

Record of Monthly Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC) hosted online using Google Meet on Wednesday 1st June 6.30pm

Tim Collingridge (Secretary), John Phillips (Treasurer), Mike Tisdell, Jorge Martinez Lopez, Matt Begg, Brian Turpin.

Apologies: Cllr Mark Ingleby, Alex Raha (LC Coordinator), Jane Davis (Community Engagement & Rides Coordinator).

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- Topical Items.
 - John, our Treasurer, raised the issue of our annual stipend from London Cycling Campaign (LCC), which is proportionate to the number of members in Lewisham borough. LCC themselves are quite stretched financially and they have suggested again this year that groups with a reasonable balance of funds do not request the stipend from LCC. John feels that our finances are healthy enough to forego the income this year. As Alex and Jane were not at the meeting it was decided to discuss the issue offline within the Committee. In the meantime John will contact LCC and say we are still reviewing our position.
 - Discussion on implications of results of Lewisham Elections, make-up of Mayor's new Cabinet and the Labour Party manifesto.
 - <https://lewisham.gov.uk/articles/news/mayor-of-lewisham-announces-his-new-cabinet-team>
 - <https://lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/elections/results/election-results-2022/local-and-mayoral-election-results-2022>
 - <https://www.lewishamlabour.com/our-manifesto/>
 - General view was that the elections were positive for Active Travel supporters with the Lewisham Mayor explicitly supporting our Climate Safe Streets pledges (and including many of them in the manifesto), Cllr Krupski being made Cabinet Member for Environment & Climate Action (covering Transport) and a lot of new youngers councillors being elected. A strong showing from the Greens in many wards probably also reflects Climate Emergency concerns in the local electorate.
 - Looking forward we discussed how to connect with the new Councillors and the new Cabinet Member. Suggestions were:
 - Organise a meeting with Cllr Krupski, Cllr Ingleby and Louise McBride (Head of Strategic Transport) as a priority to review existing cycle-related projects and in particular the proposed Active Travel Fund.
 - Host a meeting with the Councillors in the Deptford area, many of whom are new, to look at Cycleway 4 (when it opens, probably in July) and talk through the Deptford Church Street cycle lanes project which should be out for consultation by then.
 - Host an all-Councillors ride in September (avoiding summer holidays) to find out which Councillors are particularly engaged with Active Travel issues and inform & explain the pledges from our Climate Safe Streets campaign to them.

- Deptford Folk (DF) Greening Lewisham collaboration with the National Trust - implications for cycling developments.
<https://us13.campaign-archive.com/?u=13258bb8d251d7929af07ae17&id=57e6515dfe>
 - We are hoping that the consulted Canal Approach walking and cycling route (between Folkestone Gardens and the Thames) may be taken forward as one of the projects. Could be an opportunity to find alternative funding e.g. from local developments, other than the original withdrawn funding from TfL.
 - Plan is to contact DF and assess how we can effectively support their work on this project.
- Cycleway 4 (C4) and Deptford Church St cycle lanes. Brief discussion on current status.
 - According to TfL internal reports the Lewisham section of C4 is 85% complete. By observation they just need to complete the sections at Grove Street (planned for 8th to 16th June according to local signage) and Deptford High Street.
 - TfL are also reporting the Greenwich section of C4 will open in June.
 - We are surmising that the two sections will open together possibly in latest June, but probably early July.
 - Proposed Deptford Church Street cycle lanes. The last information we had on this, from Sustainable Development Committee, was that Project Centre were working on the feasibility & high-level design and this would be out for Stakeholder consultation in June/July.
- Current consultations - members are encouraged to respond to these.
 - TfL Ultra Low Emission Zone expansion consultation (Closes Friday 29th July) <https://haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/cleanair>
 - Members are encouraged to respond to this consultation supporting the expansion of the zone.
 - LC will also prepare a group response.
 - Bell Green Neighbourhood Forum establishment (Closes Thursday 7th July) <https://consultation.lewisham.gov.uk/planning/bellgreen/>
 - The Application Form attached to the consultation talks about establishing a 20-minute neighbourhood, and other environmental improvements, in the area so it seems that the objectives of the forum are likely to be positive for Active Travel. As such we are planning to support the establishment of the Forum.
 - Petition to bring TfL London Hire Bikes (Santander Cycles) to Lewisham [https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=2074&RPID=56898553&HPID=56898553&\\$LO\\$=1](https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=2074&RPID=56898553&HPID=56898553&LO=1)
 - Members are encouraged to support this petition.
 - TfL Lewisham to Catford A21 changes survey (Closes 30th Nov) <https://haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/a21-lewisham-catford>
 - TfL have refreshed this survey and set a new closure date.

- LC will be responding again supporting most of the changes with reservations about some areas - particularly the section going north from the Ladywell junction. However we shall be making the point that TfL need to move forward asap with the design of the permanent segregated lane(s) scheme which would dramatically improve safety and encourage a step change in cycling popularity along the A21.
 - Our previous responses are here (under Responses to TfL Consultations):
<https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/campaign-update/consultations/>
 - Council liaison update - any contact with Officers/Councillors/Committees/Questions to Council.
 - No formal contacts reported this month.
- Community Engagement & Rides.
 - Upcoming one-off events:
 - Lewisham Peaks Ride (for Bike Week) - Wed 8th June 630pm to 9pm.
 - Tim is leading the ride. Brian, Jorge and Matt indicated they would be attending the ride and can help with marshalling.
 - Deptford 2nd Sunday Maintenance Workshop. Sun 11th June 11am to 3pm.
 - Special event this month with sale of bike parts and some second-hand bikes. Refreshment stall.
 - Clean Air Fair - Sat 18th June 11am to 4pm, Catford Broadway.
 - Matt and Alex are apparently attending this one.
 - Downham Celebrates - Sat 18th June 11am to 4pm.
 - Dr Bike
 - Hilly Fields Summer Fayre - Sat 25th June noon to 5pm.
 - Mike said he should be able to help with this event.
 - Dunwich Dynamo cycle unload - Sun 17th July 11am to 3pm.
 - Still looking for volunteers to help with this event.
 - Food & Fun in the Fields - Sat 7th August noon to 6pm, Ladywell Fields.
 - No one attending the meeting knew any details about this event.
 - Jane subsequently advised that we probably won't be doing this event due to over-commitment.
- Attendees News & Views.
 - Ward NCIL funding - Forest Hill to Waterlink Way Cycle Route. Cllr Walsh recently indicated that current plans were for the NCIL projects to mobilise in May/June with a view to starting at beginning of July.

Meeting ended around 745pm.

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 6th July at 6.30 pm hosted online.

<https://lewishamcyclistsgroup.slack.com/>
<https://twitter.com/lewicyclists>