

## **May 6th 2026 Lewisham Cyclists Meeting (RUSS Hub, Ladywell)**

Attendees: Brian Turpin, Alex Raha (Co-ordinator - online), Tim Collingridge (Secretary), Jane Davis (Community and Rides Co-ordinator - online)

Apologies for Absence: Cllr Mark Ingleby

### **Community Engagement & Rides**

Upcoming rides (see our Facebook Events for info and LCC Events page to register for rides): Jane is expecting to schedule two rides a month from June although this doesn't need to be a rigid commitment as there are now several further options from other groups. Further details at <https://lewishamcyclists.org.uk/calendar-of-events/> and <https://lcc.org.uk/events-calendar/>

### **Upcoming Community Events**

Lewisham Cyclists 'Spring into Cycling' event – Ladywell Fields Sun 10th May 11am – 4pm. Several members have volunteered for this event which takes place at the Southern (Catford) end of the park. Will include a Dr Bike, bike jumble and opportunity to trial our family cargo bike.

Grove Park 'Fix & Ride' Bike Workshop – Sun 17th May 11am – 2pm. Volunteer staff roster for this includes Tim and Orlando (mechanic), with Alex in support early and/or later.

Hatcham Gardens Festival - Sunday 17th May 12 noon - 3pm. Jane to assist.

Beckenham Place Park BMX Track Dr Bike – Sun 7th June 10am – 12pm. Jane in support.

Bike Week 8th - 14th June. This was briefly discussed and Jane agreed to consider a Bike Breakfast during the week and any other possibilities subject to ride leader availability.

### **Current issues to be discussed**

Bike Buddy scheme. LCC's online application is no longer available due to failure of their supplier. Options to keep this scheme going were discussed. Agreed to revert to our original online application so we can process applicants ourselves. Jane will process any recent requests that may have been overlooked in the hiatus. Jane to make sure our application includes an auto-reply email ensuring we match buddies up effectively and are able to monitor its effectiveness.

Family cycling library cargo trike hire. Jane has voiced a concern that she doesn't have time to manage the hire scheme, there are some costs attached and we keep getting cancellations. We discussed the way forward for this scheme and concluded we don't have the capacity to carry out the necessary administration and that we should consider selling one of the cargo bikes, whilst keeping one for our own ongoing use. Both bikes to be reviewed at Sunday's Spring into Cycling event for sale/repairs to be finalised.

## Topical Items

Political Party influencing for local elections on Thu 7th May: We reviewed the LC <https://lcc.org.uk/campaigns/streets-for-cycling/> which helped us communicate with candidates in advance of Thursday's local elections on 7th May. We secured effective pledges from both the Labour party and the Greens. We also distributed leaflets along popular cycling routes in the weeks beforehand with help from local members.

Proposed LC Committee changes as a result of the recent retirement of John Phillips from the Treasurer role: After many years of loyal and conscientious service, John Phillips is retiring. We wish him well and thank him for his tireless efforts in keeping our finances on track and easy to understand. In the meantime the Committee elected Tim Collingridge as Interim Treasurer and Brian Turpin as Interim Secretary. They will remain in office until the next Annual Meeting as per the provisions in the Group Constitution. A handover of roles will take place this coming Friday.

LC funding options: LCC Lime Share the Joy fund. Four rounds of funding through 2024/25. <https://lcc.org.uk/share-the-joy-fund/> For information, the next submission window is going to open in October. Jane agreed the BMX track would be submitted subject to them becoming a constituted body. If this isn't feasible by the autumn deadline we will consider alternative funding beneficiaries.

LC GoFundMe appeal – work in progress, not available for donations yet. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/lewisham-cyclists-fix-and-ride> This appeal needs to be linked to our bank account before we can proceed with promotion of it – Tim will discuss with John and first of all change bank address details.

## Council liaison update

Alex reported on a recent LCC groups forum which had raised the issue of enabling local groups to have an LCC email domain i.e [lewisham@lcc.org.uk](mailto:lewisham@lcc.org.uk) This might convey a more official tone showing our relationship with the London Cycling Campaign than our current domain - [lewishamcyclists@gmail.com](mailto:lewishamcyclists@gmail.com)

Alex's response has given us the option of moving to adopt this within the next two years if we consider it more effective, and also has continuity benefits if anything were to happen to our local IT arrangements.

**Current consultations and planning applications** - None currently active.

Meeting closed at 8pm.  
Brian Turpin (Interim Secretary)