

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Lewisham Cyclists (LC)

held at Catford Constitutional Club, Catford

Wednesday 16th April 6.30pm

- 1) **Present:** Jane Davis (Co-ordinator), Tim Collingridge (Secretary), John Phillips (Treasurer), Duncan Peterkin, Stewart Whitworth, Brain Haines, Jan Shannon, Ian Welsby, Mario Tortelli, Freya Rodger, Roy Ashman, Mike Keogh, Ellie Dell'Aglio, David Mill
Apologies: Roger Stocker, Alex Raha
- 2) **Minutes of Last Meeting:** Agreed.
- 3) **Space4Cycling (S4C)/2014 Local Elections Campaign.** LC are staging an event in support of the LCC S4C campaign in Ladywell Fields, North field on Saturday 26th April from 12 noon till 4pm. We are planning to set up a stall near the café. There will be a Dr Bike and some short led rides South and possibly North on the Waterlink Way. It was suggested at this meeting that we should have a bike 'jumble' sale and that was agreed, so anyone with old bike bits to contribute please bring them along on the day. Other suggestions were that we should have the police present for bike security marking.
Action: Jane to contact the police to see if they are available for this event.
Other resources needed for the day:
Action: Tim to contact Liz Brooker at Lewisham Council to see if they can provide some give-away 'goodies' for the event. And also leaflets re the Council bike hire scheme.
Action: Jane to get some of the latest bike route maps from LCC.
We are planning to start setting up for the event around 11am and would appreciate all help that members can give us and hope to see as many as possible of you at some stage during the day.
- 4) **Financial & Budgetary Report for 2013/2014**
John highlighted the fact that LC membership has dramatically increased recently to 770. He contacted LCC to establish why this was and was told it was because Lewisham Council is offering one year's free membership of LCC as part of their cycle hire scheme. Whether these individuals will choose to renew their membership next year is not known but in the meantime it means that LC will get significant additional revenue (approx. £80) from LCC.
For information here are the current LCC membership totals for the top ten London Boroughs:

LCC membership totals at 1 April 2014

Hackney	980
Lambeth	885
Southwark	797
Lewisham	770
Wandsworth	716
Islington	696
Haringey	566
Camden	542
Tower Hamlets	446
Ealing	410

- 5) **Assorted issues:**

a) **S4C 'Asks' – Perry Vale & Catford South Wards:**

Jane has been contacted by a number of Councillors and Ward members in Perry Vale and Catford South Wards saying that they can't support the 'Asks' we have prepared for those Wards as, although they are in favour of making the highlighted areas into 'Areas without through motor traffic', the Asks were too specific in defining which roads would be closed. It was agreed at the meeting to make the Asks less specific by just specifying the residential areas with rat-running traffic that need to be addressed.

Action: Jane to change the Asks for Perry Vale and Catford South Wards and inform LCC.

b) **S4C 'Asks' – Brockley Ward:**

After Darren Johnson's mini publicity campaign about the exclusion of Deptford Bridge road junction from TfL's gyratory improvement programme LCC somewhat arbitrarily decided that our Brockley Ask should be changed to the Deptford Bridge junction. Part of the junction is officially in the Brockley Ward although we would more normally associate it with New Cross. It was agreed that we would accept LCC's decision, as improving that junction has always been one of our major objectives and we had only excluded it from the S4C campaign because it is a TfL managed junction.

c) **Catford Greyhound Stadium redevelopment and temporary closure of Adenmore Road and re-routing of Waterlink Way (NCN Route 21).**

Jane and Tim met with Paul Willis (Barratt Developments) regarding the temporary diversion of the Waterlink Way via Ravensbourne Park while streetworks are performed on Adenmore Road. He indicated that this closure is scheduled to last up to 12 weeks, starting from around the beginning of May. He is hoping however to complete the works well within the 12 week allotted period.

Paul appears very keen to maintain good relations with local community groups and is very aware of the need to provide a safe alternative cycle route. Apart from providing clear route marking for cyclists and ample warning signs for cars they will also be installing a set of traffic lights at the top of Westdown Road which will be operational for the duration of the whole project. These lights will have an advanced green phase for Northbound traffic which will make the tricky right turn off Ravensbourne Park safer for cyclists. In the Southbound direction Paul is also proposing that cyclists should use Westdown Road as the parking bays will all have been removed on the North side so there is ample width for cycle use. On the downside this is the main route for construction traffic, but Paul says the number of lorry movements will be limited to 3 or 4 day and will be staggered. There are some short periods during the development when more lorry movements are needed and Paul said that during these there will be a 'banksman' at the top and bottom of the road to ensure lorries are aware of possible conflicts with cyclists and moderate their speed.

