

London Cycling Campaign in Hackney

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, 6th August, 2014

Marcon Court and Aspland Estates Community Hall

Present: Kate Charteris (committee member without portfolio), Marian Farrugia (committee member without portfolio), Dave Harris (treasurer), Rita Krishna, Richard Lufkin (late), Dave Lukes (sustainability officer), Trevor Parsons (co-ordinator), Brenda Puech (events co-ordinator), Oliver Schick (secretary, minutes), Oliver Smith, Vincent Stops, Chas Wilshere (workshop representative).

Apologies: Siobhan Blackshaw (Rides co-ordinator), Adrian Weidmann.

Draft agenda:

1. Minutes and matters arising
2. Old Street/City Road
3. Annual Meeting
4. 2014 election campaign follow-up
5. Finance
6. Current consultations
 - Hackney's draft Transport Strategy
 - Cassland Road
 - New Inn Yard
 - Northwold Road
7. Rides
8. Other events
9. Any other business

Action Summary:

Item	Action	Who
July 2014: 2. Election campaign follow-up	Help organise a residents' meeting in the Middleton Road area.	BP
July 2014: 2. Election campaign follow-up	Contact residents in the Frampton Park area, possibly hold a stall.	SB
July 2014: 2. Election campaign follow-up	Create display maps of filtered areas.	TP
July 2014: 2. Election campaign follow-up	Provide storyboards for videos or animations.	TP
July 2014: 3. Bike Week feedback	Write a report on the Showcase for the next meeting.	KC
July 2014: 3. Bike Week feedback	Draw up a checklist for organising future breakfasts.	KC
2. Old Street/City Road	Submit an FOI request to LB Islington for the	OS

	adopted version of the 2008 Old Street Roundabout Development Strategy.	
2. Old Street/City Road	Submit a new FOI request to TfL about any information (particularly internal reports and feasibility studies) relating to the decision not to convert the Old Street/City Road junction into a crossroads, and to think about possibly reformulating our initial request.	TP
2. Old Street/City Road	Update the Old Street/City Road web page.	TP
3. Annual Meeting	Book the hall 6-10:30pm.	DH
3. Annual Meeting	Speak to Adrian Weidmann and Harry Hewat with a view to producing maps for the Annual Meeting.	OS
4. 2014 election campaign follow-up	Ask the LCC office for the 'ward ask' supporters' data again.	OS
4. 2014 election campaign follow-up	Organise stalls in London Fields on Monday 22 nd September (evening) and Saturday 27 th September (11am-2pm).	KC

1. Minutes and matters arising

Hoxton Street Market: TP had not yet submitted a response to the consultation on Hoxton Street Market, as we had not come up with any strong points in response. There were a number of positive features, such as more cycle parking, which we endorsed. He said that we should generally aim to submit responses to consultations, even if all we had to say was that we liked the scheme, to help Streetscene.

Bike Week feedback: KC had not yet written a checklist for future breakfasts and a report on the Showcase.

Dunwich Dynamo: OS gave a quick report back from the DD catering. It had gone well, although numbers had been slightly down on the previous year owing to the weather forecast, with an estimated 1,000 riders served (down from around 1,300 in 2013, but more than the estimated 900 in 2012). We had been well-prepared and could easily have served a much larger number.

Chris Tandy: TP announced news of the tragic death of Hackney resident Chris Tandy from Amhurst Road. He was a neighbour of one of our active members. Chris was killed on London Bridge under unclear circumstances. The meeting recorded the group's great sadness about his death.

2. Old Street/City Road

TP said that we had had a response to our Freedom of Information (FOI) request to release information about the plans to create a development above Old Street Underground station. The response was that TfL refused to release the information requested, as the request was too broad. It did confirm that a search had found more than 3,000 e-mails relating to this topic, which proved that our suspicion that development was

being planned was correct.

We discussed ways of submitting another request. VS said that TfL must have a Freedom of Information Officer who should be able to advise on how to submit a successful request. He also reminded the meeting that our purpose in the request was mainly to find out whether they had considered our suggestion. OS said that this was true, but we were already sure that TfL's main motivation in pursuing this was financial, as a single development site in the centre of the junction would release more money than smaller development sites on the corners, as well as aimed at maintaining the alignment of the Inner Ring Road. VS said that what mattered was that they had not considered our vision as thoroughly as the peninsula option, considering that it had been under discussion since at least 2006. VS said that we wanted a report that says that our vision is not possible. We delegated the actual final wording to TP.

