

Annual Meeting

London Cycling Campaign in Hackney

New Kingshold Community Hall

Wednesday, 1st October, 2014, 7pm

Present: Siobhan Blackshaw, John Campbell, Oliver Chapman, Kate Charteris, John Discombe, Tim Evans, Marian Farrugia, Dave Harris, Harry Hewat, Jono Kenyon, Rita Krishna, Charlie Lloyd, Richard Lufkin, Dave Lukes, Max Lyne, Gerry Matthews, Trevor Parsons, Nick Perry, Brenda Puech, Mandy Richards, Oliver Schick, Colin Smith, Chas Wilshire.

Apologies: Gail Bristow, Sally Haywill, Adrian Weidmann.

Agenda

- 1. Reports of the Year**
 - 1a. Chair's Report**
 - 1b. Treasurer's Report**
 - 2. Committee elections**
 - 3. Any other business**
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1. Reports of the Year

1a. Chair's Report

TP reported on the year just past. He highlighted our work on the 2014 election campaign, for which we had had sign-ups from 99% of candidates (of all parties bar the two UKIP candidates) and 100% of elected councillors (50 Labour, four Conservative, and three Lib Dems).

We had also drawn up a ten-point manifesto for the elections, and this was also supported by Mayoral candidates to varying degrees. The Mayor who was eventually re-elected, Labour's Jules Pipe, supported it in full. We had had attendance of all Mayoral candidates except Conservative candidate Linda Kelly at a meeting to which we had invited them.

He highlighted the very cycle-friendly direction taken by the development of Hackney's new Transport Strategy.

He stressed that our work also radiated beyond the borough boundaries. As an example, modal filtering, for which we in Hackney were mainly known, was being taken forward in Waltham Forest and Lambeth (Loughborough Junction).

There were currently Hackney Ward Forums happening about some of our 'ward asks' from the 2014 election campaign. TP had gone to the one about Haggerston and London Fields, which had been very well attended, and many people had spoken in favour of the proposals.

There were lots of other small- and medium-sized interventions still going on, e.g. in Leonard Circus. Hackney had also just received more funding for more 'cycle hangars', which was very welcome. Lambeth had around 100 and we were getting 60 new ones to take our total to 90 across the borough. LCC had won a contract from Hackney Council to do a comprehensive survey of all Hackney estates for opportunities to install cycle parking. Housing estates were places where cycling was taken up less than elsewhere in the borough, and more cycle storage space there would undoubtedly boost this. In the context of cycle parking, Hackney had several times put underspend incurred elsewhere to good use.

This year's Hackney Cycling Conference had not even been so much about cycling in Hackney as about cycling in London in general. The Hackney Cycling Showcase happened again this year, and as part of the Showcase we had had a 'mini-conference' in the 'Strawbale Sessions' a day after the main conference.

He reported that our manifesto suggestion for a 'Hackney Cycling Hub' had been taken up enthusiastically by Hackney's Regeneration department. This was modelled on the 'Fashion Hub' project and would mean Hackney's support for a cluster of cycling-related businesses to be located closely together to make cycling business more popular and to provide a focal point for co-working and strengthening the sector. This was on the back of (according to the latest count at the time of the meeting) there already being 32 bike shops in the borough, which was up from 7 when TP started to keep the list in 1997.

SB had organised lots of rides to attractive destinations, which had been well attended, and TP thanked her for doing these.

TP also mentioned that there were more and more clubs and other little organisations, such as Cycling Club Hackney. The Women's Institute (e.g. the Shoreditch Sisters and Hackney Wicked Women) were also getting active on cycling.

Questions were asked about the new cycle hangars and about the future of the Cycle Hire Scheme. CL said that TfL had issued a tender process for future operators of the scheme. It had initially come up to the canal, but was now closer to London Fields. TP said that scheme usage was very tidal and not so good for people wanting to get around in the local area, as bikes were often unavailable this far out.

1b. Treasurer's Report

DH presented the figures for the 2013/14 financial year on a handout. He explained that as mainstay of his strategy as treasurer was to reduce overheads, but that there was also scope for improving the income side. He stressed that last year, in spite of the continuing increase in cycling, our membership had dropped 4%, which had reduced the size of the grant we had received from the LCC office. As we had not organised Burns Night consistently in recent years, we were heavily reliant on the net profit from Dunwich Dynamo catering, of which we passed 50% to the London Courier Emergency Fund. We needed to engage in other fundraising activities. Burns Night was now being planned again, with SB heading up a Burns Night sub-committee.

In the middle of the 2014/15 financial year, we were in reasonable shape to keep a £1,000

reserve for the purpose of responding flexibly to emergencies cropping up in the borough. KC said that by Christmas, we should have T-shirts and caps available, which should be a profitable venture. Designs were going to be put on CafePress web-site.

NP asked what income the £900 in events costs (from 2013/14) gave rise to. DH responded that this had been entirely the donation to the LCEF from last year's £1,800 profit. There was some discussion under what heading this should appear, as 'fundraising costs' seemed confusing. DH said that he had used the LCC's standard format for this, but that he would use his own system in the future for clarity. He also committed to re-present the 2013/14 accounts in a more user-friendly format.

2. Committee elections

TP explained that there were three required officer posts (Chair/Co-ordinator, Treasurer, and Secretary), and that we also invited people who were prepared to put in a regular time commitment to join the committee for certain specific posts, e.g. rides co-ordinator, events co-ordinator, or sustainability officer, as well as additional committee members without portfolios.

TP handed over the Chair to OS for the election of the co-ordinator. OS called for nominations. RL nominated TP, which was seconded by DL. TP accepted the nomination and was elected unopposed.

OS handed the Chair back to TP.

TP called for nominations for secretary. OS was nominated by KC. He accepted the nomination and was elected unopposed.

TP called for nominations for treasurer. DH was nominated by MF and seconded by CW. He accepted the nomination and was elected unopposed.

TP called for additional committee nominations. SB, KC, MF, JK, RK, DL, BP, and CW were all present and showed their willingness to stand for the committee. All were endorsed by the meeting. OS added that Adrian Weidmann had indicated at the September meeting that he was willing to join the committee, and he was endorsed *in absentia*.

3. Any other business

CW, the workshop representative, said that there had been a meeting of the Hackney Bike Workshop the previous evening, and that the Workshop wanted to say thanks for the support from the group. He also mentioned that the workshop looking to move from Hackney City Farm and were looking for a different venue. He encouraged all present to come up with venue suggestions.

There being no further business, the meeting heard a presentation from OS about the emerging 'Vision for Hackney' drafts, followed by a question and answer session before a social to conclude the meeting.