

Minutes of ICAG meeting on Wed 13th July 2011 at 7.30-9.30pm at the Town Hall, Upper Street, N1.

Present:

Stephen Taylor, Chris Gibbons, Alison Dines, Leo Chapman, Chris Ashby, Adrian Williams, John Ackers, Keith Macfarlane, Robert Harston, Jon Parker

Apologies:

James Gleadow, Jonathan Edwards, Chris Kenyon, Jacques-Olivier Gaudron

Matters arising from ICAG meeting on 8th June.

Bike Week feedback:

ICAG priorities should inform the decision on which events to attend (i.e. promoting ICAG, getting new LCC members, encouraging cycling, etc). Wray Crescent Festival as an enjoyable local festival but needed more stalls & the children whose bikes were fixed are unlikely to join ICAG or LCC! At the Farmer's Market there were more people who belonged to the LCC/ICAG or were likely to join but the stall at the N1 Centre (not done this year) was visited by a greater number & variety of people. As the Farmer's Market is a regular event we should consider the possibility of having a stall at another time other than just during Bike Week.

Danbury Street bypass of canal:

No one present had ridden this, although Chris K had sent an e-mail saying the thought the council couldn't do more to be less helpful in and around the Packington estate. It was felt that cyclists used the canal towpath because it was scenic & an exciting place to ride along & it would be difficult to persuade them to use an alternative route, even if it was promoted simply as a means of increasing capacity along the canal route.

Alison to e-mail ICAG list for their views & try & arrange a ride along Danbury Street (& spell it correctly).

Agenda:

1. Signatories of ICAG bank account

Following the election of Robert Harston as ICAG treasurer at the AGM in May it was agreed that he should replace Anja Beinroth as a signatory of the ICAG bank account. The three other signatories remain as before Alison Dines, John Ackers and Chris Ashby and they agreed to start to use the account on-line. Alison to send forms to bank.

2. Cycle Systems permanent designation of pitch at City Rd/Goswell Rd

Cycle Systems Ltd had contacted Alison to ask for a reference from ICAG to support their application to the council to make their Dr Bike pitch permanent. John was concerned about endorsing the location although it was agreed that ICAG did support initiatives like this around the borough.

Alison to reply to Cycle Systems.

3. Agewell rides

Agewell courses for the over 50s have been arranged around London & courses (which one of the council staff would be running) were taking place in Camden. LCC had asked local groups to arrange rides for people on the course to encourage them to continue cycling. Stephen & Chris expressed an interest & would liaise with each other & contact the new cycling officer at LBI.

4. Bike buddying

John felt it would be good for ICAG to offer this & to have something about it on the ICAG website. Stephen agreed that his contact details would be on the website.

5. ICAG campaigning priorities

ICAG is involved in a number of campaigns & Stephen had made a list of them, including their objectives & current status, so they could be discussed & prioritised by those present. The meeting thanked Stephen for producing the list and there was a general discussion about philosophical vs achievable targets & how campaigns with other groups might be more likely to succeed. A vote on which campaign each person felt was most important resulted in the following ranking of the list:

20mph
Cycle parking
Gyratories
Permeability
Bunhill Row
Cycle Superhighway
Road Danger Reduction

Stephen agreed to do a survey using Survey Monkey to get views of members on the ICAG e-group & publicise it in the newsletter. Future issues that arose could be compared to this list of priorities & assess the potential ICAG involvement.

6. Cycle parking at Highbury Corner

Highbury East councillor Terry Stacey (Lib Dem) had suggested to Alison that some cycle stands at Highbury Grange, which he felt were hardly ever used, could be moved to Highbury Corner. It was thought that the stands might have been sited there as part of the new Arsenal stadium development and that it was not really cost effective to move cycle stands. Terry proposed a site visit and John felt a councillor officer should also attend. Alison to contact Terry with possible dates, John, ?Keith & ?Stephen may also attend.

Any other business (first item discussed at the beginning of the meeting)

1. Leo said that £1.3m was to be spent on enhancing Moor Lane & given it is a border street between Islington & the City of London he felt some of that money should be spent on work to improving the Islington part of the immediate area. He tabled the following resolution which was seconded by Stephen Taylor & adopted unanimously:

The Islington Cyclists' Action Group calls on Islington Council to liaise with the City of London Corporation in order to have the part of Moor Lane that is a border street (maintained by Islington) included in the City's £1,350,000 Moor Lane Enhancement Scheme. Additionally, the dangerous diagonal crossing from Moor lane to Bunhill Row should be included in order to protect City workers cycling to and from Islington.

The meeting thanked Leo for his work on this.

2. Adrian had meet the borough's new cycling officer, David Shannon, at a cyclist safety event in Highbury Fields. Alison to liaise with David about attending the September ICAG meeting.

3. As more cycle parking has been installed by TfL along the Holloway Road Stephen thought it would be worth seeing how it compared to what ICAG had requested 18 months ago. Stephen to find ICAG list of cycle parking proposals & date for a re-survey to be arranged at the next ICAG meeting.

4. Jon P suggested more cross border working with our neighbouring LCC borough groups; all agreed but also felt this already happened reasonably well.

5. Keith said the newsletter was expensive to insert in the LC magazine so LCC may have to stop borough groups using this format. If so we must think about alternative methods of communication.

6. John asked what had happened to Islington's draft Local Implementation Plan (LIP) which we were supposed to be commenting on. Alison had been told at the LBI Transport Liaison Group meeting that consultation would start on 20th July & that Joost would be in touch but she hadn't heard from him.

7. Adrian said the guard railing was being removed around the old Thameslink station at King's Cross & wondered if adequate cycle parking would be installed there. John to check with TfL & ask Camden LCC if they'd been consulted.

Date of next meeting: Wed 10th August 7.30-9.30pm at the Town Hall, Upper Street N1