

Record of Monthly Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC) hosted online using Google Hangouts on Wednesday 18th March 2020 6.30pm

Tim Collingridge (Secretary), Alex Raha, Judith Barrett, Christopher Mahon, Jorge Martinez Lopez, Cllr Mark Ingleby, Brian Turpin, Mike Tisdell, Iliana Koutsou, Mark Chapman, Ruth Coulson (Principal Urban Design Officer, London Borough of Lewisham)

Apologies: Jane Davis (Coordinator), Matt Begg, Roger Stocker, Cllr James Rathbone, Cllr Patrick Codd, Deborah Barrett, Rik Andrew

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- Review and brief discussion on the current study into ‘Strategic Walking and Cycling Connections between Lewisham Open Spaces’ being undertaken by Ruth Coulson (Principal Urban Design Officer at London Borough of Lewisham)
 - Ruth is looking for our input into these documents (link below) which aim to improve existing, or establish new, safe and attractive walking and cycling routes within and between Lewisham’s parks.
 - We need to provide input by eob Thursday 19th March.
 - The documents will feed into the Lewisham Parks & Open Spaces Strategy which is being presented to the Lewisham Mayor and Cabinet on 25th March.
 - If any of the proposals in the document are taken forward there will be further public consultation at that time.
 - No budget has been specifically identified for these proposals yet, but will potentially utilise S106 funding.
- Topical Items
 - Lee Green Healthy Neighbourhood scheme update (link below).
 - No trial start date has yet been confirmed.
 - For supporters of the Healthy Neighbourhood Schemes in Lewisham there is now a WhatsApp group you can join - ‘HNS Champions’. Please email lewishamcyclists@gmail.com if you are interested in joining the group.
 - East Sydenham Healthy Neighbourhood scheme update (link below)
 - No updates on this scheme, our understanding is that Council Officers are concentrating on the Lee Green scheme at the moment.
 - Safer Brownhill Road petition (link below)
 - This is a dangerous junction with a history of collisions between cars and pedestrians. Members are encouraged to support the petition.
 - To TfL’s credit they have responded very promptly to the campaigning and are looking at having a public consultation on junction improvements by April 2020 (link below).
- Update from Cycling Champion (Cllr Mark Ingleby)
 - Mark commented that the following document from the last Sustainable Development Committee Meeting <http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/b19185/Supplementary%20Agenda%2010th-Mar-2020%2019.00%20Sustainable%20Development%20Select%20Committee.pdf?T=9>

contained a lot of positive proposals for cycling e.g. p61 (New Cross Framework) 'Route 1'.

- We enquired of Mark when the Lewisham Spine (A21) Outcome Definition Report is going to be published by TfL and when it is scheduled to go before the TfL Healthy Street Board for 'approval'. Mark said he would check with TfL.
- We also discussed Deptford Church Street where Lewisham could potentially commence the design of segregated cycle lanes now if the Lewisham Mayor and Cllr Sophie McGeevor were to allocate budget to the project e.g. S106 funding from the Thames Tideway Tunnel works. Mark said he would follow up with Sophie. LC are planning to have a virtual meeting with Sophie in the near future and this will be one of the main agenda points.
- Apparently Lewisham Living Streets have seen a revised junction design for the A21/A205 Catford junction. We are endeavouring to get a meeting with TfL to review this design as well and requested Mark's assistance with this.
- Discussion on group procedures and meeting scheduling (including Annual Meeting) during current Covid-19 Health Emergency
 - We are going to hold monthly meetings online via Google Hangouts (or similar facility) until further notice.
 - It was noted that the free version of Hangouts has an 8 attendee limit. We will investigate using the business edition or another facility like Zoom in advance of the next meeting. Apologies to those who were not able to participate in this meeting.
 - We agreed to defer the LC Annual Meeting until Autumn as the consensus was that this should be a face to face meeting if at all possible. The last Annual Meeting was in May 2019 and under the constitution we have up to 18 months to hold the next one.
 - After an instruction from LCC Central Office all face to face LC public events have been cancelled until further notice. This includes all Dr Bikes and Rides.
- Projects & Community Activity feedback
 - The Lee Green school cycle bus held on the first Friday of each month starting at Hither Green Station at 8am has been garnering good support.
 - This ride is coordinated by Cllr Octavia Holland with LC providing marshalling support.
 - Any parent with children who wish to cycle to their local school near Hither Green is welcome to attend.
 - Adult members who are available can help marshal the ride.
 - We imagine that this ride will be suspended during the current health emergency.
- Attendees News & Views
 - Alex Raha commented on progress with construction of CycleWay 4 (Tower Bridge to Greenwich).
 - A short section of a few hundred metres is now open going west from Rotherhithe Roundabout. It's of good quality. The bulk of the rest of the route from there to Tower Bridge has been constructed, apart from a couple of junctions, so hopefully will open throughout fairly soon.

- Work has now commenced at the junction of Deptford Church St and Creek Road. This is on the next major section scheduled to be constructed - Greenwich to Surrey Quays.
 - Tim commented on the proposed Rotherhithe to Canary Wharf ferry.
 - TfL have released a press release (link below) to announce the start of design work on the ferry.
 - LC are engaging with TfL on an ongoing basis regarding the design.
- Useful links and information
 - Strategic Walking and Cycling Connections between Lewisham Open Spaces: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/58o9j6fep71qt7u/AAB0dTGpF2bCo_0yz28ZRxBa?dl=0
 - Lee Green Healthy Neighbourhood draft v11 trial location map: <https://streetbuilder.io/lewishamandleegreen/site/proposals>
 - East Sydenham Healthy Neighbourhood: <https://streetbuilder.io/eastsydenham>
 - TfL Press Release on proposed Rotherhithe to Canary Wharf ferry <https://tfl-newsroom.prgloo.com/news/tfl-press-release-tfl-embarks-on-design-work-for-green-turn-up-and-go-ferry-service-between-rotherhithe-and-canary-wharf>
 - Royal Parks Movement Strategy public consultation. (Closes 25th March) “The strategy focuses on seven key strategic outcomes. If you would like to provide any feedback on any of these outcomes please email your submission to: movement.strategy@royalparks.org.uk before March 25, 2020.” https://www.royalparks.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/114216/TheRoyalParks_MovementStrategy.pdf
 - Safer Brownhill Road petition: <https://www.change.org/p/transport-for-london-safer-brownhill-road>
TfL response: <https://www.change.org/p/transport-for-london-safer-brownhill-road/u/25816600>

Meeting ended around 8pm.

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 15th April at 6.30 pm hosted online.

Lewisham Cyclists (The London Cycling Campaign group for Lewisham Borough)
lewishamcyclists@gmail.com
www.lewishamcyclists.co.uk
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