



**CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN**  
.....Working to Create a Cycle Friendly City



**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
at 7.30 pm at Bowling Green Court**

**Present:**

John Violet (JV) (Chair), Stephen Perry (SP) (Minutes), Michael Goan PRoW Officer for CWaC, Paul McCormick (PM), Peter Williams (PW), Julia Bennett (JB), Sue Booth (SBo), Brian Holmes (BH), Simon Brown (SB), Claudia Caldeira (CC), Cathey Harrington (CH) Steve Pemberton (SPem) Laura Ryan (LR), Arnold Wilkes (AW), Monica Robinson (MR), Claudia Caldeira (CC), Ken Thomas (KT), Nic Siddle (NS).

By video link: Eileen Morgan (EM).

1. Apologies

Ian Slater (IS) Ashleigh McCraight (AMc), John Holiday (JH)

2. Confirm minutes of January meeting. These were agreed and will be sent to CS for the website **Action: SP**

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

Key actions update:

- JV confirmed that he had sent emails to CW&C relating to our request to allow city centre cycle crossings, a note of thanks for the Potholes work by Highways and LTP4 feedback submitted on behalf of CCC
- 20mph signage is still not yet in place on Grosvenor Bridge: latest feedback is that 20mph signs will go in, but these will need street lighting cables to work. This will still take some time to complete
- IS has had no luck with Simon Sandford and EP DB and none with Storyhouse publicity
- Meeting has taken place at COCH to check out entrances/exits to hospitals. CH and AW have done the survey and the COCH are now on board. The COCH bicycle user group will now also do a short questionnaire.
- Wyldewoods 'Meet the Neighbours' photo session did not take place – cancelled by Wyldewoods.
- Letter of the month – none was sent for January or February

4. Michael Goan PRoW Officer for CW&C, covering from the Wirral border, through Ellesmere Port down to Chester and across to Kelsall, was welcomed to the meeting. Issues discussed included:

- CW&C not able to pursue changes planned to gates on NCN 56 adjacent to the Chester to Liverpool railway line in Mollington due to landowner resistance. Other options for where the money could be spent were discussed, including:
  - a suggestion to improve access to Greenway from School Lane in Guilden Sutton.
  - making good the boardwalk on Burton Marshes.
  - improving the route across Ince Marshes

These suggestions were noted by Michael.

Opportunities to maintain or extend PRoW's in Ellesmere Port in the area of North Road were also discussed and NS agreed to share more detailed information with Michael.

The meeting thanked Michael for his helpful input

5. CCC Promotion Events up to and including ATfest 2024

SP gave a brief overview of all of the CCC events planned through to June 2024, as already communicated by email and summarised below:

Event	Date	Location	Time	CCC Lead
Bank of America - with TPS Consultants	Wednesday 13th March	Chester Business Park	11.00-14.00	Cathey
	Wednesday 12th June	Chester Business Park	11.00-14.00	Cathey
Lloyds Bank - with TPS Consultants	Thursday 14th March	Chester Business Park	11.00-14.00	Cathey
	Thursday 13th June	Chester Business Park	11.00-14.00	Cathey
Cheshire West Association of Primary Headteachers meeting	Wednesday 27th March	Cheshire View	from 08.15	Stephen
School Assembly	Wednesday 17th April	Dee Point	08.00-10.00	Stephen
School Assembly	Wednesday 24th April	Waverton School	10.25 - 11.45	Stephen
School Assembly	Wednesday 22 May	Newton School	from 15.00	Stephen
School Assembly	Wednesday tba	Oldfield School	1st May tba	Stephen
Farmers Market Saturday	Saturday March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Chester Town Hall Square	09.00-16.00	Stephen
	Saturday April 20 <sup>th</sup>	Chester Town Hall Square	09.00-16.00	Stephen
	Saturday May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Chester Town Hall Square	09.00-16.00	Stephen
Active Travel Festival 2024	Sunday 16th June	Chester Town Hall Square	09.00-16.00	Stephen

Core CCC teams have been allocated to each event and these arrangements have been separately confirmed and agreed, but SP encouraged all members to respond wherever possible with:

- Their additional support to the core team for each event listed
- Suggestions of partner groups that may be interested in having a presence at ATfest
- Promotion of these events to any 'community' groups they belong to or are aware of

It was agreed that in addition to the excellent social media support provided by CC, we should continue to submit publicity information to Hoole Roundabout and other similar local publications.

