

Minutes of ICAG meeting 9th November 2011 Islington Town Hall, Upper Street N1 7.30pm-9.30pm

Present:

John Ackers, Jacques-Olivier Gaudron, Jon Parker, Adam Cook, Keith Macfarlane, Stephen Taylor, Alison Dines, Adrian Williams

Apologies:

Olaf Storbeck, Teri Griffith, Robert Harston, Chris Ashby, Chris Kenyon, Chris Gibbons

Matters arising from ICAG meeting on 12th October

20mph campaign: Jon P to e-mail Jacques-Olivier's the link to a presentation on the TfL website about synchronising traffic lights he'd found.
Death of Colin Hawkes: Adrian had spoken to someone at the NSPCC where Colin worked who confirmed the cause of death was a heart attack. Adrian wanted to find out if TfL had it recorded as a road traffic death as it should not be included in statistics or quoted as one in the local press.

Agenda

ICAG campaigning priorities

Stephen had collated the votes from the ICAG website on what members campaigning priorities were. 94 votes had been cast and those receiving the most votes were: removing gyratories, increasing permeability, 20mph on principal roads and the cycle superhighway.

It was agreed that several campaigns could be pursued concurrently as long as they were regularly reviewed with reports written,. If significant problems were identified (i.e. lack of funding or lack of police enforcement) these should be documented and the campaign put on hold until they were resolved. Stephen was concerned that the group's campaigning kept losing momentum and it was agreed to continue with the 20mph campaign and approach the Better Archway Forum to work with them at getting rid of the gyratory there. The actions agreed would be reviewed at the March meeting:

Jacques-Olivier and Keith to contact Better Archway Forum and find out current situation and put link to their petition on ICAG website

As per October meeting paragraphs to be written about why roads should be 20mph for e-mail templates:

John - Highbury Grove, Alison - Blackstock Road, Stephen - Seven Sisters, David - Junction Road, Adrian - Upper Street and Jacques-Olivier Hillmarton Road

John would set up a Google document for everyone to add to and e-mail the ICAG group with an example paragraph asking for more volunteers.

Cyclists' safety at King's Cross

Alison had e-mailed Camden Cyclists offering ICAG support for any campaigning work they're doing. The meeting thanked Olaf (in his absence) for getting ICAG's floral tribute when the white bike to the memory of Deep Lee had been installed. Adam raised the Camden/Islington redevelopment of the Royal Mail Mount Pleasant site. The planning brief is under consultation and Keith agreed to respond on behalf of ICAG and ask for the encouragement of active travel and facilities for cyclists to be included in the plans.

Canal towpath

The meeting with ICAG members and British Waterways on 25th October was well attended and there were useful discussions with British Waterways who confirmed they will not ban cycling from the towpath but their statute gives pedestrians priority. Alison and Chris Kenyon attended a meeting with other groups (Living Streets, Hanover School, Friends of Regent Canal) and BW asked for comments on a draft letter about the current situation on the towpath and what it was planning. Alison had circulated it to those ICAG members attending the canal meeting, replied with some comments and had agreed that ICAG would be a signatory.

ICAG response to draft Transport Strategy

The meeting thanked John, Jon and Alison for submitting the ICAG response and sending a letter to the Islington Tribune. John was concerned that the targets for increasing cycling in Islington were minimal and agreed with Tom Bogdanovic, who represents CTC locally, that this is a serious issue as capacity for cycling infrastructure (i.e. cycle parking) will not increase at the rate needed. Islington seemed to have lost the positive direction it had for green travel and more sympathetic councillors needed to be identified. ICAG members should be encouraged to start a letter writing campaign to the local press highlighting the lack of cycle parking at workplaces, public transport hubs etc. Adam said that the Islington Core Strategy, adopted in February 2011, had included a number of points he had submitted on behalf of ICAG and referred to the borough's Cycle Action Plan. He felt cross referencing to parts of these documents could be helpful when pursuing ICAG aims. Adam had received notification of consultation on Development Management Policies (guidelines for making decisions on planning applications) was taking place and he would draft and circulate a response on behalf of ICAG.

Meeting with the Police Borough Commander 14th Dec 5pm

Adrian was able to go to this meeting and probably Keith, although it was suggested that James Gleadow should also be asked. Issues to be raised would be: enforcement of 20mph (with the suggestion of using Drayton Park as a street which would benefit from a trial), cycle theft, even handed enforcement of traffic laws (cars in ASLs vs cyclists jumping red lights) and cyclists having lights. Given the increasing numbers of police on bicycles Stephen wondered what training they received.

Adrian would attend the next Community Safety Board on 17th November and wanted to raise the difficulty of getting information about fatal accidents involving cyclists.

Joint Camden/Islington public Air Quality summit: Nov 21, 2011 5:30pm

Camden Cyclists were having a stand at this but only Adrian could attend and possibly Stephen.

LCC AGM 16th Nov from 5.30pm

A reminder this was being held.

Any other business

Cycle ride for children: Keith and Stephen had contacted Gio who had sent an e-mail to find out if families were interested in this taking place and it would be featured in the ICAG newsletter.

Gillespie Park quiz night 11th November: Stephen had booked a table and anyone was invited to join him.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14th December 7.30-9.30pm at the Town Hall, Upper Street N1.