

ICAG Minutes February 13

Present: Chris Ashby, Adrian Williams, Paul Standeven, David Lincoln, Stephen Taylor[chair]
Deborah Maybe, Bridget Peacock, Keith Macfarlane [minutes]
Guest: Inderpal Mehrok [Community Support Officer St. Mary's Safer Neighbourhood Team]
Apologies: Robert Harston, Mary Ann, Jon Parker, John Ackers, Alison Dines

Inderpal introduced himself and told us that he had been tasked to try to reduce cycle theft in St Mary's Ward. Theft in Islington is still extremely high, particularly around Upper Street and Highbury Corner. He had already met David Shannon and he'd come to our meeting to share ideas. Some were:

- Producing an up-to-date flier to encourage cyclists to take greater care when locking up their bikes
- Better use of the Cctv camera at Highbury Corner
- Hoping to extend the 10% reduction for bike locks [available at some Islington bike shops – negotiated by David Shannon] to My Cycle in Liverpool Road.
- He'll be having an event outside My Cycle on March 12, 12noon-2pm. Free micro-chipping available to cyclists. Details of sites to register your bike online. He hopes to have similar event at Highbury Corner.
- He'll investigate getting rid of the abandoned bikes at Highbury Corner.
- He'll investigate possibility of having a permanent poster by the cycle stands at Highbury Corner, encouraging good locking procedures and deterring thieves.
- Also he'll see if he can use a decoy bike to try to catch thieves.
- We will investigate the site formerly occupied by the Citizen's Advice Bureau again to see if that can be 'liberated' for cycle parking. **Action Chris**
- We will send him details of other anti-theft ideas we have used. **Action Keith**

Bridget reminded us of a current online petition asking EBay to demand that all bikes sold on their site have a frame number quoted – this initiative came from a cyclist in Edinburgh. She suggested it was a good subject for a future petition – that **ALL** bikes sold online on **ALL** sites should include the frame number.

Matters arising:

Canal Freight

It was agreed that we would write to Jean Dollimore [Camden Cyclists] to see if she agrees that it would be worth contacting our respective planning authorities to try to include transport of large amounts of building materials by canal boat as a planning condition for new building schemes. [These applications have to include environmental considerations when applications are made.]

Action Stephen

Ironmonger Row Baths cycle parking

It was agreed that we would write to James Murray to follow up his promise to replace the parking that disappeared when the Baths were refurbished.

Action Stephen

Speaker for AGM

We agreed that we'd ask Bob Davis to speak.

Action Stephen

Old Street Crossroads

Agreed that we would contact Oliver [LCC in Hackney] to see if he'd sent the letter that we drafted.

[We will also put the text on our website/Facebook]

Action Stephen & Keith

St George's Community First Fund

David Lincoln had approached this Fund to ask for funding for another event at the Tufnell Park Farmers Market. It wasn't known whether this was successful.

Olden Garden Event

Agreed worthwhile and food delicious! 14 people were there including 2/3 new faces. Noted that LCC were keeping an eye to see how ICAG do things with the 2104 campaign in mind.

Each attendee had taken away one action; as far as supporting individuals was concerned, Alison had written an email to the attendees, and all had carried out their actions. It was agreed to set up a site meeting with Sharon Milne in the week of Feb 18-24, possibly Thursday 21. Alison has the list of all actions and as she is away, we can't make any progress on this. [Another time more than one person should have these details] Arising from this discussion was the birth of the term Dr Campaigner, who could conduct Ward Rounds especially in the run-up to elections.

Tufnell Park Farmers Event

It was noted that the likely date for the Junction and St. George's bye-election was 21 March [confirmed]. So it was suggested that the date and time for a Farmer's Market event was 9 March 12noon-2pm, Dr Bike, ICAG info, etc. It was also suggested that the candidates should be invited. It was agreed that we could spend £100 on printing a flier. It's unlikely that we'll be able to provide volunteer Bike Doctors, so it was agreed that we'd approach Cycle Systems, or possibly David Shannon. We agreed that some local press work was needed. Deborah reported that there was some activity in St George's to improve facilities in a small local park.

Action David

Safer Lorries Event

LCC had asked us to organise something in the week of 16-24 March to celebrate that Islington had signed the LCC pledge. We thought we'd do better to try for the week after as the bye-election will be over by then. We hope to have Councillor West, an LBI lorry and we'd be able to offer a "changing places" opportunity – maybe a Dr Bike. We thanked Bridget for her work; it all rather hinges on the Transport Manager for Islington who was on leave until 18 February. It wasn't clear who would take this forward – there is still some work to do. We also need to contact David Shannon, who may be able to help this forward.

Action ???

Any other business

Chris Ashby reported that there had been a positive meeting about Air Quality in the borough, with another one planned in about 3 month's time.

Bridget wanted a new home for the ICAG stall table; Deborah volunteered to host it for a while and Bridget will deliver it to her.

Action Bridget

Note: we have no agreed mechanism for putting these minutes onto our website; the last minutes posted were January 2011