

Minutes of Cycle Islington

held on Google Meets

8 July 2020

Chaired by Steve Knattress, minutes Eilidh Murray

Attendees: Graham Parks, Martin Worthington, Kate Pothalingam, Stuart Brooking, Adam Hardy, John Hartley, Richenda Walford, Kate Calvert, Caroline Russell, Alison Dines, John Dixon, Ernestas Jegorovas, Franc David, Nick Kocharhook, David Lincoln, Sue Marris, Matthew Hardy, Paul Standeven, Christopher Reeve, Ralph Hitchman, Francis Dixon, John Ackers, David Harrison, Francis M, Giulio Ferrini, Keith MacFarlane, Simon Izod, Talia Hussein, Chris Kenyon, John Chamberlain, Marcus Schordorf, Liz Reiner, Kevin Fallon

1. Apologies: none received
2. The minutes of the previous meeting on 10 June were approved
3. Steve welcomed Cllr Caroline Russell to the meeting; points from Caroline's presentation below:
 - big uptake in cycling and walking due to public transport lack of capacity but potential big increase in travel by car to avoid public transport. End of furlough will mean massive shake-out of London businesses, no quick fix and focus must be on reshaping London.
 - we've seen what our roads could be like during lockdown; changes can be made quickly (eg Euston Road) and this is a big opportunity for campaigners to support space for distancing, popup cycle lanes, LTNs, school streets and reduce our carbon footprint.
 - TfL funding dependent on fares income, almost forced into Section 114 bankruptcy but had a 6-month bailout from the Government being used for Streetspace for pop up cycle lanes, physical distancing and LTNs; London Mayor said that there needs to be a 10-fold increase in cycling and 5-fold in walking.
 - response to reduction of public transport capacity to a sixth of usual must not be more cars so important to emphasise that LTNs will make walking and cycling safer and add resilience for potential second wave of pandemic.
 - Caroline presented the tracker she is keeping of funding:

Streetspace funding breakdown in detail

Streetspace 2020/21 £80m		
DFT / TfL 'bailout' deal £55m	DfT direct £25m	
Borough schemes £45m <i>£25m allocated after 5 weeks by Friday 10th July</i>	Initial £5m -allocated early July <i>From the DfT funding letter sent to London councils</i>	Later £20m – late summer <i>If split on the same basis as the initial funding</i>
TfL road network schemes £10m <i>e.g. Park Lane, Euston Road</i>	Borough delivered schemes £3.3m <i>£100k for most boroughs</i>	Boroughs £13.2m?
	TfL £1.7m	TfL £6.8m?

- LBI has £1.5m including previously committed costs on schemes such as QW10; challenge is how do all the projects fit together as there is no planned network.
 - LBI has already committed £5m to LTNs; they are working with TfL on Clerkenwell Boulevard
 - Questions/answers:
 - what can we as campaigners do : Caroline's view is that we need to continue to push GLA and local councils and remember that what we do for cycling/space for distancing will help climate change too
 - why is Silvertown tunnel going ahead: unfortunately it's a PFI deal and would cost more to cancel than to continue
 - where is the largest car-free city centre in the world map: Caroline will chase this up
 - borough boundaries: ward and borough boundaries don't always align - LTNs have physical boundaries not political ones for example railways, major roads
 - pop-up cycle lanes: must get in LTNs first and civilise our roads; put pop-up cycle lanes on main roads, get in 20 mph and other measures to reduce speeding traffic
 - how can boroughs work together better: need good intra-borough communications and joined-up thinking which is where campaigners can alert their councillors to any issues
 - To sum up, Caroline talked briefly about importance of the '15-minute city', fair road pricing, strict reviews of all planned projects and reduction of carbon
 - Steve thanked Caroline on behalf of all attendees for taking the time to present to us.
4. St Peters LTN: Chris gave an update on the the first LTN rollout in St Peters which was going well; he showed a great photo of a sign saying 'road closed expect cyclists' (used in the Cycle Islington Newsletter from the LCC). There is a good process with TfL/LBI to update Waze maps but Uber taking a bit longer. Expected backlash from cabbies ongoing and a petition has been set up to gather support against the scheme. Some of the roadsigns could be more visible to alert drivers to changes ahead.
 5. St Marys & Barnsbury LTN: Simon reported on a very active group which meets weekly; has set up microsite and has also sent out well over 6,000 leaflets publicising survey, resuting in 230 responses, 90% of which are supportive of the council's plans to reduce traffic.
 6. Canonbury LTN: Talia/Eilidh/David/Simon/Giulio had had a meeting with one of the local councillors - date for rollout in Canonbury East is w/c 27 July. Microsite and survey nearly ready and first group meeting planned for 14 July. Will need help as currently not a large group.
 7. Caroline reminded everyone of a full council meeting on 9 July where all could attend by Zoom.
 8. John from Camden asked about removal of parking from York Way; the Camden side is waiting for wands to put along the new white line, Islington

need to remove some parking to do their side, and it is unclear what exactly is happening.

9. Nick said that all officer liaison meetings were on hold as LBI staff are working flat out on LTN deployment.
10. Giulio and Chris will continue to work with travel planners.
11. Date of next meeting 12 August 2020.