

Agenda for Lewisham Cyclists (LC) meeting on Wednesday 3rd January 2024 6.30pm

N.B. This will be an in-person meeting held at Lewisham Civic Centre, Catford Road, SE6 4RU

For the best meeting experience, we recommend you attend in-person. We also allow people to access the meeting via Google Meet, but as this will be facilitated by a single laptop it may not be easy to follow all aspects of the meeting.

Connection details for Google Meet:

- On your computer you will need to use a modern browser i.e. Chrome, Firefox, Safari or Edge (not Internet Explorer).
- On your mobile device (iPad, iPhone or Android tablet or Android phone) you should install the 'Google Hangouts Meet' app.
- Please connect into the meeting in advance e.g. at 6.25pm as, for the benefit of all attendees, the meeting will proceed to schedule notwithstanding individual people's connection issues.
- All attendees should MUTE the microphone in their Meet session to prevent 'feedback'.
- Use the Meet 'chat' box to type in any questions for the Chair and the relevant Committee Member will respond, time permitting.

Connection details are: <https://meet.google.com/jmy-qydn-snr>

Alternatively, you can join by phone:

+44 20 3910 5408 PIN: 469 511 620#

Anyone who wants to work together in support of our vision for people on bicycles in Lewisham is welcome to join our meeting. Meet other local cyclists, hear about current cycling developments in Lewisham and have an opportunity to influence our campaigns on future schemes.

- Community Engagement & Rides. (35 mins)
 - Community activity update. See Appendix 1.
 - Lewisham Family Cycling Library (deferred from Nov meeting)
No activity yet planned for this winter.
Partial relocation of library to GPYC. Jorge said we really need more volunteers to be involved as logistics are challenging. LC Coordinator(s) to discuss with Climate Action Lewisham regarding their involvement going forward.
 - Upcoming one-off events:
 - LCC Women's Freedom Ride 3rd March 2024 - Feeder/Marshals needed.
- Topical Items. (35 mins)
 - Discussion on group communications strategy:
 - Group public communications:
 - Twitter (X), Facebook, Instagram, 'Civi' mailouts, LC website posts.
 - Are we still comfortable using Twitter and is it in line with the group ethos?
 - Campaigning communications to 'activists':
 - Is 'Lewisham Cyclists' Slack working for us or should we move to WhatsApp or GoogleGroups?
 - Rides and Community Events:
 - To members - LCC website events for bookings, Facebook events & LC website calendar for information. Drop Eventbrite? Start charging nominal fee for rides, is that possible via LCC website?
 - To Ride Leaders - seems to be working well through WhatsApp group.
 - How to actively engage with new members for campaigning, community events and rides.

- One idea is to have focused activities & campaigns - giving individuals direct responsibility.
- Cold Blow Lane proposed experimental traffic order - quick update.
- Meeting with LBL Strategic Transport team regarding Public Realm Technical manual - Outcome (Alex to provide slides).
- Meetings with LBL Highways team - Active Travel Strategy, DCS, New X to Crofton Park Cycleway.
- Proposed Catford to Forest Hill cycle route via Elm Lane (Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL) Ward funded) - quick update.
- Railway bridges motion to LCC AGM.
 - Brief discussion on ways to communicate with other LCC groups across London
 - Wording of motion:

Many potential routes for cycling in London are made inaccessible by barriers. These barriers include narrow gates, steep access ranks, rough paths and closely placed railings. These barriers impact particularly badly on people cycling local trips, on people less able to carry or push their bike, on wheelchair users and on parents or carers pushing buggies or cycling with children.

A particular issue of concern are crossings of railways, by bridge or underpass, which are often inaccessible, and where there may be opportunity to work with Network Rail and local councils to seek improvements.

