

London Cycling Campaign in Hackney

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, 3rd June, 2015

6 Olympus Square, Nightingale Estate, E5

Present: Kate Charteris (committee member without portfolio), Feryal Demirci (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Hackney Council), Natalie Gould (consultation co-ordinator), Dave Harris (treasurer), Simon Hughes, Ben Kennedy (Hackney Council), Jono Kenyon (committee member without portfolio), Rita Krishna (chair, committee member without portfolio), Dave Lukes (sustainability officer), Trevor Parsons (co-ordinator), Oliver Schick (secretary, minutes).

Apologies: Siobhan Blackshaw (rides co-ordinator), Harry Fletcher-Wood, Katie Hanson, Ruth-Anna Macqueen, Brenda Puech (events co-ordinator), Adrian Weidmann (committee member without portfolio), Chas Wilshere (workshop representative).

Agenda:

1. Minutes and matters arising
2. Q&A session with Feryal Demirci, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
3. Wick Road
4. LCCiH-eng membership
5. Hackney Cycling Week-end
6. Bike Week
7. Hackney Cycling Campaign on-line shop
8. Business cards
9. Web-site
10. Dunwich Dynamo catering
11. Finance
12. Rides
13. Other events
14. Current consultations
15. Any other business

Action summary:

Item	Action	Who
February 2015: 3. Liaison with Waltham Forest Cycling Campaign	Organise a meeting.	SM, TP
2. Q&A session with Feryal Demirci, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods	Enquire about sharing traffic count data for Hackney Downs.	FD

2. Q&A session with Feryal Demirci, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods	Facilitate discussion of the Chatsworth Road scheme.	FD
2. Q&A session with Feryal Demirci, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods	Provide more information on the 'ward ask' for Hoxton East and Shoreditch.	FD
3. Wick Road	Circulate some more background information on Wick Road and set up a meeting with engineers.	FD

1. Minutes and matters arising

We agreed the minutes of the previous meeting.

2. Q&A session with Feryal Demirci, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods

We had invited FD to talk about progress on the various 'ward asks' as part of our 2014 local elections campaign to which the Council had committed. She thanked the meeting for welcoming her and highlighted some recent projects, such as the new formal pedestrian- and cycle crossing on Richmond Road, the first such parallel crossing in the country. She also gave the context that the Council had to make £2.4m of 'savings' over the next few years. She then addressed the individual ward asks one by one.

Brownswood: We had asked for a street-long review of Green Lanes and FD confirmed that there was funding for this in 2015/16. This was a joint ward ask with Clissold ward.

Cazenove: We had asked the Council to make Oldhill Street better for walking and cycling and to improve connections across the A107 (in tandem with our 'ward ask' for Springfield ward). There had been some money spent a few years ago on Oldhill Street to spruce it up, but this had not gone as far as changing traffic management arrangements in the area and had not involved any car parking controls, which would be essential for enabling positive changes. FD said it was very important to get local residents involved. OS said that it was of local economic importance to develop a better local centre. We would work on this together with ward councillors.

Clissold: See under Brownswood.

De Beauvoir: We had asked for modal filtering to be extended north of Englefield Road, and she said that this work was going to be part of the 'Cycle Superhighway 1' process in the area. This had also arisen from the public consultation, in which feedback from local residents to the Council had been that the filtering of Ardleigh Road envisaged as part of the proposed scheme would not be enough, and that the whole area should be filtered instead. Work was now ongoing to get new designs out to deliver them. OS mentioned the work on the TfL scheme for De Beauvoir Road and Tottenham Road at their junction with the A10 and asked how this would work together with the proposed filtering. FD said she

would look into this.

RLu asked when a response was coming back on CS1. FD said that there had been a good response rate on the consultation, and quite a few other changes had been proposed by residents, e.g. filtering all of De Beauvoir. They were also reviewing banned turns, e.g. at Ball's Pond Road/Southgate Road, to assist with filtering. Residents even wanted De Beauvoir Road to be filtered. There would also be more filtering in the Wordsworth Road area. Some residents had opposed the proposals, so meetings would be held with them. The Cycling Commissioner had been approached for support.