OS had repeatedly asked Islington officers to release the adopted version of the 2008 Old Street Roundabout Development Strategy, but that it had not been published on the website. We resolved to submit the request as a very specific FOI request.

VS said that we had to be quick to respond to a proposal when it came out. We decided to raise the issue to greater public prominence soon. TP said that it was important to stress that the peninsula scheme had always been sold as a pedestrian plaza, but the plan now was to place a large development in the centre. KC said that the Old Street/City Road page was a great visual resource and should be promoted widely. TP said that he would do this in line with the FOI requests.

MF reminded the meeting that the Mayor of London could use his powers on strategic developments to overrule any decisions made by local planning authorities.

Actions: OS to submit an FOI request to LB Islington about the adopted version of the 2008 Old Street Roundabout Development Strategy. TP to submit a new FOI request to TfL about any information (particularly internal reports and feasibility studies) relating to the decision not to convert the Old Street/City Road junction into a crossroads, and to think about possibly reformulating our initial request. TP to update the Old Street/City Road web page.

3. Annual Meeting

We had scheduled our Annual Meeting for the 1st of October. TP asked whether we should make a bigger event out of the Annual Meeting like we did last year. He thought that we should use the meeting to appreciate what happened in the past year, e.g. through officer reports. However, we could certainly go for the kind of social event that we had done the year before.

KC said that a problem for her had been that people came along expecting to hear Carlton Reid but had found a Hackney meeting with a long business section. She suggested announcing different times for the Annual Meeting part and the social/speaker part, e.g. Annual Meeting 7-8pm and speaker 8-10pm. BP said that it was important the agenda we presented reflected what people could come to expect.

MF said that what people really liked in meetings was to sit at tables with key people (e.g., decision-makers) to have discussions about different topics, perhaps not each ward, as there were too many, but some with key issues.

RK asked whether the plan had been to talk about the draft 'Vision for Hackney' at the Annual Meeting. VS said that he thought it would be the best thing for the Annual Meeting to talk about the Vision.

KC suggested doing a poll in the run-up to the Annual Meeting to decide on priorities, which we could then discuss in more depth. BP said that she didn't think we should invite local councillors, as it was meant to be a members' meeting. She thought that there should be a short presentation on the Vision and that other committee members should familiarise themselves with the issues.

BP said that the Annual Meeting part of the meeting should be very short and decisions should be prepared in advance, e.g. elections. She suggested culling items that took a lot of time. TP said that the emergency motion last year had been necessary and had taken up the largest amount of time, whereas the elections had only taken about ten minutes.

DH said that we couldn't afford two separate meetings at £75 for hall hire, and that we should combine the Vision with the Annual Meeting. OS said that he thought another workshop on the drafts was necessary once they had been published in full, and that the Annual Meeting wouldn't allow us enough time to do a proper workshop. TP thought that a workshop set-up wouldn't be as good as a plenary.

VS suggested one hour for the Annual Meeting, one hour for a twenty-minute presentation as well as some plenary discussion on the Vision, and one hour for socialising. All agreed.

MF wondered whether we should have some kind of acrobatic entertainment, to show that cycling was about culture and fun. We were unsure whether this could be accommodated in the venue.

OS said that the main thing he needed was help with visual presentation. He was going to ask Adrian Weidmann and Harry Hewat whether they might be able to do some display maps for the event. KC suggested placing these at different 'stations' where people could look at the drafts in some more detail.

TP said that we should advertise the meeting for 7pm, as opposed to 7:30pm last year. We agreed to use the New Kingshold Community Hall again. DH said that the budget was £200. TP said that we would have one more opportunity to discuss this at a meeting, in September.

KC was preparing proposals for merchandise like seat covers and badges. We might be able to have these ready in time for the stalls in September and the Annual Meeting.

Actions: DH to book the hall 6-10:30pm. OS to speak to Adrian Weidmann and Harry Hewat with a view to producing maps for the Annual Meeting.

4. 2014 election campaign follow-up

The actions from the last meeting hadn't been done yet and were carried over.

OS said that we had still not received the supporters' data from the election campaign to write to the supporters asking them to spread the word locally and to potentially organise resident-led campaigns. He thought it was important for residents to campaign on issues like modal filtering. We decided to ask the LCC office for this data again.

BP suggested using the two wards where we knew that action was already being taken as examples in an e-mail to supporters. These were London Fields and Shacklewell.

