

Record of Monthly Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC) hosted online using Google Meet on Wednesday 7th September 2022 6.30pm

Present: Tim Collingridge (Secretary), Alex Raha (LC Coordinator), Cllr Mark Ingleby, Brian Turpin, Jorge Martinez Lopez, Matt Begg, Mike Tisdell, Judith Barrett.

Apologies: Jane Davis (Community Engagement & Rides Coordinator), John Phillips (Treasurer), Eilidh Murray.

The following items were discussed at the meeting.

- Topical Items.
 - Plans for ‘Councillors’ ride on either Saturday 1/10 or 8/10.
 - Agreed to be 1030am (Catford) 11am (Lewisham). Aim for around 2.5hrs. Email invite to all Councillors to go out from LC & Cllr Mark jointly. Aim to stop for refreshments - Folkestone Gardens(?). If Councillors don’t have bikes, we could check if LC have any spare or hire Lime e-bikes.
 - Discussion on proposal to return to in-person meetings from the October meeting. With basic provision for virtual attendees.
 - Agreed to return to in-person hybrid meetings. Mark to set up room bookings in Civic Centre for 5/10, 2/11, 7/12. No meeting in January.
 - Government funding deal for TfL and implications for Lewisham Local Implementation Plan (LIP). LCC blog on the deal here: <https://lcc.org.uk/news/uk-gov-agrees-tfl-funding/>
 - LBL Officers requested our views on priorities for cycle-related LIP funding as they are about to make an application for 2022/23. Tim prepared a document which has been sent to Martha Lauchlan, Cllr Ingleby and Cllr Krupski.
 - Cycleway 4 (C4) and Deptford Church Street (DCS) cycle lanes update.
 - The cycle lane element of C4 is essentially complete - most barriers have been removed though it’s not officially open. Still impassable near Deptford High St. We are hopeful that it will formally open very soon.
 - DCS. We are expecting a Stakeholder Consultation on these plans very soon. Mark to chase Cllr Krupski about this.
 - Update on local Developments -
 - Catford Island:
 - <https://catfordisland.commonplace.is/news/updates-to-the-catford-island-proposals>
 - Looks encouraging with indications that ‘active travel’ access will be allowed through the development - as agreed with Developer at previous meetings. Matt & Jorge to attend engagement event (17/9 10am-2pm) to confirm this is the case.
 - Sun Wharf in Creekside:
 - ‘Reserved Matters’ including S106 funds still to be finally agreed. Should be monies for local transport improvements.

Could potentially be used for DCS cycle lanes/re-routing of Cycleway 10 alongside Greenwich railway arches rather than via Creekside as currently.

- Lewisham Town Centre.
 - Landsec re-development of Shopping Centre shows lots of potential for improvements in active travel connectivity E-W and N-S. Matt has applied to be a Design Champion. A21 Development Framework also should be taken into account as includes details on improved connectivity e.g. walking and cycling path from Molesworth St to Ladywell via Wearside Council Depot.
- Current consultations - members are encouraged to respond to these.
 - Peckham Rye Lane (Southwark) consultation (Closes Friday 16th Sept)
<https://consultations.southwark.gov.uk/environment-leisure/rye-lane-traffic/>
 - Discussed at last month's meeting - see previous Meeting Record. Alex to respond on behalf of LC.
 - London Bridge & Borough High Street (Closes Friday 27th Jan 2023)
<https://haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/london-bridge-borough>
 - LC Response to be developed - discussed points below:
 - London Bridge changes are supported and should be made permanent. Segregated cycle lanes need to be extended to cover full length of the bridge and its approaches, between the two sets of traffic lights. Bus stop bypasses added.
 - Borough High Street pavement extensions are a positive development taking out a full traffic lane and slowing traffic down. However in a permanent scheme some of the released space should be used for cycle lanes.
 - Have your say on transport policies and projects in Royal Greenwich (Closure date not stated)
<https://royalgreenwichtransport.commonplace.is/>
 - Alex to talk to Neil Robertson (Greenwich Cyclists Coordinator) regarding key points that they wish us to support.
 - Forest Hill Society (FHS) station forecourt experimental scheme (Closure date not stated)
<https://www.foresthillsociety.com/2022/09/forest-hill-station-forecourt.html?m=1>
 - Experiment funded via NCIL Ward monies. One vehicle access point has been closed. Other vehicle access point is now two-way.
 - Tim to prepare a response supporting the changes. Vast majority of people walk to station, so is any parking required beyond one or two Disabled spaces? Drop off for taxis. Could release a lot of space for people, including more cycle parking or a secure cycle hub. Analogies with successful Coughate Street scheme at Brockley Station.

- Catford to Forest Hill cycle route (via Waterlink Way, Vineyard Close & Elm Lane)
 - Mark to confirm which Officer is coordinating this NCIL Ward project so we can make contact and get started on the Brief for the Consultants who will prepare the Feasibility Report.
 - Council liaison update - any contact with Officers/Councillors/Committees/Questions to Council.
 - Alex attended Grove Park Carnival. Had useful conversation with Mayor Egan re Climate Safe Streets pledges and strategy for dockless e-bikes which are now appearing in numbers across Lewisham.
 - Community Engagement & Rides.
 - Upcoming one-off events:
 - Waterlink Way of Life Community Day - Sun 25th September (details to be confirmed).
 - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/river-pool-linear-park-art-conservation-community-day-250922-tickets-404955812737?aff=erelexpmt>
 - Alex to talk to Zaria (Climate Action Lewisham) about coordination between Family Cycling Library (in Ladywell Fields on the same day) and this event.
 - Janet Daby Family Cycle Ride - Sat 29th October (provisional).
 - Alex to follow up with Janet's PA regarding planning for this event.
 - Attendees News & Views.
 - PATH SE14 (People's Action for Telegraph Hill). Representatives were unable to attend this meeting but are hoping to attend our October meeting. <https://www.pathse14.org/>
 - Judith mentioned proposed accessibility improvements for Sydenham Park railway footbridge. Cllr Sophie Davis (Forest Hill) keen on making this happen and we need to keep dialogue going.
 - Alex mentioned fact that LBL are trialling e-cargo bikes for businesses. They will pay for training and the bike is free for 3 months. Worth encouraging local businesses to apply.
 - Matt commented on the health beneficial 'Daily Mile' initiative. <https://thedailymile.co.uk/> Mentions 'wheeling' but no apparent emphasis on cycling - a bit disappointing as is sponsored by Ineos who have a Cycling Team!
 - Jorge mentioned a new BT advertising and WiFi kiosk that is planned for installation on Rushey Green adjacent to the highway, potentially obstructing construction of future cycle lanes. TfL objected anyway as was too close to the highway.
 - Meeting closed at 810pm

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 5th October at 6.30 pm at Lewisham Civic Centre in Catford. Members are encouraged to attend in person, but we are planning to have an online attendance option as well.

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