

London Cycling Campaign in Hackney

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, 1st April, 2015

6 Olympus Square, Nightingale Estate, E5

Present: Siobhan Blackshaw (rides co-ordinator), Kate Charteris (committee member without portfolio), Harry Fletcher-Wood, Natalie Gould, Fran Hall, Jono Kenyon (chair, committee member without portfolio), Richard Lufkin, Dave Lukes (sustainability officer), Charlie Lloyd, Rita Krishna (committee member without portfolio), Dave Harris (treasurer), Ruth-Anna Macqueen, Brenda Puech (events co-ordinator), Oliver Schick (secretary, minutes).

Apologies: Marian Farrugia (committee member without portfolio), Trevor Parsons (co-ordinator).

Agenda:

1. Minutes and matters arising
2. Finance
 - 2015/16 budget
3. LCC policy compliance
4. 2014 election campaign follow-up
5. Rides
6. Other events
7. Current consultations
 - Middleton Road entry treatments
8. Any other business

Action Summary:

Item	Action	Who
December 2014: 5. Draft response to 'Hackney People on Bikes'	Send response.	Committee
February 2015: 3. Liaison with Waltham Forest Cycling Campaign	Organise a meeting.	SM, TP
February 2015: 6. Finance: LCEF donation from Dunwich Dynamo	Organise cheque handover.	BP
March 2015: 2. 2014 election campaign follow-	Invite Cllr Demirci to the June meeting.	TP

up		
March 2015: 5. Other events: Hackney Cycling Conference	Help with the organisation and perhaps organise a 'fringe conference'.	RM, KC
2. Finance	Finalise budget.	DH
2. Finance	Proceed with setting up a 'kit library'.	RM
4. 2014 election campaign follow-up	Send a message to the mailing list calling for 'ward ask' champions.	OS
4. 2014 election campaign follow-up	Produce 'ward ask' summary sheets.	OS, KC, NG
6. Other Events	Find out if the Finsbury Park Festival of Cycling was happening.	OS
6. Other Events	Ask the mailing list for event ideas.	OS
6. Other Events	Order stall materials and produce event leaflets.	KC
6. Other Events	Begin organising summer events such as the 'fringe conference' and acting as our liaison person for the main conference.	KC
6. Other Events	Book the City Academy for Burns Night.	DH
6. Other Events	Speak to TP about the Muckers.	OS
6. Other Events	Convey a gift, and our thanks, to the Facilities Manager at the City Academy.	RK

1. Minutes and matters arising

Liaison with Waltham Forest Cycling Campaign: Action carried over.

LCEF donation from Dunwich Dynamo: Action carried over. We also noted that we had two more cheques to hand over from the raffle proceeds at Burns Night, which we agreed to split between [RoadPeace](#) and the [Cyclists' Defence Fund](#). Finally, we had not yet made our donation of a Pashley Trike to [Pedal Power](#).

2014 election campaign follow-up: We did not know whether TP had invited Cllr Demirci to the June meeting.

Post-meeting note: Cllr Demirci has been invited.

2. Finance

DH introduced his draft 2015/16 budget by outlining the assumptions that he had made when drawing it up.

- We had previously agreed to keep a £1,000 balance in the account as our non-committed cash for covering campaigning expenses, e.g. in case we had to react flexibly to unexpected challenges. He suggested increasing this to £2,000.
- He also suggested declining the London Cycling Campaign's Local Groups Grant for this year, which for our group would amount to around £500, and to remit to the LCC the balance above £2,000 that was still left over after full budgeting.
- He had also made the assumption that we were again going to donate 50% of the profit from organising the catering at the Dunwich Dynamo feed stop to the [London Courier Emergency Fund](#).

He praised the success of Burns Night and sought and obtained a commitment to organising a 2016 event. He also noted administrative savings in meeting rooms (if we retained the current premises, which helped with reducing cost) and IT costs.

