



CI meetings - update by Alison Dines

Simon Munk, LCC's infrastructure campaigner, joined the CI meeting on 8 February to discuss how CI could campaign more effectively by looking at our relationships with local councillors and council officers. For many years CI have had regular meetings with officers from the planning and engineering departments and also, although less frequently, have met the executive member for transport and environment. But despite this, the cycling infrastructure in the borough is not as good as we would like.

Simon urged us not to criticise the council publicly but to try and engage constructively and think of other ways of influencing people. Hearing about his experiences in Waltham Forest, and the successful bid for the mini-Holland scheme there, was inspiring and helped us consider how to get our message across in Islington. Simon found cycling round his borough with local councillors a good way of showing them the traffic black spots. We discussed other events that we could organise and speakers we could have at meetings to which we would invite councillors. The

recently instigated road closure outside a primary school in Camden at school drop off and pick up times <http://bbc.in/2kA0nV0> was also considered as a scheme that might be suitable for Islington. Simon thought we had lots of good ideas and that our discussions were very encouraging - now we just need to turn them into actions! If you have any views/would like to get involved please contact alison.dines@cycleislington.uk

Future CI meetings at 19.30-21.30 in the Town Hall, Upper Street NI 2UD

*8 March: informal discussion with Nick Wayne, local councillor for Canonbury – come along for a chat !

*12 April: speaker: Mary Stevens – research project on Space for Cycling – see article below

*14 June: CI AGM: speaker Lynn Sloman, TfL board member and Director, Transport for Quality of Life - <http://transportforqualityoflife.com>

Out and about with CI – Cycle to the South Bank – Sat 8 April at 1400

We continue our series of easy-paced family cycle rides with a trip to see the new cycling infrastructure along the Embankment and Blackfriars Bridge on Saturday 8 April 2017 – with a coffee stop at the South Bank.

Our experienced ride leader, Simon, with a team of trained marshalls will be in charge of the ride and this year, our neighbours in Camden, Haringay and Hackney are coming along too. We will meet at Highbury Fields at 1400 and will return by 1630. Approximate distance is 5 miles. Come along for a leisurely cycle by the river and see some of the great sights of London. And spread the word !



With thanks to Youtube.com

Archway – update by Liz Reiner

CI members are working with the Highgate Society and Better Archway Forum to press for safety improvements for the new Archway town centre. Suggested enhancements include better route signage and measures to reduce pedestrian-cyclist conflict. After meeting with Caroline Pidgeon, Chair of the London Assembly's

Transport Committee, she has passed our concerns and suggestions to Transport for London. We have already had one success, getting rid of a blind spot on the southbound Archway Road by the Miranda Estate. The works are not due to finish until April, so there is still time to change things for the better.

Space for Cycling in London – research project led by Mary Stevens

Mary is a CI member and has lived in Highbury since 2009. She is currently studying for an MSc in Environmental Management with the Open University; in this context she is developing a case study on 'Space for Cycling' in London. The case study forms part of a module on environmental decision-making. Mary is looking at the decision-making processes in Waltham Forest and the London Fields area of Hackney (on the Quietway 2 route) to consider how the

processes could have been improved and what we might learn from this experience in any future consideration of area-wide traffic reduction schemes, in particular for the Quietway 10 route. Mary has a particular interest in community engagement and how we can apply a more holistic approach to make an effective case for liveable neighbourhoods. She'll be talking about her findings at the CI meeting on 12 April.

Cycling in London and Paris – les différences !



Alex Santacreu, until last year a member of CI, moved to Paris after 6 years working for TfL. His new job is with the International Transport Forum, an inter-governmental think-tank on global transport policy issues. We caught up with him, and his Brompton, in a Montparnasse bar.

As part of Boris' Cycling Vision, millions were spent on data collection allowing the risk of serious injury on a bike to be computed in each of London's 33 boroughs. Paris on the other hand, with only 2 million inhabitants, doesn't have the resources or the data collection culture to undertake a comparable assessment of cycling safety. Cycling in Paris **feels safer*** as traffic tends to be slower. Endless construction in London means lots of dangerous tipper trucks; conversely, there is little building in Paris so it isn't possible to say if one city is safer than another.

