

CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 1st June 2022

Present: Ian Slater (IS) (Chair), Stephen Perry (SP) (Secretary), Craig Steeland (CS) Maddy Moyle (MM), Peter Williams (PW), Nic Siddle (NS), Monica Robinson (MR), Julia Bennett (JB), Trevor Jenkins (TJ), Howard Jennings (HJ), Simon Brown (SB), Anna Manning (AM),

Present via Zoom: Steve Pemberton (SLP) Roger Hones (RH), John Holiday (JH) Cathey Harrington (CH), Arnold Wilkes (AW), Tom Smith (TS)

Apologies: Ken Thomas (KT), Ashley McCraight (AMc), John Violet (JV), Eileen Morgan (EM), Andy Evans (AE)

1. **Minutes of the last meeting held on 6th May** The meeting minutes were approved and MR was thanked for her work in preparing these.
2. **Matters Arising:**
 - No feedback from Andy Evans on Speedbot.
 - It was assumed that letter of month was not written by KT
 - An Extraordinary General Meeting will be held before the July meeting to discuss, vote and hopefully to agree our revised Constitution
 - SB met with Andy Hammill reference creating a new portable display (cost £100-1200). Still in progress.
 - All other actions completed
3. **Change of banking arrangements.** TJ outlined the current banking arrangements; we have two accounts, a Santander no cost current account into which we can pay by cash and cheques, but we can only pay out by cheque, using 2 signatories. The other accounts is a PayPal account which incurs small charges and which is used mainly by members for subscription renewals and for paying expenses incurred (e.g. by CS for his webmaster costs). Comments were made in an independent examination of our last year's accounts concerning the audit trail on the re payment of personal expenses (e.g. those by CS and on our Zoom account payments via SB's wife Molly). JB explained that she would not be willing to act as CCC Treasurer unless these issues were addressed and that any future independent examination of our account is conducted by a non CCC member. JB and TJ proposed the future use on a Lloyds Bank account that would allow electronic bank transfers, based on two electronic signatures. However we will still need to address the issue of personal payment being used to purchase CCC products or services, maybe with use of an account debit card. It was agreed that TJ, JB, SB and CS would need to discuss this further. RH noted that his use of a Lloyds Bank Business account for a local charity does offer a Credit Card. **Action TJ, JB, CS and SB**
4. **Planning Review.** NS had already distributed a comprehensive planning report but added extra comments on his frustration at a total lack of support from CW&C planning in respect of his concerns about a steady erosion of residential cycle parking spaces due to the number of garage conversions into living space. NS asked for feedback from the meeting on how much harder to push this point. Feedback from the team suggested that we may have more important planning matters to address, as this did not appear to be seen as a priority by planning nor by the householder. However when NS suggested that around 500 such applications have been made in the recent past it was agreed that he should discuss the matter with Cllr Richard Beacham and try to get a senior level meeting with planning to emphasise the scale of this issue and also to try to use this as an opportunity to press the need to more on-street parking facilities for cycles. **Action NS**

NS also expressed his ongoing concerns with the lack of commitment from CW&C planning to address development issues along North Road in Ellesmere Port, in particular in respect of the need

to conserve old railway line routes as future Active Travel routes. A particular concern was that two applications (20/04645/FUL & 20/04850/FUL) which had appeared on the CWaC website as 'approved' subject to the conditions included the Officer's reports in May, which had included specific remarks about the preservation of the old railway line as a transport corridor. The status of both applications had now reverted to "awaiting decision" and the Officer's reports have disappeared from the website. NS has messaged the officer concerned but has not had a response as yet. The real concern here is that Peel (who own the track bed) have submitted a request to remove the condition protecting this corridor for another site (application 22/00090/S73). If any of these go through without a preservation condition, our ambitions for a North Road Corridor Cycle route will be fatally damaged.