DH suggested that we continue funding the Hackney Bike Workshop, as he thought it was a very important activity that deserved our full support. The meeting re-emphasised this. KC said that the Workshop were negotiating moving from the church in Northwold Road to a room at the back of the Round Chapel in Lower Clapton Road. It remained to be decided whether the Workshop wanted to move there for all of the three weekday evenings per month that it currently took place.

DH's 'most critical' item on the budget was his question whether our use of funds for campaigns and events was the most effective, and whether the budgets that he had drawn up for events such as the Cyclists' Breakfast and the Showcase should be maintained.

We agreed that we wanted to continue with the Cyclists' Breakfast. KC said that we might not do a full showcase this year but instead concentrate our energies on the 'fringe' conference. BP said that we should do more events.

We noted as part of our discussion on the Local Group Grant that our membership had slightly declined, in common with most other LCC groups, although the LCC now had 40-50,000 'supporters', too. JK said that he was going to a membership meeting at the LCC office the following week. OS said that he was going, too, and that this was part of the LCC's membership review. The wider membership issue was due to changing times and was being addressed.

DH asked the meeting if his principles and recommendations were agreed. All were in favour.

We discussed a number of other items relating to the budget. We noted that the garage rental cost us around £500/year. BP suggested rationalising the space by looking at what we had in there. We needed to give the trike to Pedal Power and needed to put a two-tier stand in garage to save space and also to collect rent from a neighbour who wanted to share the garage but didn't feel that she was given enough room in it so far. The neighbour was not paying yet and nothing had been formalised.

RM said that she wanted to establish a 'library of kit', mostly kids' stuff, to loan out for free or for a tiny deposit. Alix Stredwick had offered to help host this, but with the garage available we might perhaps be able to store the items there. She suggested having a 'kit library' as an agenda item at a future meeting.

BP asked if we should pay money for equipment we used once per year. OS re-iterated that we were hoping to use it more often for stalls etc., and that this had not yet happened because despite the garage, items in it were still difficult to get out.

JK asked if we had ever established an inventory. BP said that we had not, and that a sub-group might be able to take care of this. KC said that we had an inventory of stall stock, which we maintained alongside stall activity, but that it would be easy to combine this with the garage inventory, as most items in the garage were there for the purpose of organising stalls. All thought that having a combined inventory was a good idea. DH stated that the draft budget included some provision for additional equipment if the need was demonstrated.

We had still not built a platform on which the trailer could be stored above the quadricycle. KC said that we had most of the building materials for this and only needed the wood. DL, Chas Wilshere, and TP had previously volunteered to construct this, and DL undertook to remind the other two. KC said that the trailer should always be ready with the table on top. BP noted that we had lost some bits from one of the flags.

BP highlighted the donation of £50 that had been made towards the repatriation of Akis Kollaros' body to Greece. Akis had been killed while cycling in Homerton High Street in early February. DH had not noted this yet and was going to include it in last year's expenditure.

KC asked if there had been any discussion about the showcase yet. There had not. She had not yet spoken to Hackney Council about this year's Cycling Conference, but was keen to get involved. She had also thought of organising a 'fringe conference' at Hackney City Farm again following last year's successful 'Strawbale Sessions'. RM suggested trying to launch the 'family cycling library' at the same time.

Actions: DH to finalise budget. RM to proceed with setting up a 'kit library'.

3. LCC policy compliance

OS highlighted that the LCC had published agreed policy, including AGM resolutions, on one convenient web page:

<http://lcc.org.uk/pages/agm-policy-resolutions>

These policies were binding for LCC groups. He also mentioned the ongoing governance review to make the status of groups (including existing local groups) clearer.

