

Chester Cycling Campaign

Minutes of Meeting Held on 2nd December 2009 at the Custom House Pub

Present

Craig Steeland, Mary Gillie, David Robinson (chair), Tom Walker, Simon Brown, Peter Williams, Peter Black, Ann Peek, Janet Gregory, Paul Rogers, Maxine Rogers, Andrew Burwood, Bethan Vaughan, Alex Ford, Christine Garner, Malcolm Russell

Apologies

Beth Brockett

Minutes of November 2009 Meeting

These were agreed as being an accurate record of the meeting. Craig to put onto website.

Matters Arising

1) CTC Affiliation

As the Campaign is now affiliated to the CTC, members can now join the CTC at the reduced rate of £12.00 per year, although they will not receive full membership benefits. Any Campaign member interested in joining the CTC should contact the Membership Secretary who will make the necessary arrangements with the CTC.

December Agenda Items

1) **LTP3** – The formal CWAC LTP3 consultation ends on 13 January 2010. This LPT covers a 15 year time period. Christine Garner gave an overview and the background to the local thinking for LTP3. In addition to the postal and online consultation, Consultation Forum meetings are taking place around the county.

Action: (1) A subgroup consisting of **Andrew, Peter** and **Mary** to prepare a 3 to 4 page LTP3 Consultation response on behalf of the Campaign which will be circulated by email for comments before submission to CWAC in time for the January 13th deadline.

2) **A540** – The text of a letter regarding the A540 was approved by the meeting. Meeting agreed that the Campaign will try to press for action by arranging a meeting with relevant CWAC staff. Agreed that if a satisfactory response to the letter was not received from the council, then the Campaign will arrange a public meeting to draw attention to the issue and to press for action.

Action: (1) **Malcolm** to pass letter to **Mary** for sending to Richard Nickson (officer) and Neil Richie (councillor) as Campaign secretary. The letter is to be copied to a number of other individuals for information.

3) **Bikes at Stations** - £35,000. has become available to invest in bike racks at stations. This money is from the £10 million announced by the Government. Cycle England contacted CWAC at short notice regarding a potential expenditure of £155,000. for bike parking at 12 CWAC schools, for bike parking at 7 train stations with rail routes that feed into Chester, and possibly for a Boughton bike crossing at the top of Dee Lane. Three rail companies have been involved in the bike parking at stations initiative: Arriva, Northern, and Merseyrail. The train operators must install the racks with the involvement and approval of Network Rail, which is an added complication. Suggestions were made that Bache, Capenhurst, and Ellesmere Port stations would all be appropriate sites for covered bike stands. Site visits are now being carried out to identify the first 7 stations. Other station locations are being identified for the installation of further racks as money becomes available in the future. The Campaign expressed its willingness to make comments and suggestions regarding the location of racks, even at very short notice.

4) **Cycle Parking Phase 2** – Simon led a discussion regarding progressing and prioritising work on cycle stand provision on 'semi-public' and privately owned locations. CWAC has now mapped the data produced from the Campaign bike parking survey coordinated by Simon. The next step is for CWAC to prioritise the locations. The Public Realm Guide is influencing the style of bike stands to be used, and the proposals have been referred to Chester Renaissance for approval.

Action: (1) **All** members to email Simon with sites for priority bike rack installation within the next week. (2) **Simon** to contact Jill Houlbrook regarding the inclusion of bike parking in the city centre management strategy which may require the involvement of the regulatory powers subcommittee.

5) Cycle to Work Guarantee – CWAC has signed up to the Cycle to Work Guarantee Scheme. CWAC is not yet able to satisfy all five aspects of the scheme, as the provision of cycle maintenance on site is an unresolved issue. CWAC has responded to Lord Adonis's circular regarding the scheme.

6) Army Invitation – The Campaign was invited to send a representative to a public engagement event to be held in a local hotel in the New Year. The meeting agreed to ignore the invitation as it did not seem to have any relevance to our campaigning role.

7) CDT Steering Group Agenda – The next CDT Steering Group Meeting is due to take place on 16 December 2009 from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The meeting suggested the following items for the agenda: Workplace Challenge, maps, Steer Davies report and budgets.

Action: (1) **Malcolm Russell, David Robinson, and Alex Ford** to represent the Campaign at the next CDT Steering Group meeting.

8) AGM Preparation – The Campaign AGM is to take place on Wednesday, 3rd February 2010, at the Custom House pub. Agreed to stick to the usual format rather than to try to turn it into a wider event with guest speakers, etc.

Action: (1) **Alex** to book food for 20 people for the AGM. (2) **Mary** to send out letters to all Campaign members requesting items for the agenda, and including the standard standing AGM agenda items, including the appointing of officers for 2010. (3) **All Campaign officers** are reminded of the need to prepare a report for the AGM.

9) Cyclomania – Items for the next issue of the Cyclomania newsletter should be sent to Mary ASAP.

AOB

1) Hospital News – The Countess of Chester Hospital is to devote £13,000. for the replacement of Grippa stands with Sheffield stands at various locations on the hospital site.

2) Transition Town Meeting at the University of Chester – Mary Gillie is to speak at this event to be held at the university.

3) University of Chester Update – The rumoured ban on students bringing bikes with them to the university is not true. Students in university accommodation are allowed to have bikes. The only restriction imposed by the university is on the storage of bikes which cannot be left in corridors or across fire exits. There are apparently hundreds of bike rack places now at university sites. Students in university accommodation cannot get car park passes for their cars if they live within 10 miles of Chester. However, the university cannot impose any restrictions on students in private accommodation. CWAC has learned that the land earmarked for the Deva Link CDT project is now owned by the University of Chester, who have purchased the land from British Waterways. The project now needs further approval from the university as they have purchased the land for potential use for a student accommodation village and may or may not object to the new, expanded Deva Link project plans.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Campaign will be the AGM which will be held on Wednesday, 3rd February 2010 at the Custom House pub