



Hackney Cycling Monthly Meeting 6th June 2018

Attendees: Rachel Aldred (Research and Insight), Jono Kenyon (Coordinator), Dave Harris (Treasurer), Natalie Gould (Secretary), Harry Fletcher-Wood (Consultation Coordinator), Brian Jones (committee), Matt Saywell (Multimedia), Garmon Ap-Garth (Committee Member), Laurence Mohammed (Probike Service - a social enterprise), Feryal Demirci (Deputy Mayor of Hackney), Richard Luftkin, Tom Watson, Charlie Lloyd, and Ben Webster.

Apologies: Ruth-Anna MacQueen (Community Outreach) and Brenda Puech (Deputy Secretary).

1. Guest Speaker – Feryal Demirci – Deputy Mayor of Hackney

FD provided the meeting with an update on council matters including recent road traffic schemes. Questions were asked by the meeting attendees throughout the talk as indicated in the minutes.

FD is now Deputy Mayor & Portfolio Member for Health, Social Care, Transport & Parks. The portfolio which was put together by the Mayor; the various parts of which are considered a natural fit - bringing together health, wellbeing and inequalities agenda. Tackling childhood obesity is a public health priority (City & Hackney) and it is important to get health on board with active travel schemes. FD is now chairing the Integrated Commissioning Board

- a) **Wick Road** commenced before the election. The scheme will not be fully completed until February 2019, owing to the number of utility cables that need to be moved.

- b) **Westgate School Street** went live on 6 June and that morning the scheme worked OK: leaflets were distributed to drivers and others. Additional signage and parking enforcement officers will be looked at/considered over next few weeks. These schemes often take a while to embed, and officers will be back out there in the next few days. QUESTION: When do you expect to see the scheme reflected on satellite navigation systems? ANSWER: it may take around six months for changes to be factored in, FD will find out about the process or HCC can write to Andy Cunningham. Question: What are parents' views? ANSWER: really positive, but more of a problem in afternoon because officers were not there. It is considered that different sets of people are passing through the area in the morning and the afternoon. The council will do assessments of the scheme in the Autumn when children go back to school. With regard to a similar scheme which was implemented in Hoxton a year ago, no one wants reopen the road. QUESTION: There is a parking bay opposite the school (London Fields) - why is it there? ANSWER: the parking department will consult the residents about removing the bay. QUESTION: Could the streetscape be improved – made to look less like a road? QUESTION: Closure and bus gates are only active for a small part of the day



- can the time period be extended? ANSWER: Currently there is no finance or any plans to change road surfaces but could look at with data.
- c) **Seven Sisters Road** scheme is a longstanding project involving the narrowing of the road to two lanes each way for motorised traffic (one of which will be a bus lane), with separated cycle tracks and footways either side. FD has asked TfL for trees and greenery to be planted to separate motor traffic from the cycle lane & pavement. FD has a meeting on 22 June to look at the two options being proposed by TfL: one involves greening between the cycle track and the road, and the other concerns greening between the cycle track and the pavement. QUESTION: JK indicated that there had been a meeting between three LCC cycle campaigns (Camden, Hackney and Haringey) concerning the Mayor of London's new Tottenham to Camden 'Connector Route, the obvious route for which is along Seven Sisters Road and HCC would want to ensure our section along Seven Sisters Road is not left in isolation. ANSWER: FD said that currently council is discussing only the section between Manor House and Amhurst Park Road, as this bit has been subject to consultation and has the funding in place. The Mayor is keen to progress the scheme.
- d) **Green Lanes** scheme involving protected tracks from Manor House to Newington Green. The council had invited HCC to look at early designs for this protected scheme. At the moment, there is not the funding for the full route, although the council hopes to consult in early Autumn (this year) on the proposals. Once that is completed they will look for funding opportunities.
- e) **Cycle Superhighway 1: West Bank** - a scheme involving the removal of parking on the east side of the West Bank to create a safer cycle route; the consultation for this is completed. FD added that it was hoped that the scheme would also improve the whole street environment since the greenery next to the rail track would not be obscured by parked motor vehicles. The decision on this will be announced next week. The residents feel that the current parking is under stress, but a new Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) scheme in that area will be consulted on in July. (It can take up to 18 months to get parking changes in.) Parking is a major road safety issue in that area owing to people driving round trying to find parking spaces and there are problems with driver behaviour around schools.
- f) **Cycle Superhighway 1: Balls Pond Road** – the council is waiting for TfL to complete signal modelling. The scheme remains as previously proposed comprising a protected cycle track on the north side of BPR. The council is still waiting for the decision from Islington on whether to allow the currently banned right turn from BPR onto Southgate Road since the scheme requires it to be removed. Richard L will ask Cycle Islington to speak to Councillor Webbe (Cllr Webbe has not replied to HCC, nor has Will Norman).

