

Record of Annual Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC) hosted online using Google Meet on Wednesday 2nd February 2022 6.30pm

Tim Collingridge (Secretary), Alex Raha (Interim Coordinator), Jane Davis (Community Engagement & Rides Coordinator), John Phillips (Treasurer), Cllr Louise Krupski, Brian Turpin, Mike Tisdell, Jorge Martinez Lopez, Eduardo Petrilli (Climate Safe Streets Champion), Nick Humberstone, Matt Begg, Rosemary Scott, Paul McQuillen, Ralph Mortimer Roome, Ned Boulting.

Apologies: Cllr Patrick Codd, Eilidh Murray, Cllr Mark Ingleby.

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- Apologies and Welcome - Brian Turpin (Chair of Annual Meeting)
- Interim Coordinator Report - Alex Raha. See Alex's presentation here:
 - <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/LC-Coordinator-Report-2022.pdf>
- Community Engagement & Rides Coordinator Report - Jane Davis. See Jane's presentation here:
 - <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/AM-2022-Community-Engagement.pdf>
- Treasurer's Report & Approval by the Meeting - John Phillips. View the Treasurer's Report and Accounting Reports here:
 - <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/LC-Treasurers-report-for-Feb-2022-Annual-Meeting.pdf>
 - <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/LC-Year-end-accounts-summary-for-2020-2021.pdf>
 - <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/LC-Ongoing-budget-for-2021-22.pdf>
 - The Annual Accounts were approved unanimously at the Annual Meeting.
- Elections to LC Management Committee.
 - The following LCC members stood for election at the Annual Meeting. There were no other candidates, and all Officers were elected unanimously.
 - Alex Raha - LC Coordinator
 - Jane Davis - Community Engagement & Rides Coordinator
 - John Phillips - Treasurer
 - Tim Collingridge - Secretary
- Climate Safe Streets Pledges for May 2022 Lewisham Mayoral and Council elections - Mike Tisdell. See Mike's presentation here:
 - <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/LC-Pledges-May-22-presentation.pdf>
- Ned Boulting, award winning journalist, broadcaster (Tour de France and other events) and Lewisham resident shared his personal insights:
 - Ned entertained us with his reminiscences of how back in 2004 he started 'commuting' 2.5miles on his mountain bike to North Greenwich tube station from his home in Charlton. Then having had bits of his bike progressively stolen while parked, he experienced that light-bulb moment realising he could just ride the whole 7 miles to ITV on the South Bank..
Moving to Lewisham in 2008 and with his background as a Tour de France (TdF)

broadcaster he then bought a racing bike and joined the lycra, clipless-shoes crowd for his speedy commute..

However this was a relatively short-lived phase and now he has moved into what he calls his 'de-lycricification' period dispensing with the fancy gear and just riding around in normal clothes, jeans with one sock rolled up..

5 years ago the family car died and they vowed not to get another car, his wife also riding around the local boroughs for her work. This is the point at which he realised how versatile bicycles are and how they solve so many intransigent modern mobility issues..

He observed that recently cycling in Lewisham has grown markedly, but from a low base. A fair number of kids are seen, predominantly riding on the pavement with parents on the road, understandable given the traffic levels but disappointing...

Also he has noticed the dramatic increase in the number of young men now riding for Just Eat & Deliveroo, whatever you may think about these companies it has put a different demographic of riders on the streets, the diversity being potentially encouraging to further new riders...

Lewisham as a borough seems to be lagging behind other inner-city boroughs. Quietway 1 (now Cycleway 10) is a brilliant route up the borough and into Central London but is virtually invisible to the rest of the borough - needs better promotion...

Lewisham Gateway is a disaster in terms of cycling and walking - he cannot understand how it was allowed to be constructed without protected lanes for cyclists...

Regarding how to effect and accelerate change towards Active Travel he feels we need to 'de-toxify' the culture war between people on bicycles and motorists. More effectively share the joy of riding bikes and get motorists to better understand the issues we experience...

He feels we also need to focus on the younger age group as we risk many kids never being introduced to bikes, not just school kids but also young adults...

- Ned was asked about the 'Carbon Footprint' of the TdF. He commented that the footprint of the essential vehicles for the event is not actually that large (tens of cars/motorbikes). Especially in the context of the enjoyment the event gives to so many people worldwide. However the supporters who follow the event with their large Winnebagos etc. is admittedly a bigger issue.
- Attendees News & Views
 - Eduardo commented on our Climate Safe Streets campaign (for May Council Elections) that there are three suggested promotional avenues to be explored:
 - Leaflet - to be developed and distributed at all in-person events.
 - Webinar - to target non-riders as well as established ones.
 - Hustings - for Mayoral and Councillor candidates.
 - We agreed to take these ideas offline and develop them further in our Climate Safe Streets channel in Slack. Anyone who is interested in being involved in this campaign please email us at lewishamcyclists@gmail.com

- Rosemary commented on how successful the Secure Cycle Parking Hub has been at Peckham Station and whether there could be something similar at Lewisham Station (and others in the Borough).
 - Tim responded that in the Lewisham Town Centre re-development conceptual plans they have mentioned the possibility of a Hub. We have suggested that they work together with SouthEastern to develop a mutually convenient location. Here's our response to that consultation:
<https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Comments-on-Lewisham-Town-Centre-Scheme-December-2021.pdf>

Meeting ended around 8pm.

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd March at 6.30 pm hosted online.

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