

## **CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN**

### **Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Present:** Ian Slater (IS) Chair, Arnold Wilkes (AW), Stephen Perry (SP) Minutes, Nic Siddle (NS), Peter Williams (PW), Cathey Harrington (CH), John Violet (JV)

**Virtual attendance:** Eileen Morgan (EM) John Holiday (JH) Simon Tiplady (ST)

#### **Apologies**

Julia Bennett (JB), Steve Pemberton (SLP), Simon Brown (SB), David Parry (DP), Paul Buckley (PB), Andrew Cairns (AC), Ashley McCraight (AS) Monica Robinson (MR)

#### **1. Minutes of May meeting**

Minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

**Action:** CS to post April and May minutes on website

#### **2. Matters arising**

Countess of Chester Car Parking arrangements and Cycle parking/routes on site  
CH confirmed the matter is still ongoing.

**Action ongoing:** CH

Inclusion/membership with '1% for the planet' website

IS confirmed he had contacted Mike Craven at Bartletts who is happy for us to support this Bikmo initiative. IS will continue to follow this matter up.

**Action ongoing:** IS

3<sup>rd</sup> Party/Public Liability Insurance

It was suggested contact be made with Cycling UK's insurer to see what they can offer. IS has contacted Mark Robinson of Butterworth and Spengler (Cycling UK provider) and awaits a response. **Action:** IS

#### **3. Membership**

Campaign membership has increased to 248 (244 end April).

#### **4. CWAC Liaison**

See notes from SP. Meeting with Dave Land has been delayed until Friday. SP outlined his approach to Dave as follows:

- To promote the skills and resources within the CCC team

- To share views on how best to address the objectives set by the ATF and ISTT and together to ensure that CWAC makes the best use of the available community resources
- To explain SP's more 'back seat' role, in the near future
- In particular to promote the need to make the best use of the money that is available for infrastructure improvement, eg along North Road Ellesmere Port, and Saughton camp and potentially on Ince Marshes; in essence to set up meeting between Nic and Dave Land. *(Post meeting note: a very good meeting with DL and a meeting with NS and others will be arranged asap)*

SP also explained that he has agreement to offer Visitors to Chester temporary Bike Hub passes as explained in outline by email. The details for this will be completed after 18<sup>th</sup> June. IS confirmed that a previous meeting had agreed to buy 5 off £10 cards with CCC funds

#### **5. ATFest – update on preparations and resource requirements.**

SP gave a brief update to confirm that times are busy but everything is falling into place. JV and EM asked when they will receive final set-up details for the day, and SP stated that these should be available by the end of this week. EM stated that the Neuro Centre, Saltney had not received an invitation to attend and SP agreed to resolve this. *(Post meeting note: Neuro Centre have agreed to attend)*

EM asked about 'give aways' and SP agreed to confirm what there is in the CCC boxes in his garage.

JV asked for volunteers to help on the CTC/Cycling UK stand. SP agreed to do what he could and discuss this again with JV next week

**Action: SP**

#### **6. Family Bike Rides – next ride was planned for June 4<sup>th</sup>.**

No public participation booked as of June 2<sup>nd</sup>, so the event had been cancelled.

IS *may* give this format another go if the Zoo signs up as a Corporate Member and can give future events more publicity/support otherwise (regrettably) we may agree to not plan any more rides for the near future. There may be a market for adult-only rides as a follow-on for those who participate in Cycle Buddies.

*Post Meeting Note: Chris Ablett at the zoo has confirmed via the Partnership Manager that the zoo doesn't sign up for things like Corporate Membership of other organisations. IS will soft-pedal membership-themed engagement.*

EM emphasised that we need to find routes and possibly offer similar rides that have less challenging gradients and better surface conditions for adapted bikes. This will be reviewed and IS invited EM to make a proposal (possibly along the

Greenway) that the CCC can then support. JV explained that in his view maintenance of the surface condition of the canal tow path is the responsibility of Highways.

**7. Introductory Bike Maintenance Workshop on June 10th (at Bren Bikes).**

First of a planned series of FOUR. Format as last year. IS have applied for £1400 of Cycling UK funding under the Big Bike Revival banner. (*Post meeting note £1000 achieved*). The proposal, with funding, is to buy a decent set of tools and a cycle workstand to allow us to become even more flexible and can work with other community groups. IS will report at the next meeting what categories of spend the funds will go towards.

**8. SUP Clean-up Activity.**

A few Campaign members cleared the shared path between the Dukes Drive and the Wrexham Road on a rainy Bank Holiday Monday (May 8<sup>th</sup>). Thanks to Arnold, Laurie, Ken, and Nic for their valued help in lousy weather conditions. IS is talking to Community Engagement group (Chris Ablett) at the Zoo about a joint activity on the bridleway through the zoo to Pretty Bridge but the timeframe is too short for this to happen in June. Another location will be scouted out.

Further monthly actions and volunteer resources to be agreed

**9. Development Control**

Details had been circulated in advance of the meeting, but the following points were highlighted in our discussion:

- The difficulty of making any progress with the LIDL development. This will not be on the June planning meeting agenda, so may be in the holiday months.. Paul Parry has indicated that there will be S106 money for that area.
- The unacceptable proposal to have a shared use 'grassed path' connection to Winkwell Drive, off Westminster Park/The Lache
- Paul Parry also highlighted that there is £240k S106 to be spent on North Road. We need an overview plan for this area to be agreed with Peel in particular, who own most of the old railway lines.
- There is a longer term opportunity to get S106 money from the proposed solar farm proposed for Ince Marshes to improve walking and cycling routes

We feel that we may be getting a little more traction with CW&C planning but we also agreed that Mersey Dee Alliance has a key role to play in EP.

SP agreed that one of his priorities is to get a meeting with NS and Dave Land

**AOB**

The June letter has been sent to the press by SP

There was no other business.

**Next meeting:**

Letter of the Month: Mark?

Chairperson: Ian Slater

Minutes: Steve Pemberton