

CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd October 2019 at the Old Custom House Pub

Present: Stephen Perry (SP), Eileen Morgan (EM), Craig Steeland (CS) (Chair), Monica Robinson (MR), John Violet (JV), Steve Pemberton (SLP), Ashley McCraight (AM), Arnold Wilkes (AW), John Holiday (JH), Peter Williams (PW), Roger Hones (RH), Simon Brown (SB), Cathey Harrington (CH) (Minutes).

In attendance: Sally & Kirk.

Apologies: John Spain (JS), Trevor Jenkins (TJ), Helen Pulford (HP), *post-meeting note:* Ken Thomas (KT).

Sally & Kirk were welcomed to the meeting and round the table introductions were made.

1. Minutes of September 2019 meeting

Item 6 LCWIP said that “They (*meaning* CWAC) will be concentrating on short journeys (eg 10km for cyclists and 2 km for walkers).” It was queried whether this was correct, as at the LCWIP meeting on 30th September, CWAC said the distance would be 5km. It was agreed that the minutes would be amended to read 5km.

With this amendment, the minutes were agreed as a correct record.

Post-meeting note: The DfT LCWIP Technical Guidance for Local Authorities document April 2017 says (point 3.4) “Cycling...typically up to 10km”...for walking..“up to 2km”.

Action: CS to post minutes on website.

2. Matters Arising

A Family Cycle Rides

The social ride on 21st Sept was attended by several members.

It was agreed that the October ride would go ahead. MR will lead.

CS is putting together several traffic-free routes with description of facilities (cafe etc) suitable for family cycle rides, with a view to posting them on the website.

It was noted that “5 mile challenge” rides during National Bike Week, with groups based on school communities, had been successful in the past.

Future project: Sustrans are keen to support us to help them organise rides for natural groupings of people such as schools or community groups. There is a suggestion that CWAC may be able to provide funding if certain conditions are met.

Action: MR to lead October ride.

B Highway changes near the new Aldi on Parkgate Road

No date yet for the photo opportunity.

Action: SB

C A51 Road Scheme between Tarvin and Vicars Cross

RH, MR & AW met with Kristy Littler and David Saville from CWAC on 11th September to present CCC's comments. Engagement from Kristy & David was very positive. They had both walked the entire length of the shared use pavement between Littleton & Tarvin and so recognised the photographs RH showed them of hazards, obstructions & vegetation. They were particularly interested in Eileen's report of difficulties along the route & acknowledged the need to make cycling & walking more inclusive. They took away a copy each of CCC Cycling Matters. CCC is cautiously optimistic.

D. Chester Cathedral Climate Change Exhibition and Conference 11 – 18 May 2020

CH met with Sue Petranca, the Cathedral's Exhibitions Manager, on 26th September to discuss CCC's potential involvement. After discussions with Cathedral management, Sue will contact CH.

E. Cycle Demonstration Town Logo

No news yet on whether we can use the Roman helmet logo.

Action: SB to follow up.

3. Membership Renewals

The only bike shop still giving discount to members is the Bike Factory, so the following additional membership benefits were approved:

- a. Free Bike Safety Checks, to be carried out at members' homes. Checkers will be suitably competent volunteers from CCC: CS, SB, KT, SLP & JH. CS has developed a Chester Cycling Campaign Bike Safety Check form. Serious or dangerous issues requiring the attention of a bike shop, will be advised. This provides an opportunity to meet & engage with members whilst doing the check.
Action: CS to post on website & set up email group for the checkers.
- b. Chester Towbars will give 10% discount on towbars. Thanks were expressed to Eileen for negotiating.
Action: EM to supply CS with wording for the website.

Ideas for future benefits:

- Sessions to help adult cyclists gain confidence, or even learn to ride.
- Bike Buddy scheme to help find good cycle routes to work/wherever.
- Sessions on learning bike maintenance eg brakes, gears.
- Piggyback a few members onto Bren Bikes' "improve your skills" sessions.

4. Active Travel Forum & Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan

It was noted that the ATF is showing promise as a generator of action.

At the recent ATF meeting on 17th September:

- It was noted that £3.5M of the original £4.6M Community Infrastructure Levy money for the Saughton Camp development still remains. It has to be spent on transport & will be spent in accordance with the LCWIP.
- Sean Traynor, Senior Manager, Transport & Infrastructure, CWAC, indicated to PW that he would be willing to circulate plans of proposed road developments to CCC for comment. Also that he would be willing to help with "quick fix", low cost projects.
Action: SP to meet with Sean Traynor
- Jamie Matthews indicated that the towpath improvements between Ince & Ellesmere Port would be done "soon" – he explained this means within 2 years.

At the LCWIP meeting on 30th:

Attendees were asked to prioritise one route in each of the 5 areas of CWAC. This route is the only one which will be analysed in detail.

After discussion, CCC voted for the route from Wrexham Road to be the prioritised route in Chester.

Action: SP to feed back to the LCWIP Working Group.

5. Northgate Development

TJ has sent a list of questions to Clare Huber, CWAC officer in charge of the Northgate development.

Councillor Richard Beacham now understands that CCC is supportive of retaining some cycle parking in the Cycle Hub as well as having cycle parking throughout the development.

6. Climate Emergency

CCC will let all members know about individual submissions to CWAC about the Climate Emergency, by Friday 18th October.

Action: SB to include in the Campaign Bulletin.

A response from CCC will be developed & circulated to CCC activists for comment.

Action: RH & CH.

7. National Cycle Route 71

RH recently reported to CWAC the poor condition of the section of Regional Cycle Route 71 from Platts Lane to the Roman Bridges. CWAC replied that the section of Platts Lane referred to is not yet on the Definitive Map, meaning that it is not yet recorded as a Public Right Of Way or as a Highway maintainable at public expense that would fall under the Council's remit.

Action: RH will take steps to get this section recorded on the Definitive Map.

8. Neuro Therapy Centre, Saltney Cycling Challenge.

It was agreed that CCC would publicise NTC's fundraising challenge 2020. It is NTC's 35th year, & they aim to raise £35K.

Cyclists are invited to choose NTC for their fundraising. Aim is to collectively cover 5897 miles (NTC to Tokyo, location of the Paralympics 2020). Fundraising will be between January & August 25th (start of the Paralympics).

Participants register, raise sponsorship & regularly update the NTC on how far they have travelled & money raised, which will be added to the collective total on a regular basis.

Action: EM to provide wording for the website.

9. Good News – CCC member's success with getting kerbs lowered.

CCC member Nic Siddall successfully requested that a lowered kerb be added during the installation of a new Toucan crossing on A41 at Pearl Lane, Vicar's Cross. Nic was congratulated.

Meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Date of next Meeting Wednesday 6th November 2019 at 7.30pm at the Old Custom House Pub meeting room.