

Minutes of the ICAG meeting Wed 11th March 2015 at the Town Hall, Upper Street N1 at 7.30-9.30pm

Present: Alison Dines, Simon Izod, Keith Macfarlane, John Ackers, Liz Reiner, Tom Harrison, Andrea Casalotti, Alex Santacreu, Anita Frizzarin, David Lincoln, Adrian Williams, Tabitha Tanqueray, Jonathan Edwards

Apologies

Nick Kocharhook, Eilidh Murray

Matters arising
Clerkenwell Road

Tom, Tabitha, Nick and Andrea had met and agreed the ICAG position on Clerkenwell Road. It would be forwarded to the ICAG engineering e-group (icag-eng) for comment and discussed with the Islington traffic planners.

Highbury Corner

Several ICAG members had met Lorraine Johnson, the project sponsor for the bridge replacement at Highbury Corner last month and discussed the concerns about the temporary traffic layout whilst the bridge is being replaced. Nick had sketched a plan for the area but TfL said the suggestions was beyond the remit of the bridge replacement (but she would forward it to her colleagues working on the gyratory replacement).

John pointed out that the discussions so far were by e-mail to a small group of people and that it should be discussed on icag-eng as well as a website and Facebook post to get comments from a wider group of cyclists. LCC were looking at ways of facilitating discussions and information sharing for campaigns and situations like this and Andrea agreed to draft and circulate his suggestions so they could be discussed at the next ICAG meeting on 8th April.

Agenda

Working with Islington Council

Alison had had a call from one of Islington transport planning team about how ICAG and Islington Council could work together more effectively. He said he would draft some terms of reference for the monthly meetings that take place between ICAG and the Islington traffic engineers and responding to consultations. The meeting welcomed having terms of reference.

The officers had asked that if an individual made an enquiry about traffic related issues, it should be clear if the enquiry was coming from ICAG or simply the individual. These enquiries can be time consuming but may be prioritised if they are ratified by ICAG. It was also suggested that if people had queries or suggestions about cycling issues they initially e-mailed icag-eng as members of that group may already know the answer or be aware that it is already under discussion.

Space for Cycling Petition

LCC launched an e-petition in December last year for members and supporters to sign so it could be used by the local groups to follow up on the Space for Cycling asks and present to the local council leader. There were about 250 signatures on Islington's and more were needed. Tom suggested we continue the discussion online/by email and discuss it with Amy at the LCC.

Safer Drayton Park

Alex, as a local resident, had met two Islington traffic planners to discuss his ideas to improve Drayton Park for cyclists. The re-instatement of the width restriction by the station had been delayed but Alex said the width restriction was not incompatible with his scheme of cycle lanes along the wide part of Drayton Park from the Holloway Road to Martineau Road. The traffic planners would cost this plan and put it in the local Ward Partnership Plan. Changes to traffic flow in the northern end of Drayton Park/Gillespie Road would need further consideration and discussions with local residents. It will become an ICAG campaign and Tabitha said she and Jono knew parents at the schools there and would speak to them about preventing rat running. David would also help and Alison would contact the Highbury Community Association (HCA).

Cycle Superhighway 1 (CS1) response

This will come through Hackney and part of Mildmay and could be the opportunity to achieve the Space for Cycling 'ask' of reducing rat running along King Henry's Walk. It was agreed that Tom, on behalf of ICAG, would present

ideas on how this could be achieved to the ward partnership meeting and hoped that ICAG and Islington Council would submit a joint response to the CS1 consultation.

ICAG ride on Sunday 26th April.

Plans for this were progressing and there would be a meeting of the organising subcommittee on 21st March. Jonathan had kindly agreed to do a Dr Bike, possibly with Adrian's help.

ICAG AGM 10th June.

Alison had not had a reply from the potential speaker she had contacted and other suggestions were made which she would follow up. Simon asked if ICAG's strategic vision was discussed at the AGM and was told it wasn't but probably should be, or another meeting could be devoted to it. Tom agreed to finalise the ICAG vision he had developed last year and present it at the AGM.

Purchasing a camera for ICAG

Keith and John felt many of the pictures on the ICAG website/Facebook page were not of high enough quality and thought ICAG should get its own camera. However the meeting felt that there was enough photographic equipment amongst ICAG members to make this unnecessary. Whilst John accepted this, he stressed how important it was to have good images to accompany posts and said that it was usually Keith who actually took the photos. Alex, David and Tabitha agreed to try and help provide more pictures. [Post meeting note: Keith cannot be relied upon to continue doing this in the future and ICAG has photo sharing site that could be used]

PlanArchway

PlanArchway is a group of local people who are trying to create a Neighbourhood Forum under the Localism Act of 2011 with a view to having more local influence on planning and development in the area. ICAG is a constituent group of PlanArchway and a drop-in session about PlanArchway was taking place the next day which Liz and Keith may be able to attend. It was agreed some specific measures to promote cycling in the area should be included in any transport policy the group developed.

Any other business

Air Quality Monitoring

John, Michael and Andrea had met Islington's Air Quality Officer Sukky Choongh-Campbell and Sandra Jarzebska of Sustrans that morning. They discussed traffic filtering as a means of reducing air pollution and what is being done to encourage parents not to drive their children to school.

Alan Cartwright

David felt ICAG should respond to the appalling stabbing of Alan Cartwright as he cycled along Caledonian Road and agreed to post it on Facebook to see what response there was.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th April 2015