

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC) held at The Jubilee Room at the St Laurence Centre, St Laurence Church, Catford, SE6 2TS

Wednesday 15th October 2014 7pm

- 1) **Present:** Jane Davis (Co-Ordinator), Tim Collingridge (Secretary), John Phillips (Treasurer), Alex Raha, Brian Haines, Brian Turpin, Ivan Cornell, Christian Wolmar, Stewart Whitworth, Kemi Yusuph, Ann & David Mill, Nigel Bee, Cllr Mark Ingleby, Tim Ghechna, F. N_'lg, Ian Welsby, Cllr Kevin Bonavia
Apologies: Rik Andrew, Roger Stocker.
- 2) **Talk and Discussion on the 'Place of cycling as integral to a modern transport policy in London' led by Mr Christian Wolmar (leading transport commentator and declared candidate for the Labour Party candidacy for London Mayor).**
Here are some key points from CW's talk:
Transport is 70% of London Mayor's Budget, so is one of most important elements of the job.
CW wishes to emphasise liveability in London – fewer cars, better public transport and space4cycling – creating a 'better sort of city'.
Three key elements to boosting cycling:
 - 1) Leadership – 'champions' for cycling at all levels (LCC Groups, Councillors, GLA, MPs)
 - 2) Money – Department for Transport has no dedicated money for 'cycling' – just small pots of money in other budgets. Need designated budgets for cycling.
 - 3) Cross Party Agreement on cycling policy leading to continuity in implementations. Disappointing that after 15 years of cycling infrastructure developments it is still hard to find examples of truly good cycling infrastructure.
Cycle Superhighway 2 extension to Stratford is much better and is good quality.
We all need to support the proposed East to West Superhighway. It may have some detailed issues but it is a 'battle-ground' for future infrastructure development and must be supported for success.
Mini-Hollands in outer London boroughs also need supporting.
Current TfL underspend on cycling projects is a major issue as the assigned monies may be cut after the next election.
If elected as Mayor CW would:
 - 1) Have a cycling Tsar in an Executive (not Advisory as Andrew Gilligan) role in TfL – a Deputy Commissioner for Cycling reporting only to the Commissioner for Transport. The Tsar may well be someone from abroad experienced in delivery of effective cycle schemes.
 - 2) Make cycle infrastructure changes quickly and trial schemes with temporary measures to see if practical or not.
 - 3) Scrap proposed East London River crossing bridges as being fundamentally anti-environmental.CW would have a car reduction strategy for Central London. This would be achieved by using more sophisticated modern congestion charging technology so that vehicles could be managed more effectively. Managing vehicles by vehicle type, at varying times of day and in specific areas of London, not just the Central Zone...
Recently there have been relatively low levels of car parking provision in new residential and business premises. Eric Pickles has been trying to increase it again – he would aim to reverse these changes.
- 3) **Update from Nick Harvey (Cycling Programme Manager for London Borough of Lewisham (LBL) on the detailed plans for the new Quietway 2 cycle route (Greenwich to Waterloo) section within LBL.**
Nick Harvey presented the detailed plans for the Q2 route, 3km of which is in LBL. The

plans were generally well received by the meeting and will be studied in more detail over the next few weeks by the Group. As well as providing much enhanced cycle priority there is also an emphasis on 'public realm' improvements so that people local to the route also benefit.

These plans are now out for consultation on the LBL website. Members are encouraged to respond to the plans in person and also forward comments to LC so we can prepare a Group response. Nick commented that even if you are completely happy with the plans it is helpful to them if you respond saying that as there may be some localised opposition to overcome to e.g. road closures.

The provisional plans have been reviewed by Andrew Gilligan, Cllr Alan Smith (LBL Deputy Mayor) and TfL staff who are all happy with them. Final detailed plans will be drawn up after the consultation. Funding for the works has been released by TfL and the aim is for completion of the works by mid-2015 – an ambitious schedule!

4) LC Coordinator's Report.

There wasn't time for Jane to present her Coordinator's report – she will post it up on the LC website.

5) LC Treasurer's Report.

John reported a fairly healthy financial position due in no small measure to Jane's initiative in starting bike jumble sales where we donate and sell off spare bike bits. From June last year to September we've raised over £400 at these. A secondary factor was that LBL currently gives a year's subscription to the LCC to anyone who takes a cycle training course. Our LCC grant is partly based on membership numbers so we've benefited. This policy of free LCC membership has boosted our LCC borough membership from 468 to 770 making us the fourth largest LCC Borough Group after Hackney, Lambeth and Southwark.

Accounts Summary for last financial year (April 2013 to March 2014)

Incomings	£
Carried forward bank balance	987
Interest	1
Main LCC Grant	344
Brockley Fair bike jumble	94
Ride London grant	160
Total incomings	1586
Outgoings	
Brockley Fair pitch booking 2013 (x2)	40
Dr Bike @ Brockley Fair 2013	300
Servicing of Loan Bikes	43
Bike Breakfast in Bike Week	55
Web costs	8
Printing etc.	39
Total Outgoings	485
Balance carried forward to 2014/15	1101

Accounts summary of current year to date:

From April 2014 to 15th October 2014 total incomings (including carried forward from above) is £2011, with outgoings of £1029 leaving a currently available balance of £982.

6) Elections to LC Management Committee.

Alex Raha took the Chair for the elections.

Jane Davis nominated herself for the post of Co-ordinator, seconded by Tim Collingridge and was elected unopposed.

Tim Collingridge nominated himself for the post of Secretary, seconded by Ian Welsby and was elected unopposed.

John Phillips was nominated by Brian Haines for the post of Treasurer, seconded by Alex Raha and was elected unopposed.

7) Other Agenda items.

There was insufficient time to cover the other agenda items so they were deferred to the next Monthly meeting.

Meeting closed around 9pm.

Next LC Meeting will be on Wednesday 19th November at 6.30pm at Lewisham Civic Centre, Catford.