The meeting discussed the budget request made by SP in support of these events, submitted in a separate email to cccactivists. The meeting agreed to approve the expenditure of £200 .

6. Treasurer's report.

Bank balance is £5,276.53 as at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

JB emphasised the need to provide more detailed information relating to the Cycling UK and HealthBox grants received in and how this money was spent. This will need to be done for any future grants funds received.

In response to IS's email about further funding applications to Cycling UK it was agreed to support IS if he wants to take the application forward but if not to let it go for this year

7. CW&C Liaison report.

The key elements of JV's report have already been recorded in Matters Arising.

In addition JV reported that he has:

- Continued to press for consideration of Saighton Camp S106 funds to be directed towards the EATL scheme at Boughton, but whichever way I try there is no response. Cllr Karen Shore asked for an officer response in early February.
- Sent out a request for further consideration to allow cycling outside of shopping hours across the pedestrian areas at Chester Cross and Foregate Street near W H Smith.

8. Membership Secretary report.

Membership stands at 244. New corporate member Live Scene.

9. Development Control Officer report.

NS's full report has been included at the end if these minutes, but one key message shared by NS is that we should challenge the use of all A-frames and kissing gates; see the specific report on our CCC Website resources page

10. Inclusivity Report

Via the video link EM reported that funding for Dial House is under threat, and we need to be aware of the impact of this on the future availability of accessibility scooters etc.

11. Programme of rides in the Ellesmere Port area.

In addition to issues recorded above under Matters Arising, IS noted in his written report that the programme of HealthBox rides starting at Ellesmere Port Sports Village has had 6 outings. This is part of the Social Prescribing initiative. Uptake has been modest (not helped by occasional miserable weather). HealthBox pay for the advertising of this. CCC is just providing a ride leader. HealthBox have also started to advertise Cycle Buddies for Ellesmere Port, for which we have a few willing helpers.

12. AOB.

- a. We need volunteers to **fill the empty slots for next month's meeting. Action: All.**

Month	Chair	Minutes
April		
May		Monica
June	Ian	Stephen
July		Steve
August	Stephen	Simon
September	Simon	Ian
October	John V	Cathey
November	John V	Ian

December	Cathey	Laura
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Next meeting: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

Chair: TBA Minutes: TBA

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Appendices:

- **CCC Report on Planning application submissions for March 2024 meeting**
- **Cycling Matters! and Cathey's activities - update**

CCC Report on Planning application submissions for March 2024 meeting

1. Access barriers

As per the intention that I reported last month, I have drawn up a critique of the use of A- & K- Frame barriers. A copy is lodged on our website under the Resources page. I have used the information in an objection to plans for New Hall Farm in Little Sutton. It is likely to be too late to have influence here, but the information and references are all in one place for future use. Working on this has highlighted just how much Government advice there is out there against the use of such barriers. I have amended the previous version with an additional quote and reference to 'Wheels for Wellbeing'.

*There are relatively few such barriers in CWaC (at least around Chester – there may be others in the borough further afield) but I think that it would still be worthwhile to pass a formal motion opposing their use on any publicly accessible land in CWaC and lobby the Council to get a formal prohibition of any new installations, with eventual removal of existing installations.*

2. North Wales Path (Riverside) Barriers

Freedom of Information requests were sent to both N Wales Police and to Flintshire CC re reported misuse of the path. Both responded with some information, but in terms of formally reported incidents it is clear that the plan to change arrangements (radar gates etc) is a severe overreaction to any reported problems and probably not the best use of FCC's money. If anyone wanted to take this up with FCC, it would be better coming from a Flintshire resident.

3. New Hall Farm, Little Sutton. There are many and complex applications associated with this Redrow development. Outline permission was granted in 2012 and they have split the process into 'phases' which effectively means there is no overarching Active Travel consideration or plan. Have submitted objections pointing to the absence of a formal cycle/pedestrian route to Capenhurst Station and to the incorporation of K-Frame barriers. Summary letter sent to the Case Officer (Paul Friston). Our previous comments on this development about cycle storage have been picked up in both the Officer Report and the grant of permission. Whether Redrow will actually comply remains to be seen.

4. There is no advice of any status change regarding the Rossmore Rd East connection to FP35, the LIDL proposal for Caldly Valley, McDonalds for Rossmore Rd East or the Solar Farm consultation on Frodsham Marsh.