Hackney Central: Work was proceeding on improving the junction with Morning Lane, where we had asked for a review of the split phase arrangement that tended to trap riders in the nearside lane. We also touched on the Narroway proposals in Hackney Central and the Cycling Commissioner's proposed scheme on Narroway. FD said that Hackney had taken some aspects of this scheme on board but didn't agree with other aspects.

Hackney Downs: We had asked for a removal of through motor traffic from the Brooke Road area by means of modal filtering. FD said that traffic counts had shown low through motor traffic volumes, but that there was funding for a scheme in the 2016/17 budget. JK asked whether traffic count data could be shared, and FD said she would enquire. OS said that we were keen for filtering to go ahead regardless of traffic volumes, and that speeds of rat-runners through the area were often high. It was also an important step in preparing for returning Stoke Newington to two-way.

Hackney Wick: This was one of our most ambitious 'ward asks', shared with neighbouring Victoria ward, namely to draw up plans for returning the Victoria Park gyratory to two-way operation (we knew that it would not be possible to do this as soon as 2018). FD said that while it was hard to achieve, it was supported in principle, and certainly work was going ahead on planning. She said that the Council was consulting on Wick Road at the moment.

Haggerston: A joint 'ward ask' with London Fields ward, here we had asked for both wards to be modally filtered. FD said that Middleton Road filtering was going ahead and would be trialled later in the year. TP said that the small consultation on whether or not to replace the fire gates at Marlborough Avenue with bollards had attracted some negative comments and that we might want to ask members on the Regent's Estate to get involved. BK said that the bigger Regent's Row scheme was progressing without a problem. RLu said that the rat-running in Laburnum Street could be very fast. TP highlighted that we supported two-way working in the new north-south streets being created between Whiston Road and Laburnum Street as part of the rebuilding of the Haggerston Estate, but that these streets had gone in without filtering. He said that while the creation of these connections was a good thing, as there hadn't been any streets there since the 1950s, the Council should work with developers to get new streets right. FD said that there was a design guide that needed to be followed for streets to be adopted, and that she would discuss the issue with the Regeneration department. TP said that the streets in question looked like Hackney streets and had footway parking and no enforcement.

Homerton: Our ward ask here was to modally filter the Frampton Park area, and in

particular the Darnley Road-Elsdale Street rat-run. Hackney supported this, with an area-wide study to be funded from the LIP programme.

Hoxton East and Shoreditch: Our ward ask was for Curtain Road to be modally filtered and for through motor traffic to be shifted to the A10 Shoreditch High Street. We were not surprised to hear that TfL claimed removing through motor traffic from Curtain Road would not be possible. BK said major changes were going to be happening in the area, and changes to junctions had to work alongside TfL's scheme for Old Street/City Road. FD said that separate work was going on in Shoreditch, on the Shoreditch Space and Place Shaping Plan. She undertook to update the group on the current state of discussions.

FD said that Hackney continued to oppose the TfL scheme for Old Street/City Road and sought for TfL to make changes. Cycle provision would be sub-standard and only able to cope with current volumes, while footways would be decimated. TfL also hadn't addressed issues with Underground capacity. In response to Hackney's criticisms, TfL had increased footway space. However, this still didn't resolve the issues. Islington were the planning authority and were determined to press ahead, while Hackney had comparatively little say. The scheme would be £25m. OS said that from the group's perspective, it was completely misconceived.

Hoxton West: We had asked for the East Road/Provost Street/Vestry Street gyratory to be returned to two-way operation and for Provost Street and Vestry Street to be filtered. FD said this relied on TfL, as it was on the Strategic Road Network (SRN), and that funding for a detailed study had still to be identified. However, it was expected the project would be in excess of £5m to be completed.

King's Park: Our 'ward ask' here was for the Council to reduce the impact of private motor traffic on Chatsworth Road/Brooksby's Walk and the surrounding area. FD said that there was a 'corridor improvement scheme' in the works for Chatsworth Road. This was in the capital programme for 2015/16. She said that filtering would be a challenge. NG asked when we would see something on the corridor improvement scheme. FD said she would ask officers to discuss the scheme with us. Funding had been agreed in April, and the scheme might be towards the late summer. OS said that there were a number of long-standing asks in this ward and that we were looking forward to seeing some of them addressed.

