

Minutes of the ICAG meeting Wed 8th July 2015 at the Town Hall, Upper Street N1 at 7.30-9.30pm

Present: Alison Dines, Michelle Shipworth, John Ackers, Alex Ingram, Nick Kocharhook, Alex Santacreu, Simon Izod, Anita Frizzarin, David Lincoln, Adrian Williams, Tabitha Tanqueray

Apologies

Eilidh Murray, Keith Macfarlane

Matters arising

Council Liaison meetings - terms of reference

Several people had now commented on this document so John agreed to send our revisions to the TOR to Will Umney at the council. John confirmed that it was an agreement between two partners but not legally binding and he thought Alison would be asked to sign it on behalf of ICAG.

Stroud Green Road

Nick and Jono were meeting Liz Wathen from the council to see the latest plans for altering the cycle lane and area under the railway bridge by Finsbury Park when the Wells Terrace station entrance is closed. Michelle said she was interested in seeing the proposals.

Highbury Corner bridge replacement work

Lorraine was no longer involved in this scheme and Nick had met her replacement Laura Leporati and was waiting to hear from her. The current measures were supposed to be removed around now but will be in place much longer. Simon asked if there was any news on the plans for Highbury Corner once the bridge replacement work had finished. At a St Mary's Ward Partnership meeting last year he had been told plans would be available in January 2015 but none had been seen. Simon agreed to contact Martijn Cooljmans at the council.

Agenda

New Quietway update

Nick, Alex and others had been at the Cally Festival, the Amwell Street Festival & presented their ideas for the Quietway to the Highbury West and East Ward Partnerships meetings (see next item) and collected hundreds of signatures at the bike breakfast at Thornhill School. 8 people had helped enter the signatures into the e-petition. The Quietway campaign was badged as a one by Liveable Islington Network, a group formed last year with Living Streets and Better Archway Forum as it was important that pedestrians and local residents, not just cyclists, were promoting it. Nick agreed it would be better to have the partners listed on the website and Alison agreed to think of others.

Nick had 1000 leaflets printed which would be used at the petition signing session planned for Thursday evening. There was lots to be done and it was suggested that a Google Hangout was set up so people could see the tasks. Various other ideas were 'brand recognition' with the leaflet image going on the website and making alterations so the current URL on mobile devices no longer went to the news page but the petition. John stressed how important it was to have a photographer present at any event to get some good images.

Ward Partnership Meetings

At the Highbury West meeting the residents present had voted in favour of the Quietway vision and to support road closures. Since then council officers had been asked to look at filtering on local roads and Cllr Greening had suggested a filter near Drayton Park station and school. At the Highbury East meeting there were fewer people and more concern about where the traffic would be displaced to if there were road closures and it was agreed this needed to be addressed in future presentations. The next meetings to attend were Barnsbury and Clerkenwell.

It was important that ICAG members attended their local meetings and they were on the ICAG calendar to which John had given editing rights to the ICAG Committee and Anita. Alison would ask the LCC about using its e-mail facility to contact members in the wards and update the calendar with the meeting dates.

Nick said Andrew Gilligan had asked TfL for a review of how traffic modelling that had been undertaken related to what had ultimately occurred at the location and the correlation between the predicted and actual was not good. Nick had made a FOI request for a copy of the report.

Space for Cycling petition

LCC were keen for this petition to be presented to all the borough councils as soon as possible. After some discussion John agreed that he and David would work out the most positive way to use it. It was also agreed that all those that had signed it should be contacted and asked to sign the new Quietway petition.

Feedback on events in June

The ICAG AGM was considered to be a success with a similar number attending as the year before, although they were all 'family and friends' rather than new people.

Nick had been to the Cally Festival as the Liveable Islington Network. The stall was next to Sustrans which was useful but given the large numbers attending interest was not as great as it could have been and about 70 signatures were collected for the Quietway campaign.

Jono, Tabitha, Anita and Alison had been with Hackney and Haringey colleagues at the Festival of Cycling in Finsbury Park and also collected signatures. The stall had been in a good location and some interesting contacts had been made, although no councillors attended.

RideLondon

Nick was now spending a lot of time on the Quietway campaign which had not started when he offered to lead the feeder ride. John suggested Steve Knattress as a new leader and Alison said she would ask him.

Several people were away or unable to help out with marshalling so Alison would contact the LCC about getting volunteers from outside ICAG. Alex S, Eilidh and John were able to help.

Offord Road scheme

ICAG had asked for bi-directional cycle bypasses on this street and that the echelon parking was removed. The bi-directional bypasses had now been included in the scheme but the parking had not been removed so there was concern that the bypasses would be too narrow and that they would not be easy for cyclists to get in and out of. However, given the current ICAG workload John felt no more could be done by the group on this scheme and that if the local residents found it was not working they should contact the local councillors about improving it.

LCC Borough Co-ordinators meeting on 16th July

Alison was unable to attend this. No one present was able to go in her place and she would ask Tom if he could.

Any other business

ICAG bike maintenance workshop at Sunnyside Gardens

At very short notice Adrian had been told the June workshop had to be cancelled as there was a problem about gaining access to the building. However he had gone there anyway and worked outside. He was waiting to hear about the July workshop but was prepared to do the same thing and there was no workshop in August so he could wait a few months before deciding how to proceed if access to the building was no longer going to be available. The meeting thanked Adrian for his longstanding support of the workshop.

Temporary re-routing of A1 along Tufnell Park Road

David reported that after Christmas Tufnell Park Road would be affected by the closure of the A1 for bridge repairs and that cars would be re-routed along Tufnell Park Road, with lorries along Brecknock Road for 3-4 weeks. David was concerned about the safety of cyclists using the junction by Tufnell Park tube as a pedestrian island was going to be removed as part of the temporary scheme. He wondered if an ASL would be beneficial but it was felt that would depend on other factors such as the phasing of the traffic lights and any banned turns. It was suggested he discuss the issue with local resident Christian Wolmar and that TfL should be encouraged to let cyclists continue to use the A1 whilst motor traffic was being diverted.

London Sustainability Exchange and ClientEarth's Healthy Air London meeting

John had attended this event at which about 100 people were present. The main measures were that; Labour felt the introduction of the ultralow emission zone (ULEZ) was too slow but the Mayor thought it was not; most people there were not cyclists but believed cycling was a good thing to encourage and; public health needed to engage more with policy makers.

ICAG needs to respond to the second ULEZ consultation.

CPZ consultation

ICAG should to look at this and see if it agrees with it as supporting council initiatives that are good for cycling is helpful for working with the council.

TfL survey

Alex S said that TfL are surveying cyclists on how they choose their routes see to take part.

<https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=143585521917>

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 12th August