Peter has already reported that work has now started on the Wirral Way access at Hooton Station which should improve the width of the path and resurfacing as it goes around the new housing estate Palladium Gardens and make it a level entrance to the Wirral Way from Hooton Road. At last, some evidence that s106 moneys being spent on that for which it was collected (sigh of relief as the developer went belly up..).

5. Cycle Storage & 'on- street locker' contributions

The increasing use of conversions from Commercial to residential property in the City Centre creates difficulties in providing suitable cycle storage. One solution could be 'on-street hangars' such as are used in London (paid for by s106 contributions?). Politically probably quite difficult but might be worth trying to promote.

We should also possibly be looking at/ promoting the possible expansion of the cycle hub access card scheme to other locations?

6. Chester City Gateway & Station Area

The recent announcement about 'HS2 diversion money' might suggest a potential source of funding for the development (which could include a link between the old Honda Garage and the Greenway) but I suspect that this will get mired in problems involving potential railway developments and which could put some parts of the plan 'on hold'.

Some recent Planning Decisions on checked applications;-

There has been a dearth of application decisions notified since my last report – probably at least partially as a result of falling behind with the checking and commenting. (Outcomes:- green - OK, peach - mixed, red - not so good, lilac - uncertain, white – info only).

23/01254/FUL	Erection of 7 two storey dwellings	The Old School House Canal Walk Rudheath Northwich	Awaiting decision	Infrastructure possibles and storage	Revised plans do not show any change re infrastructure - that would have to be driven by planning but suspect that it will not be covered.
23/00134/FUL	Erection of 3 dwelling houses with associated parking, private external amenity space, and a new site access from Swanlow Lane	Land Rear of 52 Swanlow Lane Winsford Cheshire	Awaiting decision		No cycle storage on original - - revised plans shows cycle store labelled but no detail. Additional comment submitted re requirements
21/00582/FUL	Subdivision and extension of existing dwelling to form two dwellings, conversion of surrounding ancillary barns to form 12 dwellings, removal of two sheds and a slurry tower and alterations to driveway	Wimboldsley Hall Nantwich Road Wimboldsley Winsford Cheshire CW10 0LW	Edward Shepherd	Approved	garages too small, routing and access to canal path & suitability for AT Only our comments on cycle storage were picked up - particularly lack in units 2&3. Now conditioned -" Prior to first occupation of units 2 and 3, details showing secure cycle shall be submitted to and agreed in writing by the

						LPA, the approved cycle storage shall be provided prior to first occupation of each dwelling in accordance with the agreed scheme thereafter".
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The complete list of applications monitored is at:-

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dM\\_1NQWdqGosuktDSDxuimTrqd7F2w3NaG4p3SeD3Cg/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dM_1NQWdqGosuktDSDxuimTrqd7F2w3NaG4p3SeD3Cg/edit?usp=sharing)

(Applications on that sheet highlighted in yellow have been examined, un-highlighted ones have not. Many others are eliminated at the data selection stage and are also not examined)

**Please note that from the Google sheet you have to press 'Alt + Enter' to activate the link (at least in Windows) – and not simply 'double click' the link.**

Nic

### **Cycling Matters! - update**

**Printed version** - being printed. Any day now.

**Electronic version** – prepared, will be sent when printed one starts being distributed.

### **Local Transport Plan:**

- Andy Hamil & I presented LTP4 to Chester Sustainability Forum's meeting on transport 11<sup>th</sup> January.
- Attended and spoke at Climate Emergency Taskforce meeting focusing on LTP4, as did Ashley, 17<sup>th</sup> January.

**COCH & CWP.** – Arnold and I have surveyed the entrances/exits to the hospital. Meeting with hospitals' Bicycle User Group and Travel Plan Co-ordinators Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

**Cheshire East Primary Care Network** – Interviewing a manager about her inspirational story of becoming a utility cyclist Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

**Business Park cycling promotion with TPS Consultants.** 2 events coming up 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Talks – did 2 talks:**

- "Getting Going on Cycling what You Need to Know" to Handbridge WI, 2<sup>nd</sup> January.
- "Work of Chester Cycling Campaign & 20's Plenty for Chester, Chester Rambling and Hill walking club, 9<sup>th</sup> January

Talks brought in £100 for CCC funds.

**Wyldewoods "Meet the Neighbours" brochure** – planned photoshoot was cancelled due to "budget" (lack of, presumably!). Sent one of our photos. Asked for copy of brochure when done. Worth noting that this was being done through a communications agency.