

Record of Monthly Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC) hosted online using Google Meet on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2021 6.30pm

Tim Collingridge (Secretary), Alex Raha (Interim Coordinator), Jane Davis (Community Engagement Coordinator), John Phillips (Treasurer), Cllr Mark Ingleby, Mike Tisdell, Brian Turpin, Jorge Martinez Lopez, Cllr Louise Krupski, Darren Reynolds, Matt Begg.

*Apologies:* Iliana Koutsou, Eilidh Murray, Cllr Aisling Gallagher.

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- Topical Items
  - Sydenham Green Group Practice Staff Cycle Project
    - First event is a 4hr session on 11<sup>th</sup> June, exact time tbd. Will involve a Dr Bike and a general advice stall. Alex & Matt offered to help on the day.
    - We've also offered Bike Buddy and Loan Bike services but no take-up yet.
    - Ralph, Alex and Anthony (from CycleHoop) had a meeting recently with a view to CycleHoop auditing the potential for secure and visitor cycle parking at the surgery.
  - Forest Hill to Waterlink Way (via Elm Lane) proposed cycle route.
    - Cllr Mark reported that the Lewisham Homes community engagement exercise with Vineyard Close residents will now be carried out after the GLA and Mayoral elections in May.
- Community Engagement & Rides.
  - #LoveBeckenhamPlacePark Community Day - Sunday 30th May 1030am to 430pm
    - We are planning to run three feeder rides from Mayow Park (Tim), Deptford (Jane) and Grove Park via 'Literary Heritage Trail' (Alex).
    - Also an LC information stall - volunteers needed to staff this.
  - National Bike Week - Sunday 30th May to Saturday 5th June
    - Further events, other than the above Community Day, may be scheduled nearer the time.
  - Family Cycling Library (in collaboration with Climate Action Lewisham).
    - The e-Cargo Trike has been delivered.
    - The first family event is at 11am on Sat 1st May @ Ladywell Fields (southern end adjacent to Bournville Road) where people will be able to try out the trike (pre-booking essential).
    - If members want to keep up to date with future events they should sign-up here: <https://climateactionlewisham.org/lewisham-family-cycling-library>
    - 8 public sessions are planned over the rest of this year.
    - LC members who want to be volunteers to demonstrate the trike are invited to a training session at 1030am on Sun 25<sup>th</sup> April @ Ladywell Fields.
  - Restart of Community Activities - Bike Buddy, Cycle Workshops, Rides
    - All of these activities have now restarted with some ongoing restrictions due to prevailing Covid rules.

- Bike Buddy - we have quite a few experienced riders signed up prepared to provide buddying services, but very few inexperienced ones wanting those services. There was a brief discussion about the possible reasons for this and it was suggested that maybe there could be an online introduction between the two riders in advance of the first ride for reassurance purposes.
  - Now running Tuesday Totters and Weekend rides again. These are booking up very quickly via EventBrite. Due to rule of six popular rides will have to be split so will need more Leaders and Marshalls - Jorge and Matt volunteered to help out.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday workshop has restarted but for Covid safety it is currently being run as a Dr Bike rather than a Community Workshop.
  - Jane is still looking for a location for a permanent LC cycle workshop. One plan was to get a 20ft shipping container fitted out as a workshop and locate it in Rolt St, however LBL Highways have still not responded as to whether they are prepared to support this or not?  
Cllr Mark and a couple of other Cllrs are currently auditing spaces owned by LBL that could be used for small startup businesses and will bear LC in mind as a potential occupant of one of these.
- Promotional leaflets for LC - it was agreed that Alex should coordinate development of new leaflets for the group and order them, provided total cost under £100.
- Family Cycle Routes
  - Jane has already developed one route around the Deptford area: <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/rides/routes/deptford-family-ride/>
  - The #LoveBeckenhamPlacePark feeder rides could also form the basis of further routes with the mapping done via <https://ridewithgps.com>
- Treasurers Report (see Appendix A)
  - John commented that although we currently have a significant positive balance of monies this is likely to be used soon either to fund a permanent bike servicing facility or alternatively on a new cargo bike.
- Attendees News & Views
  - Cllr Mark has been approached by Conisborough College re special needs cycling. Jane already does work with Wheels for Wellbeing and suggested that Mark get the College to contact her directly for advice.
  - Jorge mentioned the new home page for the website. It was agreed that we should have a follow-up meeting to finalise the content for the page.
  - Jorge also mentioned that Cllr Aisling had recently asked a question about LC's equality and diversity policy. Alex clarified at the meeting that LCC are currently working on a revised policy which we would expect to adopt. It was also suggested that we could have a simple inclusivity statement on our website new home page.
  - The Waterlink Way route has been badly dislocated in central Lewisham over the last couple of weeks due to utility works in Thurston Rd/Loampit Vale. The Toucan crossing of Loampit Vale (a TfL road) was closed for a while with an inadequate alternative signalised crossing provided, now the cycle lane in Thurston Road (a LBL road) is closed with 'Cyclist Dismount' signs in place. LC

have been in communication with both TfL and LBL Highways regarding the planning and execution of these works and the inadequate nature of the alternative provision. Apparently utility works will continue to impact the cycle lane on Thurston Road until early June and LBL cannot see any way to provide an alternative safe routing.

We advise cyclists to either dismount or ride with care giving way to pedestrians when passing these works.

Cllr Louise agreed to contact Len Duvall (GLA Member for Lewisham and Greenwich) regarding the poor planning and communication of these works.

Meeting ended around 8pm.

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30 pm hosted online.

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

## Appendix A - Treasurers Report

### Lewisham Cyclists Treasurer's financial year- end report for 2020-2021

As can be seen from the attached year-end summary we are in quite good financial shape with a year- end net worth of £3749.

Despite the losses of income from the cancelled Ride London event and a hoped-for payment for assisting with the Dunwich Dynamo donation, income has been substantially more than previous years by a factor of three or four.

Total outgoings have approximated to those of previous years. They include the exceptional retainer paid to our primary mechanic, Seb Achbiou, which Jane and I thought appropriate he effectively being a salaried employee but unable to work for us during the original lockdown.

A little clarification regarding the Deptford Folk organisation and payments to and from them. For reasons unknown to this author Deptford Folk are unwilling or unable to pay mechanics directly for their sessions. The arrangement is therefore that we (LC) pay the mechanics and then Deptford Folk reimburse us. They currently owe us a modest £20.

The London Cycling Campaign may balk at the size of our net worth and suggest that we waive the forthcoming year's grant. In that event I will advise them that we are hopeful of establishing a permanent, container-housed, cycle repair and maintenance facility and that the expense of fitting this out would be considerable.

Any comments or queries either during the April meeting or later will be welcome.

John Phillips  
Treasurer  
31st March 2021