Cycling infrastructure in Paris was about the same as in London until Boris started to make real progress. While

there aren't many dedicated cycle lanes, cyclists have been able to use bus lanes for over 20 years but, as in London, often find their own quiet back routes. Secure **bike parking** for flat dwellers – and there are lots of flats in Paris – isn't available and not everyone can heave their bikes up and down several flights of stairs. While there are lots of Sheffield –type stands, there are no on-street bike hangars in Paris which makes Islington, with two currently on trial, look positively luxurious.

To fight **air pollution**, a Low Emission Zone was introduced in January in Paris (and Lyon and Grenoble). Cars, lorries and scooters must display signs with their emissions levels. Vehicles with the poorest ratings are banned from the city during the day (8am-8pm) and restrictions can be strengthened during severe pollution episodes. Enforcement levels will be key to the success of this policy.

In the Paris metropolitan area, there is **no equivalent of the LCC**; there are some dynamic groups (Paris en Selle, Velorution, MDB) but these are far from having the membership and resources of LCC. A Paris initiative which could be copied in London is that of **car-free districts** on Sundays. While these aren't specifically for cyclists, they do provide pleasant, calm areas for residents, pedestrians and cyclists alike. London ideas on how to report issues eg Fix my Street or the Pothole hotline could be imported across the Channel.

The relatively new Paris mayor, Anne Hidalgo, has stated her '**unashamed ambition to reduce traffic**' in the city and so Parisians, like Londoners, are waiting to see how their respective mayors' words are translated into action.

**cycling round the Arc de Triomphe excepted!*

Future charity rides

www.afasic.org.uk helping children with communications problems. Remember Jonathan Edwards asking to borrow a child seat to take a grubby bear called Leyton to the Wash? Now, he's off for a bath to, yes you've guessed it, Bath, on 22 June. Supporters are chasing him on a Bear Hunt, leaving Richmond Park on Sat 24 June, overnighing in Newbury and trying to catch up before Bath on the afternoon of Sun 25. If you'd like to join them for either or

both days, get in touch with Afasic on 020 7490 9410 or contact Jonathan on 07946261165/via our email list.

Parkinsons research fundraising:

<http://bit.ly/2kAbeyk> : Mount Ventoux challenge from 1 > 4 June

<http://bit.ly/2kUzHdH>: Conquer the Alps challenge from 8 > 11 September

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>

*Islington cycle club – lots of weekly rides to suit all levels of fitness - <http://islington.cc/> and Dr Bike sessions [here http://tinyurl.com/lj5ml75k](http://tinyurl.com/lj5ml75k)

Contribute to CycleIslington

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What's been happening recently ?

We held our AGM on 14 June when the following were elected to the CI committee – all contact through alison.dines@cycleislington.uk

- Alison (Coordinator and secretary)
- Keith (Treasurer)
- Nick and Talia (council liaison, infrastructure)
- Simon (Canonbury liaison & infrastructure)
- Liz (Archway liaison)
- Tab (public health liaison)
- Eilidh (newsletter)

We were delighted to welcome **Laura** from the Zero Emissions network, a joint initiative with the boroughs of Islington, Hackney and Tower Hamlets, who told us about the ZEN and its objectives – including their encouragement of using cargo bikes. Did you know that one cargo bike can carry 100 bottles of champagne?! **Alix** of Carryme Bikes presented how they lent cargo bikes, seats and trailers to park rangers, market traders, meals on wheels teams and anyone who wanted to try out some new kit. Many thanks to them both for coming along.



Laura, Alison and Alix

More info: <http://bit.ly/2uCLYN7> & <http://bit.ly/2wX5UqG>

Our speaker at our July meeting was **Will McMahon** from the Centre for Crime and Justice Studies (CCJS). Will talked about the Holloway Prison redevelopment project – see article below. Speakers lined up for the rest of the year include **Fran Graham** from the LCC and **Eric Manners** from LBI so do come along to the Town Hall on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm.