LC will be meeting with Paul a week or so after the diversion has been put in place. We would appreciate feedback from anyone using the diversion in the initial stages via the LC Yahoo Group, Gmail etc. so we can review its operation with Paul and if necessary propose changes.

For information the complete Catford Dogs redevelopment is schedule to take around 5 years. The 100m most Northerly section of Adenmore Road leading to the Railway Bridge direct into Ladywell Fields will be closed for around one year. During this time the route for cyclists will be via the section of Adenmore Road behind Catford Bridge station and under the railway bridge on Westdown Road – a banksman will be stationed at the entrance to the site to manage any conflicts between lorries and cyclists.

d) **Elephant & Castle roundabout redevelopment – TfL consultation (open until 30th April 2014).**

LC will be making a Group submission to this consultation and welcome everyone's thoughts on this submitted via the Yahoo Group, Facebook or by email to lewishamcyclists@gmail.com Also members are encouraged to respond in a personal capacity. The initial proposals appear disappointingly poorly thought out from a cycling point of view.

e) **Somertrees Avenue 'improvements'.**

This is a rat-run near Grove Park where the council are in the process of implementing some traffic calming works. The measures include 'pinch-points' which we are not in favour of. Claudia Lynch from Lewisham Council invited LC to attend a meeting on site to discuss the measures. We indicated that we could meet them immediately, but the first date they could offer was in May(!) when the works will be well advanced....

Action: Jane to arrange meeting with Claudia Lynch anyway to give us an opportunity to review and comment on the works.

f) **Deal's Gateway - TfL consultation (open until 18th April 2014)**

Action: Jane to make an LC Group submission to this consultation. Essentially welcoming the changes but reiterating that we feel that the only way to make the junction safe for cyclists is to reinstate the separate green light phase for Deal's Gateway traffic.

6) **Campaigning updates:**

a) **CS5 and its extension to Lewisham**

Jane has contacted Oliver Birtill @TfL for an update on their plans, but he has not replied yet.

b) **Lewisham Gateway – main development**

There is meant to be a Consultation Group being set up to allow local Community Groups to comment on aspects of the Development as the works progress. Mike Keogh indicated that QWAG (Quaggy Waterways Action Group) may have contact details for this Group. He was going to a meeting of QWAG immediately after this meeting and will feed back any information he discovers about this Group.

Action: Tim to contact Stella Jeffrey (Ward Councillor for Lewisham Central) again to see if she has information on the Consultation Group.

c) **Lewisham Gateway - Thurston Road works**

Group members commented that the Northern most bus stand in Jerrard Street has been sited too close to the junction with Thurston Road. This means that cyclists travelling North on the Thurston Road cycle lane and continuing down Thurston Road (rather than NCN21) have poor visibility of vehicles coming up Jerrard Street.

Action: Jane/Tim to raise this with Nick Harvey and see if it is possible for the bus stand to be moved back some way.

d) **Quietway route 2 progress (London Bridge to Greenwich via Deptford)**

Action: Jane to ask Sustrans for an update on the progress of this project.

7) **A.O.B**

LCC Big Ride Saturday 17th May in Central London. LC are planning to lead a 'feeder' ride from Bell Green starting mid-morning. Jan & John volunteered to assist with marshalling – anyone else available to marshal please contact Jane via lewishamcyclists@gmail.com

20MPH petition. Clare Griffith was presenting her petition to Lewisham Council on 17th April at 10am. The pressure seems to be working as Lewisham Labour Party and the

Lewisham Mayor have included a 20MPH commitment in their manifestos. As Mike Keogh pointed out there are still issues about enforceability in law, and in practise, that need to be addressed to make 20MPH zones effective.

Jane is attending a workshop on a transport study being undertaken on the Brockley corridor (between Stansted Road and Brockley Cross) with the assistance of consultants SKM Colin Buchanan on 7th May from 2pm to 4pm.

Reporting of incidents with buses. Action: Jane to provide URL for TfL bus incident reporting. As a general rule when involved in an incident with a bus please record as much information as possible e.g. location, time, bus number plate, bus route, so that the specific driver can be traced.

Meeting closed around 8.30pm.

Next LC Meeting will be on Wednesday 21st May at 6.30pm