4. 2014 election campaign follow-up

OS suggested that we appoint 'ward ask champions' to lead on monitoring progress on the 'ward asks'. We quickly went around the room to find out which ward everybody present lived in:

Brownswood: JK

Hackney Central: DL

Hackney Downs: NG, RM, OS

Hackney Wick: HF-W

Haggerston: FH, R Lu

London Fields: DH, CL, BP

Shacklewell: RK

Victoria: SB, KC

There were therefore significant gaps in where regular meeting attendees lived and it would make sense to try to activate members from wards that were not usually well represented.

KC suggested producing quick summaries of 'ward asks' on a sheet of A4 each, plus a reference summary, again on one side of A4. All thought this was a good idea. She also suggested sending these summary sheets out to members in the summer by using the LCC's mail-sending capabilities. OS, KC, and NG volunteered to produce these summary sheets.

JK said that Hackney Council and Hackney Police were about to amalgamate Ward Panels (the former Community Advisory Panels, to allow local people input into policing priorities) and Ward Forums (regular forums with ward councillors). This could make them useful points at which to bring up the 'ward asks' and progress them.

It was raised that footway cycling was a policing priority in a number of wards. CL said that there was a long history of such meetings. He said that if someone asked to place footway cycling on the agenda, it tended to get on it and was usually very hard to stop, so that it

was always advisable to try to put things on the agenda.

RLu reported back from a meeting the week before about the 'Cycle Superhighway' in his ward (Shacklewell). 40-50 people had attended, probably spurred on by the proposal to filter Wordsworth Road at the junction with Boleyn Road. The meeting had been very much in favour of filtering local streets, although not in favour of the existing proposal, as it felt that this would merely create other rat-runs in the area.

DH asked whether anyone raised the question of reduced security. Someone had raised this at a recent combined ward meeting between Haggerston and London Fields wards. RLu said that it hadn't been raised at the meeting, but that someone who analysed crime had said it to him but hadn't been able to back it up when questioned.

We discussed methods of filtering, particularly with a view to doing it more quickly than by using fully-fledged traffic schemes. RM said that in Walthamstow, big planters had been used to do filtering in the recent trial, and they had both been quite cheap and quick to put in place. She wondered why the Council didn't just try it and see whether people liked it. For instance, the filter at Butterfield Green was beautiful but would have cost a lot of money.

RK said that the Hackney approach was to do schemes well and with good materials. For instance, Waltham Forest had resurfaced footways by tarmacking them, not paving them. She also said that there was better consultation in Hackney, ensuring that schemes were accepted and sustained.

Action: OS to send a message to the mailing list calling for 'ward ask' champions. OS, KC, NG to produce 'ward ask' summary sheets.

5. Rides

SB was not going to do a ride on the Easter week-end due to lack of interest. Instead, she had thought of riding to the Brunel Museum in Rotherhithe on the 19th or 26th of April.

OS said he was going to do the 'Bike the Bounds' ride again. We set the date for this to Saturday the 13th of June, on the first Saturday of Bike Week.

6. Other events

The '**fringe conference**' was going to be on Saturday 6th June, the day after the main Hackney Cycling Conference and the week-end before Bike Week.

KC asked if we should organise a workshop on filtering, as a workshop session at the 'fringe conference'. She thought of having a map of a real location on a big scale and Lego to make filters capable of being moved around. All thought this was a good idea. We also thought we might be able to use Lego at stalls.

Cyclists' Breakfast: We set the date for this to Wednesday the 17th June.

Finsbury Park Festival of Cycling: We weren't sure if this was happening this year, as we hadn't heard anything about it. OS said he'd find out if it was going to be on.

CL asked if we should put out a call to the list, perhaps asking: 'Any event that you always wanted to happen but haven't been able to organise?' All thought this was a good idea. OS said he'd send a message about it.

RM said that she might consider a family-oriented 'Parks & Picnics' ride, most likely on a Sunday in Bike Week.

KC suggested doing stalls in the first and second weeks in May to advertise Bike Week events. She volunteered to order new stall material from the LCC office and to update the inventory of our stall stock. She was also keen to produce new leaflets listing the events, as the bookmark-style leaflets had worked well in 2014.

