

LCC AGM



Photo E Murray

Several CI members attended LCC's AGM on 15 October. The key speaker was Val Shawcross, the deputy mayor, who gave an encouraging view of what needs to be done to

address cyclists' concerns in London and who underlined Sadiq Khan's commitment to cycling.

Most of the proceedings are available on the LCC website <http://bit.ly/X4h8aS>. Val Shawcross said that she wanted to make cycling in London safer and easier, highlighting quietways, safer and cleaner lorries, safer junctions, more cycle parking and the pedestrianisation of Oxford Street as priorities.

As always, actions speak louder than words but it was a positive first encounter with the new deputy mayor. Let's hope that we can leverage her sponsorship to help us with our local discussions with LBI and translate the aspirations into, for example, a Quietway 10 which is fit for purpose.

London Borough of Islington – cycling news

Bravo to the councillors and council officers who have finally secured improvements to Owen Street! This is part of one of the country's busiest cycling junctions and is a huge improvement for cyclists and pedestrians compared to the confusing, bollard-ridden road it was previously.



Photo HarryFW @hazzer2001

We're waiting to hear from TfL about what's next for Highbury Corner after the 2,823 responses to their consultation, 67% of which thought conditions for cyclists would improve with the proposals.

And the recent consultation on the junction at Shepherdess Walk /City Road/Bath Street has just closed, results due early in 2017. Thanks to those of you who handed out leaflets to raise awareness of the consultation. Do look out for emails from Cycle Islington about consultations – they have great power, as the Tavistock Place consultation results have shown (see below).

Nick and Talia attend quarterly meetings on behalf of Cycle Islington with Cllr Webbe, Executive Member for Environment & Transport. They also have monthly meetings with LBI officials so please send them your feedback and questions you'd like answers to. With over 700 members some of you must have concerns about cycling in Islington, but we rarely get much input. We don't know what your cycling issues are if you don't tell us, so do share.

And when you talk directly to your own councillors, remember our three talking points which we need to keep repeating and promoting as much as possible: 1. London's growing & cycling can help prevent traffic congestion 2. Cycling is increasing 3. We need safer space for cyclists.

Upper Holloway Road closure

No-one can have avoided either the media uproar or the fact that Holloway Road was shut to traffic in mid October until the new year to allow work on the 100 year old railway bridge in Upper Holloway - with apparently no previous discussions with LBI. This has created chaos on diverted routes with traffic jams, pollution and accidents. Cyclists are either diverted on a longer route, or are asked to dismount and share the pavement over the bridge with pedestrians. More information: <http://bit.ly/2dY2tME>



Photo Keith Mcfarlane

Jillian's junction – update

In our last newsletter, Jillian described the issues for cyclists crossing the junction of Barnsbury Street and Liverpool Road. Following a meeting with local councillors on 5 March, and email exchanges in April and May, things went quiet. However, a chat with LBI's Traffic and Engineering team in October identified that there is a small budget to plant trees near the new development on Liverpool Road. Because of our concerns re the junction, the planners are trying to address these at the same time.

The tree planting project will be finalised in November after which time the remaining budget will be used for improvements at the junction. Making things safer for all road users isn't straightforward; for example, an island in the middle of the road for cyclists to use while trying to cross would impede sight lines for cars approaching the zebra crossing. CI will be given a chance to see proposed plans - LBI is hoping to get the work done in Q1 2017.

Out and about with Cycle Islington

In September, we had two great opportunities to talk to people about the benefits of cycling and helping them get on their bikes.

This was followed on 14 September by the LCC's 'Cycle to work bike tube'.



Photo E Murray

First on 4 September, we had a stall at the London Canal Festival. Many thanks to everyone who helped by talking to as many people as possible – including Angels on wheels - and by handing out leaflets, maps, home-made cakes and LCC information.



Photo John Ackers

Simon led a group to central London as part of the LCC 'cycle to work bike tube'. Meeting at Finsbury Park several cyclists joined the ride to Russell Square that morning. Based on an idea by Southwark Cyclists, this was the first pan-London one to be organised by the central LCC HQ and we would be happy to support it again next year.

Working with sister LCC group in Camden

A key campaign for Camden Cyclists has been the consultation on Tavistock Place, an improved stretch of cycling infrastructure on trial for a year. All LCC members were invited to respond to this consultation, asking to keep the new bike lanes. Several Islington cyclists helped their Camden colleagues by handing out leaflets and cards at Tavistock Place to try to spread the word to as many people as possible. It has had the biggest response ever to a consultation – with 15,000 plus responses; 78% were in favour of making the trial permanent which is a fantastic outcome. Well done to Camden Cyclists for orchestrating such an effective campaign.

CI members were invited to Camden Cyclists' October meeting with speaker Lucy Saunders who leads on the integration of transport and public health at TfL and the Greater London Authority. Lucy started by saying the new Deputy Mayor for Transport Val Shawcross is keen to drive forward the Healthy Streets approach which Lucy developed. It can be difficult to measure the health impacts of transport and streets. Traditional measures include injury reports, Air Quality and noise measurements and levels of active travel – which are usually the biggest health impact. Read more here: <http://bit.ly/2fOYTnf>

IC monthly meeting

Come along to the CI monthly meeting. Agenda items for meetings should reach Alison Dines by the Saturday before the meeting.

Email: alison.dines@cycleislington.uk

Place: Islington Town Hall

Date: 2nd Wednesday/every month

Time: 7.30-9.30 pm

Cycle Workshop dates -

Currently under review

Reporting potholes

***Local:** T 020 7527 2000 or islington.gov.uk and click on report a street problem. Or try fixmystreet.com

***London:** T 0845 305 1234 or <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/>, then click report a street fault

Forthcoming events

* Critical mass – last Friday of each month <http://www.urban75.org/photos/critical>

* Check out Skyrides - <http://www.goskyride.com>

* @RantyHighwayman has organised a ride on Sunday 4 December, 11 am at Trinity Square Gardens. Come dressed for the festive season! Follow on Twitter for updates

*Islington cycle club – lots of weekly rides to suit all levels of fitness - <http://islington.ccl> and Dr Bike sessions here <http://tinyurl.com/j5ml75k>

Contribute to CycleIslington

*If you wish to discuss any of the topics covered in this newsletter in more detail then why not subscribe to the CI email list? Just send an email to icag-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

*We have another yahoo group concerned mainly with the engineering projects that we are being consulted about. If you want to join, send an email to: icag-eng-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Please send comments, responses, articles or images to alison.dines@cycleislington.uk