

Record of Monthly Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC) at Lewisham Civic Centre on Wednesday 5th July 2023 6.30pm

Present: Tim Collingridge (Secretary), Alex Raha (LC Coordinator), Jorge Martinez Lopez, Cllr Mark Ingleby, Judith Barrett, Brian Turpin, Cory Francis, Rosemary Scott.

Present online: None

Apologies: Jane Davis (Community Engagement & Rides Coordinator), John Phillips (Treasurer), Cllr James Royston.

The following items were discussed at the meeting:

- Topical Items.
 - Annual Meeting Wed 4th October 2023.
 - Usual format with Election of Officers, Officers reports (Alex, Jane & John) and presentation(s) from Guest Speaker(s).
 - Ideas discussed at last meeting:
 - Invite Ned Boulting along again - Jane.
 - Invite other Active Travel and Community groups. To give a brief presentation of their objectives & campaigning e.g. Waterlink Way of Life, Catford Active Travel, Hither Green West campaigners.
 - Invite Head Teacher from successful school street to comment on positive impacts e.g. Holbeach.
 - Tim to ask Cllr Ingleby to book larger room at Civic Centre.
 - Potentially use Eventbrite (free of charge) for attendee registration so we know numbers.
 - Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) Ward funding - Catford to Forest Hill cycle route (LC and Friends of Elm Lane (FoEL) collaboration).
 - We have commissioned Site Technical Services (STS) to perform a ground probing radar survey over the length of Elm Lane to establish the exact location and depth of the utilities.
 - STS also suggested we could have a topographical map survey done for an additional £835 (incl VAT). We concluded this wasn't necessary so the results will be presented on an OS base map.
 - The survey has been confirmed for Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th July. We have produced a notice to be distributed to local residents and put on parked cars to inform that there will be 'restricted' access on those days and that people should move parked cars in advance of the survey work. FoEL members will distribute these notices in w/b 9th July.
 - Tim is still chasing the Council for a transfer of the full £15,000 funding or at least an initial tranche of £3,000 to cover costs to date.
 - Current consultations and planning applications - members are encouraged to respond to these:

- Deptford High Street (DHS) Commonplace (closes Mon 31st July).
<https://deptfordhighstreet.commonplace.is/en-GB/map/feedback-map>
 - We have been invited by Project Centre to a Stakeholder Engagement at Deptford Albany on Wed 26th July at 6pm. Tim and Jorge said they should be able to attend to represent LC.
 - Alex is going to start compiling a group response with aim to have a draft done before 26th July meeting.
 - Some specific points were discussed:
 - In favour of pedestrianisation provided it is with shared use for people on bicycles. No vehicular access except for servicing at restricted times.
 - Aspiration to pedestrianise the full length of DHS between Deptford Broadway and Edward Street, except for residential access to side streets.
 - More bike parking to be provided where needed.
 - Tanners Hill contra-flow cycling would dramatically improve access to/from south end of DHS for local cycling journeys.
 - Maintain and improve E-W cycle access - Cycleway 10, and also route from Creekside to New Cross via Giffin Street, Douglas Way and Margaret McMillan Park.
 - Giffin Street probably remaining open to motor-vehicles for access to Frankham Street car park, Wavelengths swimming pool and Tidemill School.
- TfL Healthy Streets - Greenwich to Woolwich walking and cycling changes (closes 12th Dec).
<https://haveyoursay.tfl.gov.uk/greenwich-woolwich>
 - This is the final survey in advance of the end of the Experimental Traffic Order. Important to respond as this survey influences the decision whether to retain/enhance the scheme or remove it. Greenwich Cyclists are drafting a response which we intend to 'mirror'.
- Council liaison update.
 - LC Members have raised two Council Questions for the next Full Council Meeting on 12th July.
 - Alex has raised one regarding the expected timing of the Deptford Church Street segregated cycle lane(s) Public Consultation.
 - Judith has raised one regarding Lewisham Officers' progress on the initial design for the proposed stepped ramps for the railway footbridge between Silverdale and Sydenham Park.
 - Tim is in the process of arranging the next Quarterly Review Meeting with Cllr Louise Krupski et al. for end July/early August.
 - Cllr Mark reported that the proposed Lewisham Council 'Task and Finish' group for Active Travel wasn't selected as one of the three to be taken forward now but is 'next in line'.