Leabridge: We had asked for plans to be drawn up to convert the the Lea Bridge Roundabout into a town centre for Clapton. FD said that this needed to be looked at as part of an area planning approach and that she was going to go back to the Planning Department about an Area Action Plan. OS mentioned the Neighbourhood Planning process going on in the Chatsworth Road area and the fact that one corner of the junction was in its defined area.

London Fields: See under Haggerston.

Shacklewell: We had asked the Council to reduce speed limits to provide safe routes to schools. FD said that the Council had introduced a 20mph speed limit on all Council-controlled streets in Shacklewell, as in the rest of the borough and was also taking forward

a new project called 'School Streets', aiming to filter streets around schools during school times. RLu said that the Petchey Academy was keen on this and was doing much for cycling. He said that he was aiming to invite Maggie Jacobs of the Petchey Academy again to the next meeting.

Springfield: We had asked the Council to improve connections along the northern side of Clapton Common and across the A107 there. FD said officers were looking at this. Cycle to Schools Partnerships funding, which could have contributed to this project, had been withdrawn, however. OS asked about the Wetland to Wetlands funding bid. FD said that the funding had been won, but it was only £150k, which had to cover the whole proposed route from Hackney to Waltham Forest. She said that it was a good idea to contact councillors in Springfield and work on the project with them.

Stamford Hill West: We had asked the Council to work with TfL in changing signal timings at the Dunsmure Road/Portland Avenue junction with the A10. FD said this was in progress.

Stoke Newington: We had asked the Council to work with TfL in returning the Stoke Newington gyratory to two-way operation. This work was ongoing. They were modelling different options, and funding had been allocated in TfL's business plan between 2016-2020. RK asked if Stoke Newington had a ward ask champion. OS said it didn't have one yet.

Victoria: See under Hackney Wick.

Woodberry Down: We had asked the Council to eliminate rat-running along Woodberry Grove. FD said they were looking at this as part of the Seven Sisters Road narrowing, with options being worked on at the moment. All options involved filtering Woodberry Grove.

Actions: FD to enquire about sharing traffic count data for Hackney Downs, discussing the Chatsworth Road scheme, and to get back on Hoxton East and Shoreditch.

Post-meeting note: *Unfortunately, we forgot to discuss Dalston among the 21 wards. We will enquire about it separately.*

3. Wick Road

We discussed the draft Wick Road scheme which had just been published for public consultation. FD said that the aspiration was to remove the gyratories from the south of the borough, reducing vehicle speeds and community severance, as well as reuniting bus services.

JK asked why the proposal was to remove the footway cycling track connecting Bradstock Road and Barnabas Road. OS said this could be maintained but would need toucan crossings at the Barnabas Road junction. JK asked if this scheme added through motor traffic capacity. FD said that it would slow down motor traffic and would not add through motor traffic capacity. RK said that two-way traffic was slower. TP said that motor traffic capacity was largely concerned with junctions.

OS said that aspects of the draft scheme suffered from there not being enough funding for an area-wide scheme and asked whether it might be possible to get more funding together, as £700k was not enough to deal with all the issues, e.g. the lack of permeability at the Well Street Market junction. FD said that it was a difficult financial climate and that the Council had to await the outcome of the consultation, too.

We briefly discussed other area-wide measures, such as potentially filtering Victoria Park Road. BK said that the Roads Task Force were looking at roads classifications and this might provide an opportunity to have this reviewed. RK asked how to factor OS's area-wide ask into this.

TP asked about carriageway widths. FD said that money was limiting the scope of moving kerbs, but that she would circulate some more background information and would set up a meeting with engineers.

Action: FD to circulate some more background information on Wick Road and to set up a meeting with engineers.

The meeting thanked FD and BK for coming and for the very useful update.

4. LCCiH-eng membership

OS asked whether we should introduce rules on LCCiH-eng membership. KC said that every list should have rules, and that this would help in sharing information in confidence. JK suggested to circulate a brief paragraph to potential attendees telling them about it. We decided to establish the following rules for list membership. List members would have to be Hackney residents, LCC members, and to actively engage with the campaign.

5. Hackney Cycling Week-end

We were gearing up for an event-packed June, including the Hackney Cycling Week-end and Bike Week. KC said that flyers had been printed.

