

**Cycle Islington meeting Wednesday 14th September 2016 at 7.30-9.30pm
at the Town Hall, Upper Street N1**

Present: Alison Dines, Talia Hussein, Sean Howes, Adrian Williams, James Gleadow, Rosalind Readhead, Liz Reiner, James Campbell, Nick Kocharhook, Simon Izod, John Ackers, Keith Macfarlane.

Apologies: Eilidh Murray, Sue Marris, Tabitha Tanqueray.

Matters arising

Angel Canal Festival: Alison thanked everyone who had helped on the stall on 4th September.

Cycle to Work ride: this had taken place in the morning but had not been busy with four attendees, outnumbered by the marshals and LCC staff members! It was felt to be a good initiative but perhaps had not been publicised widely enough. Alison thanked Simon for leading and John and Liz for marshalling.

Cycling collision statistics: the meeting with the council officers had been cancelled and rescheduled for 3rd October so Nick would ask about obtaining information about collisions then.

Agenda

Working with Islington Council

Talia had e-mailed the CI list and asked if anyone was interested in working on the possible community event Cllr Webbe had mentioned. Talia had received several expressions of interest but was not able to lead on it herself. Rosalind said she was willing to do so and had plenty of ideas about what such an event could feature. At the next meeting with Cllr Webbe Talia would ask that Rosalind attends to discuss it.

Cycle Islington's strategy

During last month's discussion about working with the council, the importance of CI having a strategy was agreed. John believed CI should focus on the 2018 council elections and develop a transport manifesto that could be put to the political parties who would be encouraged to 'cherry pick' from it. CI needed to reach out to the 69% of Islington residents without cars and make them realise what is missing in Islington that is happening in Camden and Hackney. Sean felt the current council transport hierarchy of pedestrians then buses then cyclists, rather than pedestrians, cyclists, buses adopted in most places, contributed to this. Simon said CI needed to a better understanding of the council and when key meetings took place; there should also be greater CI presence in ward partnership meetings and cycling councillors invited to CI meetings. Liz said that the CI strategy should fit with the LCC one.

It was agreed that CI's strategy would involve working to create an atmosphere in which cycling was normalised but it was best developed by a subgroup and not at the monthly meeting. Simon offered to lead on this and Nick, Sean, Liz, Rosalind and James C agreed to help. Simon would circulate some possible dates for the first meeting and contact Tom Harrison about the work he had started before leaving Islington.

CI/LCC meeting about Clerkenwell Boulevard

Nick, Tabitha, Jean (Camden CC) and Simon Monks (LCC) met to discuss the current plans for Clerkenwell Road. As TfL and Val Shawcross are increasingly focussing on healthy streets the LCC felt that the scheme could be a flagship for the new mayor. Nick was unable to give any further feedback as most of what was discussed was confidential. Caroline said Lucy Saunders at the GLA had produced a checklist for healthy streets, although Sean pointed out that as this favoured walking cycle infrastructure did not always score highly.

Highbury Corner consultation

Simon said the results of this had been published last month <https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/roads/highbury-corner-roundabout> and wondered what would happen next. Caroline said the mayor's transport strategy

would be available in mid-November and would give an indication. Nick said they would mention it to Cllr Webbe at the next meeting with her.

Reversal of Caledonian Road scheme

The relatively new two-way traffic scheme here was to be reverted to one-way due to pressure from local residents who said traffic was stacking up on Wharfdale Road. John wondered what traffic flow figures had been used to plan it and Caroline was concerned that the traffic lights on Wharfdale Road had not been re-phased to help the problem. However as no one was in a position to take it further, or raise it at the full council meeting the next day, no action was proposed.

Full council meeting on 15th September

Simon thought CI members should go these meetings and Caroline agreed. Unfortunately it seemed no one was able to attend to raise the reversal of the Caledonian Road scheme.

Any other business

Tavistock Place: It had been suggested that CI respond as a group to the consultation on whether the changes made to the cycle lanes in Tavistock Place be retained. A vote was taken and nine agreed in retaining the new layout and two were against. Nick, and then after the meeting John, agreed to respond on CI's behalf.

Car Free Day: Islington council will be celebrating Car Free Day on 22nd September at Islington Green.

LCC and Licensed Taxi Drivers' Association (LTDA): Sean was surprised that the LCC had developed an eight-point plan for road safety with the LTDA see <http://road.cc/content/news/206537-lcc-and-ltda-agree-cyclisttaxi-driver-behaviour-pact> He had contacted the LCC who advised discussing at his local meeting. As no one in the group was aware of the campaign it was agreed that he would contact the LCC again to find out more. Sean thought the agreement made it look as if LTDA was on board with the LCC although LTDA members were often against cycle infrastructure. James said he was confident that at least black cabs could be held to account unlike other taxi services. *Post meeting note:* Sean contacted the LCC and circulated the response to the CI Yahoo group on 21st September.

Meeting of protestors against Cycle Superhighway 11: Simon said that a meeting of people opposed to this route was to be held on 27th September at the former St Stephen's Church Hampstead and that supporters should go to defend it.

Parliamentary constituency boundary changes: James was concerned about the recent proposals to the Islington North seat which would mean Junction and St George's wards would no longer be within it and so have an MP based in Camden who might not be interested in issues in Islington. He wanted to raise awareness of this proposal and was going to respond against it.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 12th October at 7.30pm in the Town Hall, Upper Street N1.