RM asked whether we should leaflet schools. We weren't sure how to organise this, however.

DH asked about the likely cost of new Hackney-specific publicity leaflets. KC said that these had been very cheap to produce.

FH suggested leafleting big supermarkets, as they got a lot of footfall from people interested in Bike Week. RM said that while people sometimes found these annoying, we might also consider putting 'door-handle' leaflets on bikes.

We set the date for **Burns Night 2016** to Saturday the 23rd of January, 2016. DH volunteered to book the City Academy again. OS said he would ask TP about the availability of the Muckers. RK was going to give a bottle of wine to the Facilities Manager at the City Academy as a thank-you for his excellent work in 2015.

Actions: OS to find out if the Finsbury Park Festival of Cycling was happening. OS to ask the mailing list for event ideas. KC to order stall materials and produce event leaflets. KC to begin organising summer events such as the 'fringe conference' and acting as our liaison person for the main conference. DH to book the City Academy for Burns Night. OS to speak to TP about the Muckers. RK to convey a gift, and our thanks, to the Facilities Manager at the City Academy.

7. Current consultations

We had received drawings for new vertical features, including junction tables and entry treatments, along Middleton Road. HF-W asked whether filtering in the area was still being taken forward. OS said that it was.

JK asked about whether Haggerston Road was going to be filtered. OS said that the initial concentration would be on the area around Middleton Road. While the location of current filters around the southern end of Haggerston Road (on the Laburnum Street bridge and at the end of Denne Terrace) fell short of our ideal filtering configuration, these had contributed to reducing rat-running, with only Scriven Street still available as part of a

north-west to east through link. The idea was to complete filtering there without touching the existing filters for the time being, possibly improving the configuration later.

BP was interested in the footway levels at the entry treatment to Haggerston Road with a view to wheelchair accessibility.

We looked at the entrance to London Fields. The main proposal was that the cycle path in the park be widened. CL drew attention to the intention of providing transparent hoardings for the building site on the corner, which he said should be done very quickly. RM asked if a cycle zebra could be provided. CL said that this needed to connect two footways, not a footway and a junction mouth such as the one of Middleton Road. OS said that we had longer-term ambitions for this junction, including a bus-and-cycle modal filter in Lansdowne Drive.

We briefly discussed proposals to remove the fence between Springfield Park and the cycle path alongside the River Lea. RM thought that it was important to maintain separation between children and the path. JK suggested RM speak to the local nursery and find out what their view was. NG said that she would like to look into this more. OS said that he did not have a strong view either way but tended towards keeping the fence. CL mentioned the recent robberies in Springfield. We did not form a view on this and will discuss it again at a future meeting.

Managing responses to consultations: BP asked whether the CS1 consultation response was on the web-site and whether we should have a standard for responding to major public consultations, including making a draft response available for members and other supporters to make use of in composing their input. OS said that would be great, but that we would need someone to do the work. CL said that for big consultations, two things counted: what you say and how many people say it. BP suggested appointing a consultation co-ordinator. OS proposed co-opting NG to the committee in this role, seconded by RLu. All supported this. NG was appointed consultation co-ordinator.

8. Any other business

Happy Birthday, Hackney: HF-W pointed out that the London Borough of Hackney had been founded fifty years to the day before the meeting, on the 1st April, 1965. The meeting wished Hackney a Happy Birthday.

Meeting venue: JK suggested changing meeting venue again, as he did not consider the present venue suitable. DH said that other meeting venues would be at least £50 per meeting. KC said she would make enquiries about the Round Chapel space that the workshop intended to use, as we might be able to obtain a cheaper rate. DH mentioned that St Chad's church in Hoxton might also be able to make an offer. He suggested that we commit to this venue for the next time and then make a decision about the meeting venue. All agreed.

The meeting closed at 9:50pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 6th May, 2015, 7:30pm.