

Camden Cyclists Meeting

Minutes 15 January 2024

19:30 - 21:00 On line



Attending

Steve Prowse (SP, chair), John Chamberlain (JC), Jean Dollimore (JD), George Coulouris (GC), Steven Edwards (SE), Tanuj Dhir (TD), Paul Allen (PA), Peter Marsh (PM), Ema Arvati (EA minutes)

1. Introductions

The group did not need to introduce themselves as we have met previously. Good to see people in person in December and to listen to George's talk about the joys of cycle touring.

2. Minutes from the December meeting

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/2024/01/ccm-meeting-minutes-18th-december-2023/>

The minutes were approved and it was mentioned that the Mansfield Road crossing at Estelle Road is undergoing work associated with being made permanent.

3. Safer Junctions Campaign; C10 Euston Road / Gordon St

The crossing into Euston Road on the C10 is not ideal despite the LCC dangerous junctions tool showing the Holborn junctions as 1 and 2 and this one 3 in Camden – from the STATs 19 report, it seems that the fatal cyclist collision here was not caused by the junction design. Riding north from Gordon Street across Euston Road provides access to Euston Station although there is no option to ride further north on Melton Street. It was agreed that we should campaign to get Gordon Street closed (to motor vehicles) at Euston Road (as promised by HS2). It would be good to bring it up with TFL to try to sort it as it is not linked to the completion of HS2. The taxi parking is moving from where they are now to the Euston Square garden east in February. JC has asked officers to open the route around Drummond Street.

Action: JC to arrange another meeting with the officers to discuss this issue. PA asked, following the labour win in Westminster, if now the Council is looking at changing the Swiss Cottage gyratory which is not pleasant and mostly off-putting.

It was pointed out that the proposed Swiss Cottage improvements were primarily a Camden and TfL responsibility, requiring only the agreement of Westminster.

4. Infrastructure update/Contraflow on Harrington - Lidlington

JC and JD gave an update on the various infrastructure changes including Harrington Sq – Lidlington Place which is a TfL scheme that connects Hampstead Rd and Mornington Crescent to Crowndale rd. There are kerb protected tracks in both directions and some shared space.

A cycle gate has been added at Eversholt Street and the traffic lights that were made permanent in December preventing cars turning left at the same time as cyclists. North of that stretch of street, kerb protected tracks have replaced bollards.

In most of the southern end of York way stepped tracks now replace flexible bollards. See the slides [here](#).

The increasing use of a strip of blue paint across junctions with side roads was discussed. We believe that Camden has adopted this measure to emphasise the presence of cycle lanes to drivers proceeding into or out of a side road in situations where there is no stepped track.

5. Infrastructure Highlights for 2023

JD presented Infrastructure Highlights for 2023 based on [this web page](#). This included School Streets, Permeability, development of the cycle network, Signage and Junctions.

- Camden now has 29 Healthy School Street schemes, covering 34 schools; 21 schemes are permanent and 8 are trials
- This years permeability measures include Harrington Square, Falkland Road and Dornfell Street
- This year's work on the cycle network consisted mainly of replacing flexible bollards with stepped tracks. JD has devised a [new chart](#) to show progress with permanent infrastructure rather than just total length
- As well as signalised junctions side road junctions are important and at last Camden has built several blended junctions with continuous cycleway as well as footway. [See](#). Tiger crossings can also be useful when a route crosses a major road e.g. Estelle Road/Mansfield Road.

A discussion on signage arose

The group discussed the TFL signage that can sometimes be a bit confusing or not in the right location for cyclists to see. People cycling tend to follow a cycle lane or what is painted on the road more than look at the signage. Should TFL commission a survey to see how the signage is used or if it is useful? **Action:** Raise the TFL signage at the next quarterly meeting.

PM asked how the numberings are given to the various cycle routes and PA said that it might be clockwise. C routes are for cut through.

7. Summary of the last Quarterly Meeting

JC gave an update on the cycling items that were discussed at the meeting with the officials.

A budget exists for non-standard bike storage on request (currently 1 in Parliament Hill)

JC to request a meeting with Steve Hands to discuss improving the overall process. SP mentioned that the customer service is not very good; he has been locked out of his hangar and there has been no reply so far.

SE had asked for an agenda item on Whitestone Pond junction. JC said that Camden officers had said that this junction was not on a planned route but asked that we give them some suggestions.

Minutes of the last quarterly meeting:

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/2024/01/minutes-quarterly-meeting-11th-december-2023/>

8. AoB

We did not have time to discuss other items this month but we will add to the agenda for next time: Safe cycle street map <https://safecycleldn.com/>, vehicles stopping in the bike box and the freedom ride in March organised by LCC.

Future Minute takers: February Jean, March Steve.

Next Meeting 19th February at 7:30. The meeting will be online using Zoom.

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/events/members-meeting-2024-02-19/>