

Record of Monthly Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC) hosted online using Google Meet on Wednesday 17th February 2021 6.30pm

Tim Collingridge (Secretary), Alex Raha (Interim Coordinator), Jane Davis (Community Engagement Coordinator), John Phillips (Treasurer), Cllr Mark Ingleby, Mike Tisdell, Matt Begg, Brian Turpin, Rosemary Scott, John Salisbury, Jorge Martinez Lopez, Mark Chapman. *Apologies:* Iliana Koutsou, Andrew Seeds, Cllr Louise Krupski, Judith Barrett, Eilidh Murray.

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- Topical Items
 - Recent correspondence with Mayor Egan regarding proposed Deptford Church St (DCS) cycle lanes and other schemes.
<https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/DCS-follow-up-letter-to-Mayor-v2.pdf>
 - We received a formal response(s) to the DCS letter on 3rd February. This stated that ‘Therefore we have requested that officers look into progressing design work for Deptford Church Street in the Spring, which will still enable us to achieve our shared ambition of implementing a segregated cycle route on Deptford Church Street when the Thames Tideway project has completed.’
 - Thames Tideway works are now not expected to be completed until the end of 2022.
 - We will follow up with the Mayor again if we have not heard back from Lewisham Highways by late Spring.
 - TfL A21 temporary cycle lanes and other measures (see links below).
 - We had a meeting with the new TfL Project Sponsor and two other TfL representatives on 9th February.
 - We discussed the points included in our Feedback document, a few of which have been resolved, while several are still outstanding. It was a constructive meeting and TfL committed to respond soon to the outstanding issues.
 - Overall we felt that they spoke very positively about the A21 Spine project indicating that it is seen as a priority within TfL with good potential for increased cycle journeys. The, largely complete, Outcome Definition Study was mentioned, but still without a committed date for completion and approval.
 - Lewisham C19 Modal Filters and Low Traffic Neighbourhood(s).
<https://lewishamcovidresidentialstreets.commonplace.is/overview>
 - In Lee Green the Council recently announced that the Woodyates, Upwood and Manor Lane North filters were going to be fitted with ANPR cameras due to ongoing vandalism of the demountable bollards.
 - In Hither Green the weight restrictions on Hither Green Lane and George Lane will also soon be installed, monitored by ANPR cameras.
 - The Council has committed to holding a public consultation in March regarding the Lee Green LTN. Our understanding is that this will only

involve residents within the LTN. We do not know what form the consultation will take.

- It was suggested that LC should send a letter to Mayor & Councillors in advance of the consultation indicating our full support for the LTN.
- Lewisham C19 School Streets.
<https://lewishamschoolstreets.commonplace.is/>
 - Mike has made a general assessment of the 25 planned school streets. Overall we see school streets as a very good thing, but in some cases the Council could have been more ambitious in the extent of the closure areas. We will be publishing this assessment on the website soon.
 - Commonplace feedback from residents regarding School Streets to date has been very positive.
- Forest Hill to Waterlink Way (via Elm Lane) proposed cycle route.
 - Cllr Mark talked about the Vineyard Close path to the Waterlink Way. He considers there are no remaining barriers within the Council itself (having talked to Mark Callaghan (Walking and Cycling Programme Manager) and the 'Ecological' people, plus as already notified there is some assigned LIP budget). The community engagement exercise with local residents via Lewisham Homes is the main task to be completed. This needs to be framed positively to the residents showing there are benefits for them in connectivity etc.
 - We are looking for local residents to help to champion the project, if any members live in the area please email us.
 - Judith and Tim have had further discussions with the Council and Local Community Groups regarding the Sydenham Park/Dacre Park pedestrian railway footbridge. It turns out this bridge is the responsibility of Lewisham Council and they have had long term plans to replace the bridge deck - now expected to be done in 2021. Currently they are not intending to make the bridge cycle and disability compliant citing budget constraints and the need for land-take for ramps. We have provided the Council with a rough design of ramps that would be compliant, but not require land-take using the analogy of the Elverson Road DLR bridge. We are waiting on a response from the Council. They apparently have an internal meeting on 23rd February regarding the planned works.
- Catford Town Centre Framework Plan - Stations Area in particular.
<https://catfordframework.commonplace.is/overview>
 - We have compiled and submitted a response regarding the 'Stations area': <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/catford-stations-area-cycling-improvements-your-opportunity-to-influence-these-exciting-plans/> This part of the redevelopment already has £1.5M Section 106 funding from the Catford Green development:
 - The full Framework Plan covers the whole of central Catford (Catford Shopping Centre, Catford Broadway, Multi-storey car park etc.) with reconstruction works over the next 5 to 15 years. We are planning to submit written comments on the full plan in the near future. The Commonplace Consultation apparently closed earlier in February,