We continue our regular meetings with council officials and the Executive Member for Environment & Transport Claudia Webb to discuss cycling provision in the borough. If you have anything you would like us to bring up, please contact Alison.



Do you know who your local councillors are? We are planning, with your help, to step up our dealings with them on local cycling issues during the lead-up to the London elections next May – it's important to get to know them. Attend their ward meetings, talk to them and ask for their support on local cycling infrastructure. Our main talking points which we need to keep promoting are: 1. London's growing and cycling and walking will help keep it moving 2. Cycling is increasing 3. We need safer space for cyclists.

The Mayor's Transport Strategy has been launched – here's the LCC's take on it <http://bit.ly/2hXSjMY> and you can follow discussions here <http://bit.ly/2wWYrrF>. The consultation closes on 2 October and LCC will respond taking all feedback into account so have your say now.

Thanks to energetic campaigning by many people, especially Cllr Caroline Russell, there will soon be 18 secure bike hangars in the borough, each taking 6 bikes. There is already a huge demand for secure bike parking on Islington's streets so see the locations of each hanger here <http://bit.ly/2vBRD3b> and reserve your space now! None scheduled near you? Email publicrealm@islington.gov.uk.

Proposed redevelopment of the Holloway Prison site

The CCJS is seeking the views of local residents and anyone who cycles, works, studies, shops in the area. Camden Road/Parkhurst Road junction sits right by the prison site and any redevelopment might be an opportunity to re-engineer that space so it's less of a motorway and more of an inviting space for everyone. Survey now open on

potential developments here: <http://bit.ly/2hZ6bH5>. On Saturday, 30 September from 1pm-4pm at St George's Church on Crayford Road, N7, the findings from the survey will be discussed for the first time. Cycle Islington, along with other community groups, will be there so come along, find out more about the plans, and say hello.

Out and about with CI – July's ride to London Freecycle & events to come

35 cyclists had registered for our ride but over 60 came, including 2 newbie Santander cyclists, Claudia Blanco and Shazia Shafiq (right) who pushed their bikes the length of Upper Street to join us for our led ride from Highbury Fields. Many thanks to everyone who participated including our marshals and our leader, Steve, who was up at 4 am the next day to take part in the 100-miler. What dedication! A short video of the ride is here: <http://bit.ly/2wX2B2x> and YouTube has many more videos to inspire you to sign up for next year when thousands of cyclists will again take to car free streets in central London – sign up here: <http://bit.ly/1XAuua2>.

Forthcoming events:

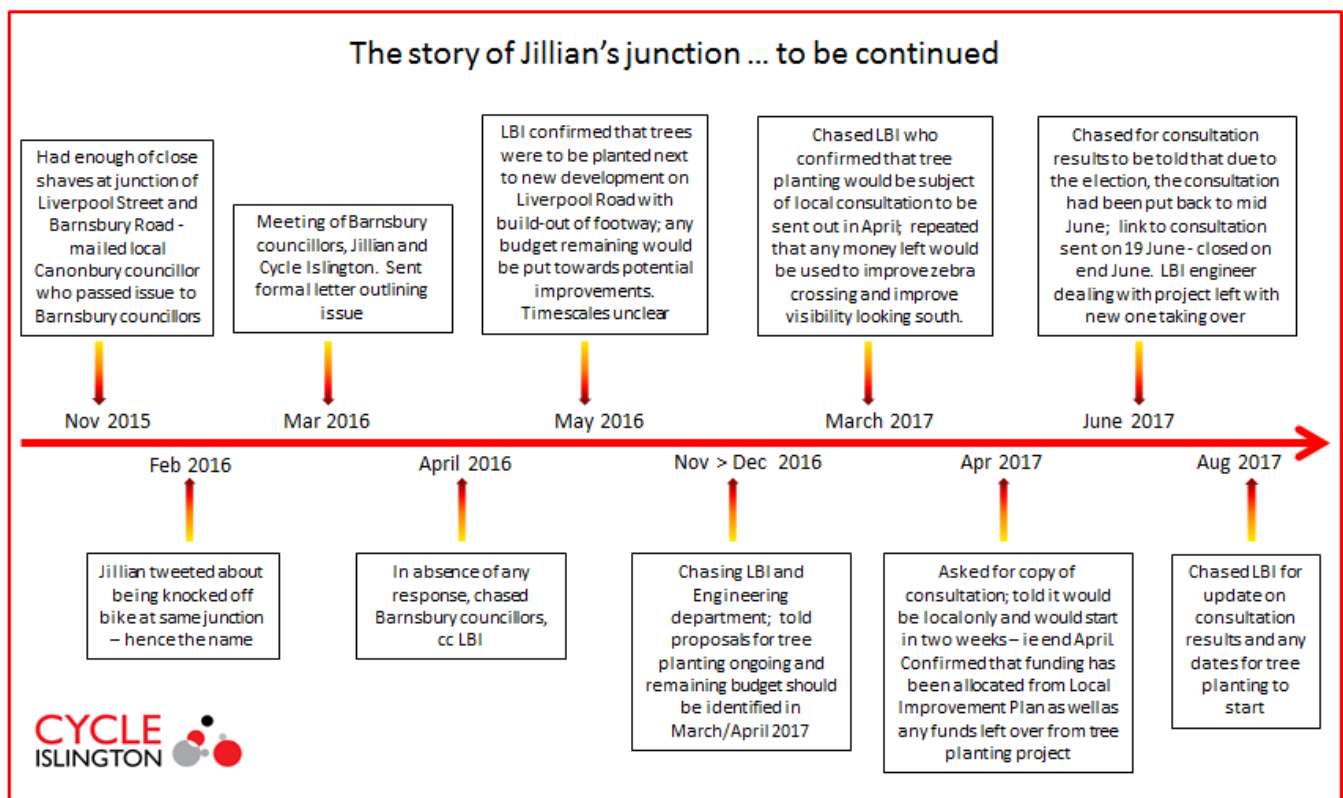
* Archway Car Free Day on 22 September: part of the Archway ZEN project (<http://tinyurl.com/yafnm97p>)

including cyclists' breakfast, a led local ride and Dr Bike.
* The CI autumn family ride in early October (more news on our website soon).



Photos thanks to J Ackers

The time things take



IC monthly meeting

Come along to the CI monthly meeting. Agenda items for meetings should reach alison.dines@cycleislington.uk by the Saturday before the meeting.

- * 2nd Wednesday of every month
- * 7.30-9.30 pm followed by visit to local pub
- * Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD

Forthcoming events

- * <https://www.lovetoride.net/London> – get a team together and join in Cycle September
- * Critical mass – last Friday of each month <http://www.urban75.org/photos/critical>
- * Check out Skyrides - <http://www.goskyride.com>
- * Islington cycle club – lots of weekly rides to suit all levels of fitness - <http://islington.cc> and Dr Bike sessions here <http://tinyurl.com/lj5ml75k>

Cycle Islington Dr Bike

*First Sunday of the month, 1100 > 1300 at Sunnyside Community Centre, Sunnyside Road, N19 3LX - contact Adrian Williams 07810 211902

Reporting potholes

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Meeting with Jeremy Corbyn, interactions with LBI & CI's Election Asks



Meeting with Jeremy Corbyn on 17 November

David Harrison from Islington Living Streets and Tabitha Tanqueray from Cycle Islington met Jeremy Corbyn recently to discuss cycling and walking in the borough. They were delighted to hear of his support for active travel and vision for a future in which our streets are rebalanced to make far better provision for walking and cycling and to reduce domination by motor traffic. Full article <http://bit.ly/2jSgPN>