- Alex reported that the Sustainable Streets Community Engagement results for Deptford and Crofton Park/Catford and proposed approach to implementation are due to be presented to Mayor and Cabinet for approval on 19th July.
- Treasurer's Ongoing Budget Report (see Appendix A)
 - Members were very satisfied with the budget projection provided by John.
 - Judith queried why the NCIL project costs were not yet included. Tim said he would discuss with John.
- Community Engagement & Rides.
 - Community activity update:
 - Dunwich Dynamo bicycle unload took place on Sun 2nd July. Three lorries containing 600 bikes were safely unloaded and everyone got their bike back! Many thanks to all the volunteers who provided their time to make sure everything went so smoothly. Debrief with Southwark Cyclists is on Friday 7th July at 7pm.
 - Ordering LCC branded materials for distribution at events or for member purchase.
 - Could include tabards, T-Shirts, banners, postcards etc. Alex to suggest what is worth ordering and what likely costs will be?
 - Upcoming one-off events:
 - Ride to Greenwich Park Cycle Games event on Sat 12th August at 12 noon in Greenwich Park. Alex said he will lead a feeder ride and needs to coordinate with Jane on this.
 - Family Cycle Ride with Janet Daby (Lewisham East MP). Sat 30th September. LC have established a suitable route - 12 miles in length. Promotion of ride via leaflets/notices in local schools e.g. Holbeach. Jane and Alex to coordinate.
- Attendees News & Views.
 - Jorge mentioned the Lewisham Climate Action Investment (capital is at risk) which will help fund projects from the Active Travel Fund including cycle-related ones.
<https://www.abundanceinvestment.com/our-investments/councils/lewisham-climate-action-investment-2028>
 - Cory told us about the Bromley Kiddical Mass rides that he is involved in organising. Started because of frustration at the lack of an Active Travel strategy in Bromley and to promote cycling for all abilities. They have run two rides so far which have been well supported with the last one attracting around 70 riders.
 - Tim raised the issue of Cycle Instructors pay and conditions. After 14 years without a pay rise many have left the profession as they can't make ends meet. Many of the remaining ones have now joined the IWGB union. The main Provider in London, Cycle Confident, has offered a miniscule 5% pay rise in response, so Instructors are now involved in industrial action, including two recent half-day strikes. TfL have recognised there is an issue and have offered additional funding to Councils to specifically improve Instructors' pay & conditions and to maintain the delivery of cycle training. However the Councils and Providers need to work together to make sure

this money gets to Instructors. The meeting agreed to write to Lewisham Councillors - Cllr Barnham (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People) and Cllr Krupski (Cabinet Member for Environment and Climate) regarding this issue.

<https://iwgb.org.uk/en/page/iwgb-cycling-instructors-branch/>

- Meeting closed at 8pm.

The next Monthly Meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd August at 6.30 pm at Lewisham Civic Centre in Catford.

Lewisham Cyclists (The London Cycling Campaign group for London Borough of Lewisham)

lewishamcyclists@gmail.com

www.lewishamcyclists.org.uk

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/72380106728/>

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

<https://twitter.com/lewicyclists>

Appendix A - Ongoing Budget Report for 2023/24

Lewisham Cyclists Ongoing Budget for 2023/24 as at 30 June							
<i>(Please note these figures now show the combined totals of both the Main & Grant accounts)</i>							
Income							
Received to date							
Bank balance from end March 2023 Main account						4569	
Bank balance from end March 2023 Grant account						2298	6867
3rd and final instalment from Lewisham Council grant							3229
Donations (April to date)							520
							10616
< total rec'd to date							
Estimated or expected							
Donations July to March 2024 (say)							1500
Payment for DunRun unloading assistance ex. Southwark Cyclists (est.)							1000
						Total estimated future income	2500
						Plus actual income to date	10616
						Total actual + estimated income	13116
Expenditure							
Paid to date							
2nd Sunday sessions April to date							1311
Dr Bike events at Beckenham PI Park & Downham Fete							283
Scout Hut hire (to June)							1180
Workshop re-build							150
Consumables							140
Misc other costs							256
							3320
< total paid to date							
Expected or estimated							
Scout Hut hire (July to March) (say)							1200
Future Dr Bike events - (say)							1500
Further consumables (say)							500
						Total estimated future expenditure	3200
						Plus actual expenditure to date	3320
						Total actual + estimated expenditure	6520
						Estimated bank balances at end March 2024 (£13116- £6520)	6596
John Phillips				Actual bank balances at 29 June 2023			
30-Jun-23				Main account :£2470			
(for July meeting)				Grant account £4830			