

December 2011

Lewisham Cyclists Monthly Meeting – Wednesday December 21st

Attending: Roger Stocker, John Scott-Phillips, Katie Collis, Gareth Scarlet, Tim Collingridge, Matt Kendall, Roy Volume

Invited Guests: Simon Moss (Policy & Development Officer, Lewisham Council) Luke Minchin (Service Group Manager (Transport) Lewisham Council)

Apologies: Jane Davis, Rik Andrew.

1. Welcome to Lewisham Council representatives and Introduction

LM – From this meeting with Lewisham Cyclists we want to come away with a better form of communication between us. There has been frustrating lack of it over the past few months and that has created questions upon questions from yourselves with a backed up volume of enquiries. However, we now want to push past this, with a vision to having a more regular and defined way and more importantly that Lewisham Council will have a working relationship with Lewisham Cyclists, and other representative groups in our borough. Simon, who has been in the job for 3 weeks now (!) is putting together a transport remit, with policies that are more transparent and inclusive.

KC – From the GLA Meetings, one of the Assembly members has proposed that for any major projects TFL from the off should be working with London Cycling Campaign.

JP – 450 Lewisham Cyclists are members of the London Cycling Campaign and are fairly committed to cycling.

LM – Through funding you have a very powerful voice.

LM – I am really eager that we take this forward and rebuild a bridge between us.

RS – How do we communicate with each other?

LM – I am currently interim and Simon is very new.

RS – When we send emails it would be helpful to get a reference number.

LM – emails currently get sent to Peter Sturnell.

RS – We understand yes that he is very busy.

LM – There are differing levels of casework. There are also a number of Fol requests.

RS – Lewisham Cyclists used to get invited to Transport Liaison Meetings, then that stopped. It was very useful for us because we got to speak to the engineers.

LM – The Transport Liaison Meetings are where local bus companies, contractors and engineers get together to discuss current plans.

2. Sydenham Town Centre

LM – The Plans for Sydenham Town Centre fall into 2 parts. We are just into the tender process and are short-listing contractors. The scheme falls into two parts:

- 1) Approach down to Sydenham station.
- 2) Rest of the Sydenham Town Centre will be developed after the Olympics.

(This is because no major transport changes are to be made during the Olympics and this would include strategic routes)

SM – I will send you in the New Year an outline of what is being delivered.

LM – We should arrange a meeting sometime in February to discuss how we can go about further improvements to communication and what is being delivered. With the mass of emails it feels like an endless jigsaw puzzle.

SM – It is how we come up with a masterplan and identify where we allocate the funding towards. The funding has moved away from a ‘pot for cycling’ and a ‘pot for motorcycling’.

LM – It is also about understanding where the ‘missing links’ are in our borough and that they come from major off road routes.

TC – As most of us know there are three major cycling routes that go through our borough.

RS – How could our concerns be addressed with regards to ‘missing links’ and also other routes that merit attention from Lewisham Council?

LM – Best idea is to sit down with a TFL map of Lewisham and highlight the areas and aspects concerned i.e. bad junctions, security, cycle parking. We can also get Lewisham Cyclists involved again in The Transport Liaison Group.

LM – Over the next 2 months if Lewisham Cyclists can put something together and then submit it to us. It will effectively be your wish list and action plan and then we can work through to a sensible decision.

SM – We are developing a masterplan for North Lewisham for improving pedestrian and cycling links. This is just 1 of 10 links and we are reviewing priorities. We are also asking for S106 contributions. It is imperative that this money does not slip away