

CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd March 2022

Present at the meeting: Craig Steeland (CS) (Chairperson), Stephen Perry (SP), Ian Slater (IS) (Minutes)

Present via Zoom Simon Brown (SB), Peter Williams (PW), Steve Pemberton (SLP), Monica Robinson (MR), Ashley McCraight (AMc), Arnold Wilkes (AW), Howard Jennings (HJ), Anna Manning (AM), Pierre Walthery (PW),

Apologies:, John Violet (JV), Ken Thomas (KT), Roger Hones (RH), Eileen Morgan (EM), Cathey Harrington (CH) and Nic Siddle (NS)

1. Matters Arising.

1.1. The earlier proposal to purchase hardware to improve the overall experience during hybrid/remote meetings, especially for those not present in the meeting room. CS has researched this and received comments back from members. The best approach seems to be to buy a piece of LOGITECH hardware from Amazon and to trial it, on the understanding that it could be sent back for a refund within 30 days.

Whilst it was agreed that this particular meeting went better than some, we had the advantage of using CS's powerful laptop and there were only 3 people physically in the meeting room, which makes satisfactory audio and visual coverage easier. With this in mind, it was agreed to follow-up on the purchase of the new hardware, subject to us following the newly-agreed approach to spending funds >£250.

POST MEETING NOTE: The Logitech equipment costs approx.. £600.

1.2. Design of portable displays for future events. **ACTION:** SB and AH. **Action remains.**

1.3. Spacehive proposals. IS has canvassed the Activists and is now proceeding with a proposal for funding a coffee machine on a trike in support of The Bren Project's wider ambition to operate a café at the Live Scene venue. Other proposals e.g. e-bike hire, secure parking for cycles and completion of the 'missing link' at the River Dee/The Kop park have been 'parked' after some further consideration. The proposal to install lighting on the Greenway involved too many agencies and was likely to be too expensive and time-consuming for this funding round. Likewise, the e-bike hire scheme (probably piggybacking on a broader scheme) is not self-contained enough for timely development.

1.4. Bowling Court Green arrangements. Actioned successfully by CS and TJ.

1.5. Physical Lending Library has been launched (by IS) as a member-benefit but there have been no loans yet. Thanks again to those members who have donated/lent books.

1.6. 'Race to the City Centre' – SB has passed relevant info to AE. **Action remains** for AE to develop a proposal for later in the year.

1.7. AMc wrote a supportive letter to the new Police and Crime Commissioner on behalf of Cheshire North Cycling.

2. Planning Report (NS). See NS's pre-meeting [report](#).

- NS deserves thanks for his stalwart efforts, especially in the E.Port area in connection with the various housing developments and guiding them to make intelligent use of existing infrastructure. SP will meet with NS and representatives of CWAC (David Savill and Rob Charnley) to discuss further.

3. Membership Secretary Update (IS).

A slow month. No new members apart from an invitation to Bartlett's Solicitors to nominate an employee to receive a free Corporate membership in thanks for their continued support.

4. Dates for your diary.

Whilst not yet completely firmed-up, we will have an opportunity to be present at The Big Green Week Festival on 24th September and to celebrate the CWAC ACTIVE TRAVEL FESTIVAL on 25th September. The intended audience for the Active Travel Festival is those people who

would not normally consider cycling into Chester. The concept is to create fun events. (It was discussed that CWAC and the business community in Chester are NOT yet ready to support car-free days in 2022.)

ACTION: SP to come with some firmer recommendations at the next meeting.

5. Review of Constitution and Financial Approvals.

There was a lively discussion about the improvements to the Constitution and the suggested enhanced controls over expenditure of Campaign funds exceeding £250 as agreed at the AGM. It was agreed that CS, IS, MR and CH will work together on coming up with detailed proposals that are clear, consistent and fit-for-purpose for the Campaign with its current level of activity and member engagement.

6. Representation at the Sustainability Forum.

Sue Steeland has stepped down from this role. AH previously expressed an interest in taking on the role and PW is also interested.

ACTION: CS will contact AH to see if he is still willing to take on the role.

7. CWAC's invitation to join their consultation programme. (AMc leads)

AMc has been asked whether CCC want to be involved with the CWAC Consultation programme. The conclusion is that we do. AMc to confirm with CWAC. It was suggested that Tom Smith (Publicity Officer) is the ideal conduit for our participation.

8. SP's role title.

It was agreed that SP's role title should be 'Local Authority Liaison Officer', in addition to his role as Secretary.

9. Feedback on the Integrated Sustainable Transport Task team (ISTT).

SP reported that Rose McArthur is still busy shaping her CWAC team and has many distractions at present. She recognises that a lot of people were involved with the STTF and some of those people now find themselves sidelined, which has caused some disillusionment. SP is trying to understand his role in the revamped team. Notwithstanding this, the contribution of named CCC individuals is appreciated. The next meeting of the ISTT is 15th March. Attendance can be arranged by requesting access via email directly to Rose McArthur's secretary.

10. S106 funding allocation – feedback from Huntington Parish Council.

Members of Huntington PC met with Rose McArthur on 4th February in Huntington. The key points are that further allocation and spending of S106 funds originating from the Saughton Camp project are suspended. There will be a new data gathering exercise and subsequent consultation before ideas are (again) reviewed and prioritised. Seems that they will try to understand issues affecting active travel uptake and allocate funds to solve these issues with input from residents and the relevant councillors.

Whilst it's a slow process, Rose McArthur has (again) stated her willingness to listen and her desire for solutions to be data-led.

<https://huntingtonparishcouncil.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Meet-with-Rose-McArthur-notes-Feb-2022.pdf>

11. AOB.

11.1. Future meetings will continue to take place both at Bowling Green Court and via Zoom until further notice.

11.2. IS asked whether we should operate a Facebook Group rather than just a Facebook page. The former invites more discussion and demands more upkeep. The latter is more

one-way in terms of engagement. IS will check with AE as he has real-world experience having run a FB group for a couple of years.

11.3. We have support from Bren Bikes to run FOUR introductory bike maintenance classes this year. Two will be offered as MIXED and two will be for WOMEN ONLY. They will take place on the first Wednesday of each month, starting in May.

11.4. JV has identified potential improvements to the proposed Rail/Bike Family Ride in the area of Green Bank, Whitegate and Cuddington. It was agreed that PW, SB, SLP and IS will review and then test the ride before discussing with Steve Forde of Mid Cheshire Community Rail partnership.

Meeting closed at 21:30

Next Meeting: Wed 6th April at 7-30pm at Bowling Green Court (Members can also join via Zoom).