

Minutes of ICAG meeting 14th December 2011 Islington Town Hall, Upper Street N1 7.30pm-9.30pm

Present: Chris Ashby, John Ackers, Jacques-Olivier Gaudron, Caroline Russell, Keith Macfarlane, Stephen Taylor, Alison Dines, Adrian Williams, Paul Standeven, Robert Harston

Apologies: James Candlin

Matters arising from meeting on 9th November

Meeting with Borough Commander

Due to take place today, this had been cancelled this morning and rescheduled for 19th January which Adrian and Keith could both attend.

Agenda

Madras Place

There had been several comments on the ICAG e-group saying that the alterations to this crossing did not make it safe. Paul had already responded saying it was much better than it was and Caroline said that the nearby bike shop and local parents had told her it was a great improvement as the forward red light stopped traffic accelerating, although sometimes the cycle crossing was blocked. At night the green cycle crossing could not be seen. Those involved felt that the joint working with TfL and Islington Council had been successful and a photo shoot would be arranged. John was concerned that the history relating to why various decisions had been made was not readily available and it was agreed in future that key decisions on work like this would be logged on the website.

20mph on principal roads campaign

Adrian had written about Upper Street and would send it to John. Jacques-Olivier had sent an e-mail to his local councillors about Hillmarton Road.

Paul Convery, Executive Member for Planning, Regeneration and Transport at the Council, supported 20mph but no specific funding had been committed, meaning that councillors need to ensure money is allocated in their local ward improvement plan. Many of the principal roads run through several wards so it is important that councillors work together but as there are no longer the four area committees in the borough this may be harder to achieve. John did not want to invest a lot of time in this unless it had support of ICAG members and would e-mail the e-group about it.

LCC "Go Dutch" mayoral campaign

John had been to the LCC workshop on this which was well attended with 35 people present. LCC wants to collect 100,000 signatures in support of this

campaign (the number needed for a debate in the House of Commons) and hopes a group like ICAG could collect 10,000 signatures. We collected 700 signatures in a few hours at the Colebrook Row crossing for the 'No more lethal lorries' campaign but "Go Dutch" requires some explanation. However Caroline pointed out that it would appeal to people other than just current cyclists, such as parents who would like their children to cycle further or faith groups concerned about the environment. Stephen was concerned that the campaign was too aspirational and felt there should be measurable outcomes but LCC is planning to concentrate on a few streets (e.g. Tottenham Court Road) and produce images of how they would be improved. For ICAG it does tie in with the local 20mph campaign, which could be continued in the background. Both online and hard copy petitions were needed and it would be discussed again at the next meeting.

LCC borough group meetings

Currently LCC holds quarterly meetings for the borough groups to meet and discuss what LCC and the borough groups are doing. Usually the co-ordinator attends, although Alison has not been to many over the last two years. LCC has asked how they can be improved and it has been suggested they occur more frequently, possibly monthly, although bi-monthly seems more reasonable. Several people said they would be interested in attending if they could, depending on the agenda.

Kings Cross area works

James had e-mailed Alison to say he was concerned that the Kings Cross area works are pushing cyclists onto the main roads with no alternatives without huge detours on standard routes. There was no simple solution given the development in the area but Keith said there is a new feature on the TfL website to report problems www.tfl.gov/roadworks. Recent road works in Royal College Street and Tooley Street had been done so cycle lanes were kept open and this should be encouraged as best practise.

Caroline asked if ICAG was doing anything to get the junction at which the student Deep Lee had been killed made safer. At a public meeting Deep Lee's boyfriend had been told by TfL that reducing traffic to a single lane prior to the junction would cause unacceptable queuing for vehicles. Alison said ICAG had not done anything specific but had been in touch with Camden Cyclists and hoped to work jointly with them.

ICAG social media

John felt ICAG should move its discussions off e-lists and into more public forums. ICAG's Facebook had only 14 members and Twitter was only used intermittently, although Caroline said it was useful to use Twitter # tags to engage

with other related issues. It was agreed to discuss this again at the next meeting and John said he would forward the links to the blogs he follows to anyone interested; they are <http://ibikelondon.blogspot.com/> and <http://cyclelondoncity.blogspot.com/>

Any other business

A consultation on changes at Exmouth Market had been received and Keith said he would reply on behalf of ICAG.

The trial road layout at the Rock Street crossing of Seven Sisters Road at Finsbury Park station would start on in January with results available in March.

Caroline asked about using the ICAG helmet camera and will collect it from Stephen.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th January 2012 at 7.30-9.30pm in the Town Hall, Upper Street N1.