

Haringey Cycling Campaign

13 June 2022

19:00 – 20:30

In person and by Zoom

Minutes

Attending: in person: Ben House (Coordinator), Angela Hobsbaum (Secretary), Grant Gahagan, Michael Poteliakoff (Consultations), Andrew Rendle, Tessa Thomas, Jake Hoban, Kim Roberts.

Carla Francome (guest, from 19.45)

On zoom: Anke Boehme, Katie Rodda (LCC network coordinator), Helen Kearney, Francesca Savage, Jim Bewsher (Communications).

Apologies: Adam Coffman, Diane Beddoes, Sue Secher, Oliver Grundy

1. Minutes of last meeting, 9 May: These were accepted as correct.

Matters arising: Ben has sent letters of congratulations to Peray Ahmet (Leader) and Mike Hakata (Deputy), Haringey Councillors, encouraging Peray to consider merging Highways with Traffic Management in a single portfolio.

There was discussion about the advantages of this; Highways seem resistant to improvements that we support; it was agreed to discuss this with Living Streets to agree a strategy.

ACTION: Ben to discuss with Living Streets.

2. Highgate Festival, Saturday 18 June, 12 – 2. Cycling event organised by Anke Boehme and Monika Teversham. Ben and Michael will provide Dr Bike. Ben agreed to lead a family ride at the end, and asked for others to help marshal.

3. Carla Francome: “Trying to be an Eco-warrior rather than an Eco-worrier” Carla gave an entertaining talk describing her transition from someone with a cobweb-covered bicycle in the shed to someone who cycles daily; she emphasised how, if there were safe cycle lanes, we could all contribute to reducing emissions; “We deserve good streets and we deserve them NOW!”, she said. She was thanked for her enjoyable talk.

4. Discussion of HCC’s priorities: We need to keep our 5 asks, which Labour, Lib Dems, Greens, and Conservatives all agreed to, clearly in mind. It was agreed that our main priority now was to ensure that the three LTNs, due to be introduced soon, were successful. It was agreed that HCC should make contact with members living in these three LTNs: Bounds Green, Bruce Grove and St. Ann’s. [LTNs are now to be called Streets for People.]

ACTION: Ben to send relevant postcodes to LCC with a letter asking for support, and would put an item in the July newsletter.

There was discussion about boundary roads around LTNs. Katie pointed out that they are important routes and deserve improvement; they are bus routes and often local shopping centres; junction treatments are needed so that they are altogether pleasanter and safer. Grant reported that Haringey had not invested in boundary roads.

5. Next HCC ride with Mike Hakata: Mike has been invited but hasn’t yet suggested a date; it was agreed that the route should go to the west of the borough. All new councillors should be invited. In some areas (e.g. Alexandra ward) the ride should be done during rush hour, to experience the problems.

6. Report on feeder ride to Freecycle Ride London: Grant Gahagan reported; he had led about 50 people to join Freecycle at Bank; there had been only a couple of nasty incidents with motorists, and in general motorists had been patient at intersections. The return ride was slower because the young children were more tired. To remember for next time: we needed more publicity about HCC available on the day. Jake reported that he had found it difficult to sign up online; the procedure wasn't clear. Katie said she would report this to LCC.

7. Walking and Cycling Stakeholders Group: there was discussion about the status of these meetings; 'stakeholders' did not necessarily imply partnership. The next meeting will be on 29 June.

ACTION: send any suggestions for items for the agenda to Ben in advance.

8. Next HCC meeting: Monday 11 July, 7 – 8.30, at the All Good Bookshop and on zoom.