

Minutes of ICAG meeting on Wed 8th June 2011 at 7.30-9.30pm

Held at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1

Present:

Ian Shacklock, Stephen Taylor, Alison Dines, Chris Ashby, Jacques-Olivier Gaudron, Adrian Williams, Paul Standeven, Keith Macfarlane, Jon Parker, Chris Kenyon

Apologies:

John Ackers, Robert Harston, Bridget Peacock, Adam Cook

Matters arising

From ICAG meeting on 9th March

Connect2: Paul had attended a Highbury West Ward Partnership meeting on 18th May at which the Connect2 scheme at Finsbury Park had been discussed. He felt

the proposal for the area adjacent to the mosque was an improvement for those not confident enough to use the road, and there was a slight improvement for road cyclists because the road will be reduced from 3 lanes to 2, making each lane wider with more space for cyclists to filter through. However overall the whole scheme was tinkering about with an area which needs a major redesign. He agreed with Caroline Russell of Living Streets that a trial of a slightly reduced space for the buses, so that the cycle/pedestrian path to be wider, would be useful but felt that TfL were unlikely to agree and would not compromise on the area at Station Place for buses. John Ackers was disappointed that only 6 people responded to the e-mail campaign on the ICAG website (plus 2 others from Haringey) but the meeting felt this was not bad, especially given the somewhat complex nature of the consultations. It was agreed no further action would be taken on this scheme which would no doubt go ahead despite our misgivings as there would be considerable political flack if it was pulled.

Permeability schemes: At the last Veloteer meeting in April it had been agreed that the original list of suggested schemes would be put on the ICAG website. Stephen agreed to discuss this with John.

Cycle superhighway: Keith had attended a recent meeting about this and gave a summary. Work is due to start in autumn 2012. There is be the usual blue paint from Muswell Hill to Angel and, as each CSH has a new feature, on this one it will be trixie mirrors, installed on traffic signals to assist HGV drivers to see down the side of their vehicles. 20mph limit has been requested on the CSH but according to TfL the emergency services are against this (although the meeting was amazed to hear this!) but it will be in place in Muswell Hill. Keith agreed to feedback the disappointment regarding 20mph and has some draft plans, not for wider circulation, and if anyone wanted to see them they should e-mail him at LCC.

24 hour bus lanes: Jacques-Olivier will contact Tom Bogdanowicz about this.

Agenda:

Tribute to Barry Mason.

Tragically Barry Mason, a well known, indefatigable energetic cycle campaigner and the co-

ordinator of Southwark Cyclists, died whilst on holiday in Spain. There had been a feature about him and his achievements in the April/May London Cyclist magazine. It was agreed that if a memorial service was arranged there could be a ride to it from Islington.

Bike Week 18-26th June: Volunteers and plans were arranged.

Cyclists & canal towpath:

Ian Shacklock, chair of the Friends of Regent's Canal, said he had been in discussion with British Waterways about promoting and improving a route near the canal, running from Danbury Street to Victoria Park, that could be used by commuting cyclists. He also felt that encouraging cyclists to leave/join beyond the Narrow Boat pub would reduce the conflict between the various canal users in this busy area and asked those present to try his route, the 'Danbury bypass'. If ICAG felt it was a good route he asked the group to promote it. It was agreed that, once the group had tried it out and found it helpful, it should be promoted as a means of increasing capacity for fast cyclists at times when there was a large volume of traffic on the towpath. Ian to send route to Alison; circulate to those present and forward him feedbacks.

Future:

events

Skyride 4th Sept: Jacques-Olivier agreed to an ICAG ride and would contact the Edmonton group to find out their plans. If possible, by combining with them or a group from Haringey, a second ride from Islington might be possible too. Stephen would contact Haringey.
Angel Canal Festival 4th Sept: Although on the same day at the Skyride it was agreed ICAG should have a stall there. Alison and Chris agreed to be on it.
Gillespie Park Festival 11th Sept: This year was the 25th festival.
Earth Day in Highbury 24th Sept: A planning meeting for this event was taking place on 14th June. No one could attend but Alison would ask to be kept in the loop. The proposal was to build and decorate a globe at St Mary Magdalene Academy and carry it in procession to Highbury Fields where there would be speeches and music.

London Cyclist magazine piece content agreed and Alison to write.

Any other business

Little Green Ride is to be featured in London Cyclist magazine.

Camden Cycling Campaign is starting a Veloteers scheme; Stephen and Alison had been invited to one of their meetings last year to describe how it had been done by ICAG.

Keith said that as a comparison to some of the local engineering schemes it only cost £600k to run two libraries.

As LCC has changed its website we need to check our web pages in case links to the old LCC website are still there.

Next meeting

On Wed 13th July at 7.30-9.30pm at the Town Hall, Upper Street N1