- g) **Stoke Newington Modal Filters** – this forms a part of CS1 where there is significant rat-running along/around the route by drivers avoiding the corner of Stoke Newington High Street & Stoke Newington Church Street; in particular there are high volumes of motor vehicles on Brighton Road and Walford Road. These problems are associated with incomplete modal filtering in the cell. HCC has met with William Patten Primary School which opposes scheme on air quality grounds. However FD said that the scheme is intended to improve the area as whole. The council has made a commitment to undertake comprehensive air quality monitoring around the school & surrounding area. The Mayor of London did rough and ready audit of area around the school, but the information was not accurate and the council has been doing a more in-depth monitoring at different locations. GLA officers have taken measurements from roadside but Hackney Council has air quality monitors in the school grounds and initial indications are that it is not in breach of air quality regulations. It is intended that this monitoring data will be shared during a meeting in July followed by a decision on the scheme in early September. This time the consultation process hasn't been the issue, it is the impact and the council needs to address genuine concerns. QUESTION: what about traffic reduction on Stoke Newington Church Street? ANSWER: the Mayor of London could look at moving the bus stop outside school. The council is also looking at mitigation of air pollution for schools on the main road network e.g. moving entrances and installing green walls. In addition the proposed replacement of the Stoke Newington Gyratory should be consulted on this September and this scheme could help with air quality in the area. TfL are currently working on this and it is believed that the proposal provides for shared bus & cycle facilities northbound with a southbound segregated cycle lane. Rectory Road and Manse Road would be converted to two way.
- h) **Liveable Neighbourhoods** – this relates to money from GLA relating to improvements in and around the Hackney Central area. Initial works will include traffic modelling, putting together a brief and looking for a consultant. QUESTION: How do we combat the fear of traffic displacement (which in this scheme relates to transfer from Amhurst Road)? ANSWER: Some traffic will move, but the aim is an overall traffic reduction, as it is for many schemes. We plan to have a long conversation with business & residents and effectively co-produce proposals. Funding to support this is in place. It is intended that there should be a bus and cycle only corridor from Pembury Junction to Hackney Central: the scheme will tackle dangerous junctions such as the Pembury junction and Mare Street/Morning Lane. QUESTION: is there any intention to progress the proposal for a track between the Narroway and the Town Hall? ANSWER: There are complications that need to be resolved for this. QUESTION: Mixing buses and cycles is concerning if there are going to be 60 buses per hour. ANSWER: The council will be looking at some of those things at the design stage.



- i) **Stamford Hill Junction** - QUESTION: Any update on this scheme which was cancelled by TfL? ANSWER: We have raised it with previous Deputy Mayor for Transport & Will Norman and there is nothing happening at the moment. The council will keep raising it but there are resource issues.

- j) **Lea Bridge Road** – concerning the ‘Connector route’ between Walthamstow and Hoxton. The council want to make this scheme happen, and it has been suggested that the company designing Waltham Forest Mini Holland could work on the Hackney section. However, this is a TfL scheme and there are questions about funding - as soon as the funding is made available the council will deliver. QUESTION: have you nominated a specific route? ANSWER: there is already a nominated route that Andrew Gilligan worked on which FD will forward to HCC.

- k) Will be report in Autumn based on school hands-up surveys.

2. Bike Week

During Bike week (10-17 June) the group will run the usual events including the Bikers’ Breakfast on the Wednesday morning – can we please have volunteers. JK indicated that we have a new gazebo, flags, banners on the way. The London Cargo Bike Championships will take place on Sunday 17 June at 15:00 hours in Finsbury Park. We need to attract more members to LCC and we will be pushing membership at all these events.

Other events coming up over the summer include the Freecycle feeder ride from the Town Hall to Bank: NG to arrange and contact marshals. On Thursday 28 June there is the annual Bike Around the Borough, Hackney Downs. The E5 Brewery are doing a bar so we will not be able to do one this year.

3. School Streets

School Streets promotional film – MS will make a film; NG has some film from the Lansdowne Road crossing recorded during May.

4. Email list

A new emailing list has been established because the Yahoo groups are potentially being discontinued and the current committee does not have administration rights. The new group is on Google groups and is called Hackney-LCC. It is intended that the two groups will run parallel over the summer before the Yahoo group is discontinued.

5. Finance



Finance updates from DH for the 2017-18 accounts were sent into LCC on time.
The group has finally received a refund for the VAT on the room hire for meetings.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday 4 July 2018 in Pembury Community Centre.