Hackney Cycling Conference: We decided who would be able to get a complimentary ticket. KC also asked how we would get stall materials to the conference. KC had to be there at 8am. DL said he was going to help. CW, KC, and DL were going to transport materials from the conference to Hackney City Farm for the 'Strawbale Sessions'.

We talked briefly about the 'side sessions' planned for the Conference. OS was going to the networking session for the Hackney Cycling Hub, and RM was going to hold a 'Cycle Show and Tell' for families.

LCC had new membership materials and we should get new membership leaflets.

The 'Strawbale Sessions': KC said that flyers had been printed. She said we needed a laptop. RLu volunteered to bring his. We had agreed a donation of £50 to the Farm for use of the room. KC asked if we should have small gifts for the speakers. The meeting thought

we should have cards. For the session on 'ward champions', RLu would bring his map of the borough. OS would get our other maps from TP for the modal filtering session.

OS mentioned that Cllr Stops had offered to lead a ride to look at infrastructure afterwards. He had suggested 2pm, but we thought it shouldn't clash with the sessions and we opted for 4pm.

KC said that there had been a very successful pop-up stall just before the meeting, and that she was aiming to hold two more, one on Thursday the 11th and Tuesday the 16th, outside Hackney City Farm.

The meeting recorded a vote of thanks to KC for all the fantastic work she had been doing on these events.

6. Bike Week

Cyclists' breakfast: This would, as usual, have a 6:30am start to be ready to serve food and drink by 7am. DL needed advance payment for the croissants. DL and MF to liaise.

Parks and Picnics ride: We asked if there were more marshals available for the ride. NG said she would put out an e-mail on the mailing list.

7. Hackney Cycling Campaign on-line shop

KC reported back on her efforts to set up an on-line shop. She had set up a trial shop with CafePress, which had not gone live yet, just to see what it was like. However, she had since discovered that StreetShirts might be a better option. Among other things, they were a more ethical business. The meeting agreed to go with StreetShirts. KC said we would also be able to embed the shop on our web-site.

8. Business cards

KC suggested we join the Hackney Bike Workshop in producing business cards by making them double-sided. The cost to the group would be £45. All agreed this would be a good idea.

9. Web-site

KC asked if we could already start to put content on the new WordPress-based web-site. DL said that there was no reason not to put content on the new bit, regardless of the migration status of the rest of the web-site, as we could run both concurrently before replacing the whole web-site with the WordPress port. There was also a new volunteer to help TP and DL with this. KC was going to e-mail his contact details to TP and DL, who were soon due for another session on the site.

JK asked why we needed a server. DL said that if we used the free WordPress service, adware would be imposed. The annual WordPress hosting fee was around £250 if we wanted to avoid this. KC said that we would also own sovereignty over our data. TP was

also keen on hosting advanced mapping features on our own server.

10. Dunwich Dynamo catering

OS said that there was a planning meeting coming up on the 12th June at the Royal Festival Hall. NG and OS would go. Richard Lewis would update his design for Dunwich Dynamo shirts. OS called for more volunteers.

11. Finance

DH drew attention to the membership figures, which were only just ahead of Lambeth. We needed to do more stalls at festivals to increase membership again.

12. Rides

August feeder ride to the Ride London event: Nick Perry was organising the feeder ride and had called for more volunteers to help with it. There was ride leader training available and we might be able to join up with Waltham Forest Cycling Campaign. KC would liaise with WFCC and Nick.

OS mentioned that Siobhan had passed on the message that she would be doing two Murals Rides in July and August again. Dates TBC.

13. Other events

Sustainable Hackney Green Fair and AGM: This was going to be on the 24th of June. DL was going to it. OS, JK, and RLu said they might be able to help.

2015 Annual Meeting date: We decided to hold our 2015 Annual Meeting on the date of our October meeting, the 7th October. At our next meeting, we would consider inviting a speaker and other details.

14. Current consultations

There were currently no other ongoing consultations.

OS updated the meeting on the Homerton Row contraflow scheme, which had come in for some criticism on-line. We had not submitted a response to the consultation.

15. Any other business

Response to 'Hackney People on Bikes': JK had asked them and found out they still wanted a response from us. He had prepared a new draft of the response. OS said that this still needed editing and he would send an amended version.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 1st July, 7:30pm.