BP informed the meeting about progress in London Fields. Councillors were organising their own meeting on the 29th September. She was not sure whether this would be a Ward Forum. London Fields residents had planned to have their own meeting earlier than this to plan a Car-free Day and to leaflet households in the area. TP thought that it was great that councillors were organising a meeting.

BP said that it was important to engage people cycling through, not only residents in the ward. OS suggested standing by the side of the road to hand out leaflets to cyclists (the same leaflets as for residents).

DH said the meeting on the 29th September and activity surrounding it would be a fantastic lead-in to the Annual Meeting two days later. We decided to ask councillors for joint organisation credits for LCCiH, Hackney Living Streets, and possibly other local organisations.

KC suggested having two gazebo stalls in London Fields in the week before the Annual Meeting. We settled on Monday the 22nd September in the evening, and Saturday the 27th September, 11am-2pm at least, possibly longer.

VS said that Streetscene had a list of projects they were progressing and that it was important for the group to concentrate on influencing those. OS agreed and said that the group was well aware of timescales and mindful not to ask for things which couldn't be delivered, but that the group thought it important for modal filtering to be raised in priority. A first opportunity to do this was in commenting on Hackney's draft Transport Strategy which was out for consultation.

Actions: OS to ask the LCC office for the supporters' data again. KC to organise stalls in London Fields on Monday 22nd September (5-7pm) and Saturday 27th September (11am-2pm).

5. Finance

DH presented the current budget analysis. We were currently overspending and had to either reduce our expenditure or increase our income.

CW said that the workshop didn't need any money at the moment, as they had raised £1,000 through fundraisers and had £500-600 in their account.

TP said that we could reduce server costs, as we were currently running one server we didn't need.

KC said that marquee hire from the Albion Kids Show had been £300, and we had not paid this yet.

TP said that we should also raise money by selling the old Pashley trike.

OS reminded the meeting that we were still planning to hold a ceilidh fundraiser.

BP said that our profit from the Dunwich Dynamo catering was £1,100, of which we wanted to give £550 to the London Courier Emergency Fund. She also said that the cost of the garage was higher than the £160 DH had noted in the budget analysis, as our items were taking up more space than half the garage. TP said that we had already decided to build a space-saving scaffold to put the trailer above the Brox, and that we had been interested in renting a whole garage, anyway (which would come to £520pa). BP said that a larger share of the garage would be £300pa. BP said that we should set a minimum threshold for use of the large trailer or sell it. TP said that we had to store stall stock, anyway, and that the trailer could be filled with it. OS said that if we wanted to transport a whole stall, including gazebo, tables, and chairs to events, we would need the large trailer, as the Brox on its own was insufficient, as would a smaller trailer.

KC noted that the cost of a new, smaller trailer had not yet been included in the budget analysis.

We agreed to keep the minimum reserve balance at £1,000.

DH asked members at the meeting to look into finding other meeting rooms to reduce the cost of meeting room hire.

6. Current consultations

- **Hackney's draft Transport Strategy**

We did not have enough time to discuss this in detail, but encouraged members to look at it. We will of course compose a full response.

- **Cassland Road**

We briefly noted this small scheme.

- **New Inn Yard**

We briefly discussed this and decided that we would feed back that we preferred the simplest solution, i.e. an unsegregated shared-use path for walking and cycling. We thought that there shouldn't be cycle parking positioned in the path, as it would create a pinch point.

- **Northwold Road**

We did not have time to consider this scheme at the meeting.

7. Rides

DL and Nick Perry were organising the feeder ride to the Prudential RideLondon FreeCycle on Saturday the 9th August. It was a 10am departure and a 3pm return.

Siobhan was going to organise the London Murals Ride Part 2 on the last Sunday in August (31st).

8. Other events

TP mentioned an upcoming 'Levi's Commuter Roadshow' in Shoreditch. The LCC was involved centrally by providing mechanical assistance.

9. Any other business

Hackney cycling economy: TP announced that there were now 31 bike shops/businesses in Hackney. The latest to open were About the Bike in Dalston Lane and Better Health Bikes in Stean Street.

VS left the meeting at this point, as we briefly discussed a planning matter.

Clapton Tram Depot: OS mentioned that this potential planning application was pencilling in 80 car parking spaces, as there was no Controlled Parking Zone around the development yet. We should do some work on this to hopefully ensure that it can become a car-free development.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 3rd September, 2014.