

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

Present: Alison Dines, Eilidh Murray, Nick Kocharhook, Michelle Shipworth, Keith Macfarlane, John Ackers, Liz Reiner, Andrea Casalotti, Tabitha Tanqueray, Simon Izod, Clarissa Carlyon, Tom Bogdanowicz, Anita Frizzarin, Michael Johnson

Apologies

David Lincoln, Tom Harrison, Adrian Williams, Jonathan Edwards

Matters Arising

Highbury Corner

Nick had forwarded his e-mail correspondence with Lorraine Johnson of TfL to the ICAG-eng e-list but no one had made any comments. Lorraine had not accepted any of Nick's suggestions, including additional traffic lights for cyclists, although had indicated that TfL would re-instate the northbound turn into Highbury Fields. Nick thought there must be examples of other places where temporary traffic lights had been used to help cyclists and wondered if anyone knew of any; he would contact Lorraine again.

Working with Islington Council

The council officers had not yet sent the proposed terms of references (TOR) for their meetings with ICAG. Alison had asked the other local groups if any of them had TOR with their councils and most of those who had replied did not but she had received one example.

Drayton Park

This was not discussed although Tabitha said it would be part of the Quietway upgrade.

Agenda

Presentation on ICAG campaign structure

Andrea presented his suggestions on how ICAG's campaigns could be structured. He felt this was necessary because 1) if someone had a concern (recent examples were Simon's about Canonbury Square and Alex's about Drayton Park) there was not a clear structure in place to support their efforts on getting something done and 2) he felt there was a good skill mix within ICAG but that it did not have a clear strategy and needed a plan to transform Islington for cycling.

In his extensive presentation Andrea outlined how the structure of ICAG, the LCC and the council could be made clearer to members. The leader of an ICAG campaign, and those also involved, should keep records of correspondence, activities and lessons learnt centrally so anyone could access them. The platform for this could be Cyclescape, although John had concerns about using it and there was still no guide from LCC about what was best to use. The structure and clarity that Andrea suggested was welcomed by Michelle but her concern was the practicality of those involved having the time to keep the system updated and Simon said a simple checklist for new campaigns would be helpful. Access to sensitive documents would also need to be considered. Keith re-iterated that ICAG wanted to collaborate and engage with Islington council.

As Andrea had initially used Cyclescape for his Clerkenwell Boulevard campaign that could be used to demonstrate how the platform worked. Tom had done a presentation on the ICAG vision and strategy last year and Nick suggested this was re-visited by e-mail and the revised version presented at a future ICAG meeting. Andrea would meet with Tom to discuss this.

ICAG's response on Quietway 2 consultation

Tom had submitted this by the deadline but John asked the meeting if he could also submit an addendum. This was agreed and John said he would send his draft to the ICAG-eng e-list.

ICAG meeting with Cllr Claudia Webbe

Tom, John and Tabitha had met Cllr Webbe and John had circulated notes of the meeting to ICAG-eng e-list. Their concern was that Cllr Webbe was not prioritising Nag's Head. John agreed to ask the LCC Infrastructure Review Group about Nag's Head and it was suggested that Nick should meet Cllr Webbe about the scheme. Two new

Quietways through Islington had been proposed and it was agreed that Tom would ask the council officers for the routes so ICAG could make comments on them as early as possible.

Closure of Tufnell Park tube station

ICAG and Camden Cycling Campaign (CCC) had written to TfL about encouraging cycling to mitigate the travel congestion this closure could cause, although the reply had not been very promising. CCC were discussing possible initiatives with local councillors and Tom B suggested leafletting in the area. Alison would discuss possible actions with David when he was back from holiday.

Tufnell Park School safety petition

David had been asked to support this petition for a new zebra crossing but he felt it didn't go far enough to tackle the problem there. It had appeared that the petition was initiated by one of the local councillors but Liz had been in touch with her and found that it had been set up by the school. Liz agreed to speak to David when he was back so that they could discuss further options with the school and advise the school to contact council officers.

Islington Cycle Safari on 26th April

Plans were going well and Clarissa brought posters and leaflets to the meeting for distribution. Keith and Michael agreed to help with marshalling.

ICAG AGM on 10th June

Michael Liebreich - TfL board member, potential mayoral candidate and green energy advocate - has agreed to speak at our AGM (subject to changes in his schedule!). NB. He is not allowed to speak for TfL in any way.

LCC grant

Keith had been preparing the ICAG accounts and said that the group had spent about £900 each year for the past two years. ICAG had about £2000 (although there were costs associated with the Cycle Safari and some of the money was a grant to use in Tufnell Park) and LCC did not encourage its local groups to hold large surpluses. Michael was considering applying to the Cripplegate Foundation for funding for a bike hire scheme and Alison confirmed that ICAG could be used as a repository for such a grant. Keith suggested that Michael contact the LCC about their community grants and for advice on writing applications.

Health checks to promote cycling

Michael had suggested that a group of ICAG members took up the offer of NHS health checks to demonstrate that cyclists were healthier than the average population. However no one from NHS health checks booking had replied to his request. The links between public health and active travel were not well developed within Islington and Anita suggested that ICAG should ask a question about this at the next full council meeting.

Any other business

Comparison of council activities

Michael had been asking other borough council officers for information on a variety of transport related issues with a view to comparing them to Islington and would feedback his findings once they were complete.

Space for Cycling petition

Keith asked the meeting if he could send an e-mail reminding all ICAG members and LCC supporters in Islington to sign the Space for Cycling petition and the meeting agreed.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13th May 2015 7.30-9.30pm at the Town Hall, Upper Street N1