bedford Way to avoid collisions when motor vehicles turn right.
- Separate signals for cycles at Marchmont Street.
- Cycle gate at Judd Street. This should remove the left-hook risk by separating cycle movements from motor vehicle movements though The main disadvantage is that cycles will always get a red light. Experience of other similar gates indicates that many cyclists will ignore one or both signals.

However, the current ban on the right turn from Judd Street into Tavistock Place will remain; we think this is unnecessary as traffic flow northbound on Hunter Street is low. CCC will continue to campaign for this ban to be removed.

4. Consultation on Crowndale Road

JC gave a brief presentation on Camden's plans for cycle lanes on Crowndale Road ([see slides here](#)). Key points are:

- The scheme runs between Bayham Street and Royal College Street and will link to the TfL scheme for Oakley Square and future Camden & Eversholt Street schemes.
- Consistent with Camden's Transport Strategy (this is flagged as a Primary route).
- Protected cycle lanes.
- 2 bus stop bypasses and 1 shared use bus boarder.

but:

- Lanes are narrow (1.5m).
- Doesn't reach Mornington Crescent and the Arlington LTN.
- No eastbound cycle lane west of Bayham Street.
- Plans for Camden Street junction not ready yet (TfL junction).

PA emphasised the congestion between Bayham Street and Cobden junction which this scheme won't address. He suggested that a yellow box might help. SP said that we should refer to the sub-standard lane width in our response, quoting LTN 1/20.

Action: JC to draft CCC response and email members to ask them to support while requesting improvements.

5. AOB

EA asked about how the waiting lists for bike hangers were handled. JC thought that people on the waiting lists might not find out about new hangars as the people who requested them are notified first.

Action: JC to ask Camden for clarification. (*Note added post-meeting: this is correct, Cyclehoop contact the people who made the request, followed by people on waiting lists for neighbouring hangars*).

Future minute takers: September - SP (JC will chair), October JD

Future Topics: Kilburn High Road

Next Meeting: 18th September at 7:30 pm on Zoom

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/events/members-meeting-2023-09-18/>