It was agreed that we really need to meet with senior personnel in Peel Holdings and with Catherine Walker (CW&C - Head of Economic Growth). It was agreed that NS should raise this matter with Cllr Richard Beacham. **Action NS**

5. **A51.** RH had already submitted his report on this matter, and highlighted two major concerns: the lack of progress with the central reservation needed near the junction with Wicker Lane and verge encroachment along the SUP. SP mentioned the recently planned meeting with Highways in w/c 27th June at which the central reservation matter needs to be raised. Cllr Richard Beacham has given RH support in trying to elevate the SUP issue but RH is not convinced that it was seen as a priority. It is likely that the clearance of the SUP is a StreetScene responsibility and it was agreed to try to get a meeting with a senior StreetScene manager, maybe via a CW&C Locality Officer, not only to raise this specific matter but also to discuss the service standards that StreetScene work to. **Action SP and RH**
6. **CW&C Liaison** SP had already submitted a written report, but highlighted some more recent developments as follows.
 - **ATfest** is still not confirmed as an event for 2023 but SP is managing a workshop next week with some members of the ISTT Core Team, some Councillors and some CW&C Officers to try to establish whether a funding route and an organisation model can be agreed to enable this event to happen. ATfest will not be present at the Green Expo in June and thus it was agreed that CCC will also not be represented. It is hoped that a go/no go decision on ATfest 2023 will be made at the July ISTT meeting
 - **Grosvenor Bridge**, no workshop date has yet been confirmed but it hoped that CCC can influence discussion so that a longer term solution for this route can addressed as well as the current 20mph issue
 - **'Surfacing, surface treatment and footway maintenance programmes' and 'CCC meeting with CW&C Network Stewards and Highways Inspectors'** it has been agreed that SP plus one or two other CCC members will meet with the Highways Team on Wednesday 29th June. Final details have still to be confirmed but it was agreed that RH and NS will attend with SP if possible. **Action SP**
 - **ISTT meeting** minutes and CW&C presentation have been circulated to the CCC team
 - **Cycling Strategy** it was agreed that we should push CW&C to produce an updated Cycling Strategy, and insist that this is required in addition to the current LCWIP. CH agreed to contact CW&C to demonstrate that the current strategy is available in their website and is very much in need of revision. SP will discuss with SLP and JV how best to address this with CW&C **Action SP/SLP/JV and CH**
7. **Surfaces and LCWIP review** SLP asked that the meeting endorse his approach to Rose McArthur to request that an ISTT working group is set up to review 'Surfaces' for the active traveller and that

the LCWIP review engages with a wider cross-section of active travel community. This proposal was supported and will be progressed. **Action SP/SLP/JV**

8. **Family Bike Ride** in cycle week on 12th June. IS is taking the lead in organising this event starting at the Northgate Arena at 10.30 and going to the Zoo and back. IS has completed the necessary Risk Assessment and has enough CCC support to offer rides to 2 groups of 20. A Press Release will be issued with support from TS and bookings will be made via Bookwhen, to be set up by Craig. **Action IS,TS and CS**
9. **Bike Maintenance** IS reported that 14 out of 19 signed up attended the June session and that next event is planned for 6th July, with another event in August
10. **2022 Objectives** - it was agreed that we will appoint 'Objective champions' at our next meeting. Members are invited to put their names forward to champion each of our annual objective, with support from others as required. **Action All**
11. **A-frames in Wales** – and access to Greenway in Saughall – HJ reported that he had recently made a very useful and effective contact with a member of the Welsh Assembly who had offered to help address the A-frame issues on the river path and the access gate to the Greenway from Sealand Road. To progress these matters HJ needs to find a Welsh resident with mobility issues to help promote the changes required. **Action HJ to discuss with EM**
12. **Sound and videos for our hybrid Zoom meetings** – CS asked for feedback from the meeting on their experience of using the new Logitech equipment. There were mixed views but in summary the feeling was that the quality of sound and video was not as good as had been hoped for, although the sound quality had been improved by using the Logitech box as a stand! It was therefore decided to send the current equipment back and try with a table top microphone and then make a final assessment. All present thanked CS very much for his extensive research and patience in this matter. **Action CS**
13. **Chair** for July meeting will be IS and minute taker has yet to be agreed

Post meeting note: Steve Pemberton has kindly agreed to take the minutes at the July meeting, and the forward plan is as follows:

July.	Ian	Steve
August	Stephen	Craig
September	Simon	Ian
October	John V	Cathey
November	Cathey	Ian
December	Ian	Stephen

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 6th July at 19.30 at Bowling Green Court
(Members can also join via Zoom)**