

CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Minutes of Meeting held on 3rd April 2019 at the Old Custom House Pub

Present: Uwe Embshoff (UE), Simon Brown (SB), Peter Williams (PW), John Spain (JS), Cathey Harrington (CH), Eileen Morgan (EM), Ken Thomas (KT), Monica Robinson (MR) (Minutes), Trevor Jenkins (TJ) (Chair), John Violet (JV), Steve Pemberton (SLP), Ashley McCraight (AM), John Holiday (JH), Roger Hones (RH), Paul Beaudoin (PB)

Apologies: Sue Steeland, Craig Steeland, Helen Pulford, Stephen Perry, Catherine Green, Arnold Wilkes, Jayne Rogers

Roger Hones was welcomed to the meeting and round the table introductions were made.

1. Minutes of March 2019 meeting:

Agreed as a correct record subject to date change.

Action: CS to post minutes on website (CS)

2. Matters Arising:

- **Letter of the Month** – KT agreed he would write the next letter of the month.
- **Fire Service Presentation** – KT confirmed the details - 16th April at 6.30 pm at the Tennis Club on School Lane, Mickle Trafford. Those who had been to the Lymm event confirmed how worthwhile it was. However, the Fire Service will only run the event if there is a reasonable attendance. SB agreed to put the details on the Campaign's Twitter and Facebook, SLP will circulate the CNC group, and other suggestions were to approach Cheshire Live and Dee106.
Action: All to consider signing up for the course.
- **Internal PR** – SB explained that there had been some teething problems with the new Mail Poet plug in but CS had now resolved them. He confirmed the planned Bulletin would be sent out shortly.
Action: SB to finalise and circulate Bulletin.
- **Living Streets** – A wide ranging discussion took place following on from last month's meeting trying to establish how closely the Campaign should cooperate with other interested groups in contributing towards the LCWIP. There was no enthusiasm at the meeting for CCC to incorporate walking into CCC activities, CH making it clear we are cycling group only, but she did suggest that two youth activist groups – school students concerned about Climate Change and the Youth Parliament could be approached and signposted to the Active Travel Forum. SB and SLP agreed to make contact and try to get people together.

EM confirmed that she was very interested in publicising bicycles and trikes as mobility aids. People who can't walk far could be alerted to the possibility of taking up cycling. SB suggested further contact with Dial House would also be worth following up. AM felt that considerable information already exists via the questionnaires used for drawing up Local Plans e.g. in Frodsham the second highest request was for safer infrastructure for pedestrians and cyclists. It was agreed that a lot of information probably exists but is not necessarily fed back to the relevant people within CWaC.

Action: - SB will put out information on our Facebook, Twitter and Transition Chester. SLP agreed to send a copy of the CNC Facebook post to SB for information.

3. **Active Travel Forum** – TJ opened the report back from the last ATF meeting and both he and SLP felt that we need to manage our representation on the group more carefully as it had been commented that cycling appeared to dominate as well as being Chester centric. The Campaign should take an active stance at the Forum and support what they are trying to achieve. All agreed that 1 or 2 members be nominated to represent the Campaign at the ATF to provide clear points of contact for all involved. Hopefully this can be resolved at our May meeting in time for the ATF set for 5 June.

The power point presentation by PW and his colleague was very powerful and clearly demonstrated the need for safety improvements on the A540. Those who attended felt it had been very good and won the argument. CWaC officer has agreed to cost out the upgrade to the footway along the A540 to enable cyclists to reach safer routes further on from the Two Mills crossroads.

It was also agreed that the LCWIP would eventually be separated off from the ATF with different interest groups being involved. EM, JV, SLP and PW confirmed that they had offered to join the task and finish group and all, except PW had heard back from the administrator with further information. Agreed that SP be asked to represent the Campaign on this sub group as well as EM highlighting disability issues, JV the wider CWaC area on behalf of CyclingUK, SLP the North Cheshire area and PW Ellesmere Port and Neston.

Action: - Confirm Campaign reps to ATF at May meeting.

4. **Northgate Phase 1** – All were encouraged to contribute to the consultation regarding Phase 1 of the redevelopment of the Northgate site. TJ offered to distribute the comments he made on behalf of the Campaign in 2016 for information and amendment by individuals as appropriate (TJ pointed out that the scheme was different at that stage with greater emphasis on retail). SB was congratulated on his response to the consultation which had been circulated to all.

Action: - As many as possible to visit the exhibition and respond to the consultation.

5. **Too Close for Comfort scheme** – AM had been in contact with Cheshire Police about the dangers of drivers passing too close to cyclists. He was disappointed with their response that the force does not operate this scheme. CH advised that she had attended a meeting with the PCC some time ago to discuss road safety matters. AM was advised to speak to their local PCSO and request speed tests as a first step and then to raise the close passing as another important safety issue.

6. **Hoole Bridge** - Chester's MP Chris Matheson is lending his support to moves to improve the well known danger of Hoole Bridge near Chester Railway Station. He is hoping to revisit plans for the electrification of the railway line towards North Wales and this might require the rebuilding of Hoole Bridge. SB agreed to post a supportive comment on behalf of CCC on Chris Matheson's Facebook page.

7. **Any Other Business** – PW has noticed that following resurfacing of the Hinderton Rd/A540 junction previous Advanced Stop Lines have not been reinstated. It was hoped that Highways will re-visit and paint in the lines. (*Post meeting note – might be worth putting on CWaC website under Highways problems*).

TJ confirmed that he has spoken to Kristy Littler since our last meeting and she confirmed that CWaC would only be eligible for the heritage part of the 'Future High Street Fund' announced by the Government. She also admitted that in the future it is likely that the Council will have to look at road space allocation – something the Campaign would strongly support.

Date of next Meeting Wednesday 1st May 2019 at 7.30pm at the Old Custom House Pub meeting room.