We propose that LCC works alongside allies to support accessible cycling across London and communicates with borough groups to identify significant railway-related problems such as bridges and underpasses.
- Current consultations and planning applications - members are encouraged to respond to these:
 - None currently active
- Council liaison update - any contact with Officers/Councillors/Committees/Questions to Council.
- Attendees News & Views. (10 mins)
 - Opportunity for attendees to raise other issues.
- Meeting closes at 8pm.

Tim Collingridge (LC Secretary)

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

Appendix 1 - Community activity update.

1. Workshops

We need a plan of action for the workshops:

Options:

Appeal to LC members for volunteers to staff a kind of management committee, similar to what we did when setting up original one at Grove Park.

Research funding opportunities: Need volunteer to do this.

2. Community calendar

1st Sunday: Beckenham Place Park Dr Bike

This has become very popular and busy (Jane plus 1 booked mechanic)

2nd Sunday: Deptford

Very busy and popular (Jane plus 2 mechanics, or 3 when Jane not available)

3rd Sunday: Grove Park Youth Club (GPYC)

Can we run this between Jane and Alex for now? I can do a few of them, but occasionally may have to be away from London on that third Sunday. We have made a commitment to them and need to maintain a regular presence. If neither Alex nor I can make it, think it's important we should still run it so need to consider costing implications of booking a mechanic from time to time. Further funding needed if we are to do more than a very basic Dr Bike for them. Transferring excess tools here and storing Dr Bike kit here so can run on this basis.

3. Rides

Jane happy to commit as far as is possible so far ahead to leading the majority of the 'Longer' rides and 'London Explorers' listed below. So far, barring unforeseen emergencies etc, they are in my diary as down to me. Generally, I will not be in London for the last week or so of every month.

1st Saturday of the month - Longer rides

February: 2 counties ride (from Coulsdon Town Station via Farthing Down)

March: Essex Ride from Shenfield (May be affected by engineering work, backup planned)

April: Flat Kent

May: Pevensey Levels and Hastings

June: Eastbourne

July: Dungeness and Folkestone

Aug: Surrey Hills Longer Ride

September: Shipwrights Arms

October: Essex ride from Shenfield

November: Short Surrey Hills Ride from Epsom

3rd Saturday of the month - London Explorer

These have been led largely by Les Robinson plus Rosemary/Alex/Fiona. Think we can continue organising through the LC Rides admin WhatsApp group. I'm going to make a general Risk Assessment available to that group which each Ride Leader can add to if necessary for their particular ride.

February: shorter South London Parks

March: East End Ride (Women's day IWD)

April: longer South London Parks

May: Oxleas Wood and Severndroog Castle

June: Coal Drops Yard, St Pancras Churchyard

July: Tower Bridge, riverside and Woolwich Ferry

August: Richmond Park

September Clerkenwell and the City

October: Small London Ride (Central)

November: Lesnes Abbey^[P]_[SEP]

December: Christmas lights (afternoon early evening ride)

4th Saturday of the month:

Open to any member to volunteer to lead a ride. Need to contact me first.

In addition:

LCC Womens Freedom Ride Sunday March 3rd

4. Other possible events & rides

A local Kidical Mass this year?

A Spring Jumble/get together possibly at Grove Park Youth Club to raise its profile.

C4 ride – when it is fully open through Surrey Quays.

Ad hoc Dr Bikes throughout year when possible. Responding to local demand/other groups requests/schools summer fairs etc.

Roy Ashman and I are hoping to run some basic maintenance courses, probably at Deptford. Roy was ill with Covid before Christmas and our planning meeting for these had to be cancelled, so we are behind schedule, but hoping to meet with Roy in next couple of weeks and arrange at least a couple of courses for February. Probably weekday evenings. One of which will be women only.

Plan to use our recommended donation scheme for these which we are hoping might cover our costs plus deliver a bit of income if we are lucky.

Funding: Awards for All funding application was submitted early December. We should hear by end of March. But no guarantees on this, so we need to be looking at other funding streams.

Chart?

Jane Davis: LC Community Programmes and Rides Coordinator. New Year update 2/01/2024