- although there is public pressure to re-open and extend the consultation period.
 - LC 'Vision' Development Project
 - We've done a fair amount of work on the interactive map and are currently considering how to designate Healthy Neighbourhoods and specify the measures required to create them. We will be having a further meeting soon and will report back at next monthly meeting.
 - Health related eMeetings.
 - Cllr Chris Best (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care). Discussion on health benefits of active travel.
 - Cllr Best will follow up with Lewisham & Greenwich Trust and Clinical Commissioning Groups regarding possibility of funding schemes to enhance active travel in Lewisham.
 - She is a strong supporter of School Streets and also indicated support for the Silverdale and Bishopsthorpe modal filters which are in her ward.
 - She indicated she is prepared to write a 'statement of support' for measures to encourage active travel in Lewisham.
 - Dr Ralph Mortimer Roome (Sydenham GP).
 - Dr Mortimer is working on a cycling participation project to benefit his surgery staff and patients. He is also liaising with three other interested GP practices. We are having a further meeting with him next week.
 - Family Cycling Library - in collaboration with Climate Action Lewisham (CAL).
 - CAL are leading the project as they are the grant holder. They have recently received grant monies and have ordered an electric cargo bike. They are also looking to acquire other items like trailers, child seats etc. which can be loaned to parents to enable families to cycle more readily.
 - They are considering a 'soft' launch for the project in May.
 - Lewisham Local Plan - brief overview (see link below)
 - Alex is going to soon prepare a draft Lewisham Cyclists response to the Local Plan consultation and will post it on Slack for general comments.
- Community Engagement & Rides.
 - Family Cycle Routes - looking to develop several routes, at first with simple descriptions and maps on our website, potentially could be printed onto leaflets. Further meeting soon to discuss.
 - Buddy Rides - LCC has requested us to restart these, but only for Health Workers for now.
 - The Second Sunday Bike Maintenance workshop was run again this month but without public access. The mechanics, working in a socially distanced way, refurbished a number of bikes for donation to key workers or for sale.
 - Jane is continuing to develop a plan to procure a permanent shipping-container based workshop (probably via crowd-funding) for installation in Rolt St. However we need confirmation from LBL that we will be allowed to site it there, Cllr Sophie has indicated she is supportive but we are waiting for formal confirmation from Alex Crush.

- Attendees News & Views
 - Mark C. referred to the planned building project on Eddystone Road warning about impacts of construction vehicles on the cycle route - something to keep an eye on if it gets approval. We have already made a response to the planning application requesting that after construction motor vehicles be prohibited from the whole of Eddystone Road west of the Buckthorne Rd junction.
 - John suggested that some of our current account monies be 'ring-fenced' for the containerised workshop project. This was agreed.
 - Jorge briefly talked about the ongoing work to enhance the LC website. A draft Home page has been created and Tim is going to organise a meeting soon to finalise the layout and content on this page.
- Links for topical items
 - TfL Streetspace A21 temporary measures:
<https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/general/034ec426/>
 TfL Streetspace feedback form
<https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/general/streetspace-for-london/consultation/subpage.2020-10-08.8193336914/>
 LC correspondence to TfL regarding A21 measures
<https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/LC-Consultation-Response-A21-Streetspace-Scheme-Final.pdf>
<https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/LC-Feedback-A21-Streetspace-Scheme-November-2020-v2.pdf>
- Links for active planning applications and consultations
 - Lewisham Local Plan development consultation
<https://lewishamlocalplan.commonplace.is/>

Meeting ended around 8pm.

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 17th March at 6.30 pm hosted online.

Lewisham Cyclists (The London Cycling Campaign group for London Borough of Lewisham)
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<http://www.facebook.com/groups/72380106728/>
<https://lewishamcyclistsgroup.slack.com/>
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