Islington Council (LBI) interactions
Following various exchanges with LBI (eg Tab's open letter (<http://bit.ly/2hKKHhN>) outlining why we are so frustrated with their very limited progress in improving cycling in Islington and the written response from Cllr Richard Watts, the leader of the council, to Eilidh's question regarding what LBI was going to do differently to deliver to the MTS (<http://bit.ly/2hlalU6>) it was pertinent that the speaker at the usual monthly meeting on 9 November was senior council officer Eric Manners, Team Leader Transport Planning. He gave an overview of current and future plans

and then took questions from those present. Plans for 2018 local elections

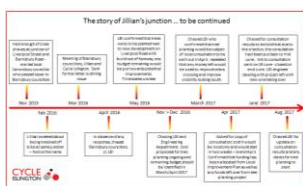
We have been discussing our Key Asks of our councillors leading up to the local elections in May 2018. We need:

- to get the council to listen to our concerns and not allow them to hope that the long grasses of bureaucracy and procrastination will keep us quiet.
- a consistent message in our dealings with LBI and with our ward councillors.
- active involvement from all Islington cyclists to make sure that our Asks are discussed at every opportunity.

The Asks are being discussed on the CIEng mailing list but could include the submission of a high quality bid to TfL's Liveable Neighbourhoods programme (LCC policy is to work together with Living Streets); to build exemplary cycle routes; to implement at least two of CI's list of Quick Wins or the installation of more bike hangars to meet existing demand. We will confirm the Asks in December when they will be launched on our website with our plans which will culminate in a hustings event in April, possibly with Living Streets, and a 'Ride the Borough Boundaries'. If anyone would like to get involved in this campaign please contact Alison (alison.dines@cycleislington.uk)

Do you know your ward councillors? Here's a list with dates for ward meetings <http://bit.ly/2hCsuz2> - please go and talk to them and let us know how you get on. Meanwhile, there is another opportunity to put a question to the Mayor at the Town Hall on 7 December at 7.30 pm. Send to democracy@islington.gov.uk or jonathan.moore@islington.gov.uk by 2pm on 27 November 2017.

Jillian's junction – we're inching forward



Our last newsletter <http://bit.ly/2ASaAQB> showed the time it has taken to get LBI's focus on improvements to the junction of Liverpool Road and Barnsbury Street. On 2 November, a

meeting was held at the junction with a LBI engineer and a local Barnsbury councillor, Rowena Champion. LBI will produce drawings of improvements (by Christmas), put out a consultation (Jan/Feb) and get work done (by end of March). In parallel, Cllr Champion has organised a risk assessment to be done on the traffic speeds. While the improvements discussed didn't cover all our concerns, we are very positive that this is Phase One of an ongoing campaign.

Whittington Park Warning

A cyclist was mugged and his bike was stolen by a gang in Whittington Park one evening in October. There have been improvements in security since and park patrols have increased but be vigilant when cycling through, especially in the dark.

Stop Killing Cyclists (SKC) vigil



SKC's vigil at the Town Hall on 9 November, from 5.30-7pm was in memory of Jerome Roussel and a wake-up call to LBI

to do much more for safe cycling. About 50 attended this peaceful and reflective event; police stopped traffic while people lay in the road with their bikes to remember all cyclists who needlessly die because of inadequate cycling provision. The key speaker was someone with life-long effects of a cycling accident in Islington, Victoria Lebec, who lost her leg three years ago. Victoria's clear message was the featured in the Islington Tribune (<http://bit.ly/2hCsuz2>)

Out and about; CI – Lea Valley ride & bravo Camden Cyclists

On 8 October, our colleagues in Camden organised their autumn ride to Lea Valley so at the last minute, we decided to join forces. On the day, only two CI cyclists pitched up but they had a sunny ride with a lovely group from Camden (and Kensington and Brent)! More details on Camden's website <http://bit.ly/2ARfHAW>

Hats off to Camden for their hard work during the Tavistock Place public enquiry. The current excellent cycle lanes will remain until 30 April 2018; the Inspector's report is expected in Feb 2018 and will be published by Camden once it has been 'fact checked'.

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- * Check out Skyrides - <http://www.goskyride.com>
- * Islington cycle club – weekly rides to suit all levels of fitness - <http://islington.cc/>
- * Dr Bike sessions monthly - 4pm to 7pm on the first Wednesday of every month, outside Islington Town Hall on Upper Street, N1 2UD.

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+++ Happy holidays to you all – safe cycling into 2018 +++



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