



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



**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 1st May 2024
at 7.30 pm at Bowling Green Court**

Present:

Nic Siddle (NS), Julia Bennett (JB), Simon Brown (SB) (Chair), Cathey Harrington (CH) Monica Robinson (MR) (Minutes) , Laura Ryan (LR), Ian Slater (IS), John Violet (JV), Peter Williams (PW) . Stephen Perry (SP), Claudia Caldeira (CC)

By video link: Steve Pemberton (SLP), Arnold Wilkes (AW).

1. Apologies

Ashleigh McCraith (AMc) John Holiday (JH) Eileen Morgan (EM).

2. Minutes of March meeting (Draft Minutes of CCC Meeting April 2024v2.docx, as circulated, were agreed and are ready for posting on the website. **Action: CS**

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

There were no matters arising discussed, apart from matters already on the Agenda.

4. Campaign PR events

• **ATfest 16 June**

Before the main meeting SP chaired a pre meeting for those directly involved with the event. He then summarised what is planned for the Chester Green Weekend which will be held both in the Grosvenor Park and the Town Hall Square on 15-16 June. ATfest will be held on the Sunday 16 June and located between the Town Hall Square, Exchange Square by the New Market and Storyhouse and runs from 10am to 4 pm.

CH and Sue Booth from Cycling UK are organising the Glamorous Gals and Dapper Chaps early bike ride around the City on the morning of 16 June starting and finishing in the Town Hall Square. This should help to boost the start of the festivities for the day.

There will be 15 Gazebos for a range of different organisation including CTC, Bren Bikes, The Bike Factory, walking groups, adaptive bikes, CCC etc. A stunt bike show will take place in Exchange Sq, a musical event on the stage in the Market as well as a short video and a talk by Professor Peter Cox from Chester University, and children's activities in the kitchen area at Storyhouse. Cycling without Age will run rickshaws between the Town Hall and the Grosvenor Park. There is also a possibility that the Bike Factory will be able to run ebike trials on selected streets.

CC has agreed to promote the event via social media. Taste Cheshire is the organisation who will manage the whole event.

SP is looking for as many members as possible to help on the day including friends and family.

There will be one more Farmers' Market on 18 May helping to promote the event. Volunteers to assist on that day would be appreciated.

Action: Volunteers for both events to report availability to SP

SP reported that the school assemblies have been successful so far. He also plans to try and visit a range of other schools in the area to request a brief slot at one of their assemblies to hand out fliers and maybe show the short video from 2023 ATfest.

Forthcoming events:

Event	Date	Location	Time	CCC Lead
School Assembly	Wednesday 22 May	Newton School	from 15.00	Stephen
Farmers Market Saturday	Saturday May 18 th	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

5. Treasurer’s report (JB).

Bank balance is £5019.66 as at 30/04/24.

About £63.52 has been received in membership fees.

JB confirmed that our Insurance is paid up to date. (Notification has been received from Zurich that the public liability insurance will be due soon). She also confirmed that all members can claim travel expenses whenever working at CCC events, and are encouraged to do so.

6. CW&C Liaison report (JV).

JV confirmed there have been many changes to personnel at CWaC, At present there is no Head of Transport Strategy.

AT who had expressed an interest in taking over this role has met JV to discuss the issues etc. He hopes that he can step back as soon as possible due to other urgent commitments. He reiterated that he would support the new role holder as required.

SB felt that due to a lack of Officer support we should step up our contact with both local councillors and Cabinet members. Highlighting areas of concern and making sure that they are fully aware of our concerns.

NS advised that he is preparing/updating a list of useful contacts at CWaC for activists’ reference. This will be password protected to maintain some control over its distribution.

Action: NS

7. Membership Secretary report (IS).

Membership continues to increase and stands at 255 on 24 April.

8. Development Control Officer report (NS).

NS was congratulated on the success in getting significant improvements to the Planning Application for a new McDonalds Drive-Thru in Ellesmere Port approved.

Not all requests for the Lidl site went through. SB suggested local councillors be asked to look at the issue over the requested SUP connectivity.

PW and NS have been trying to get the old railway bed/track that runs from the old docks in Ellesmere Port along North Road Ellesmere Port into Eastham converted into a shared user path or Greenway. They will be meeting with West Wirral footpath preservation society and the Eastham preservation society to work towards extending SUP developments in their area. SB also suggested PW should contact the Green Cllr in E Port to try and get links to the Ellesmere Port Development Board.

Action: NS, PW

9. Accessibility (EM)

Deferred to another meeting as EM unable to join online.
CH noted that a 'Bash the Barriers' Facebook group is taking off.

10. Social Media (CC)

CC asked that members use the planner to post things on Facebook. SB supported by IS suggested a group could meet with CC to have some training re scheduling. CH proposed that posts should in future be made in the third person for clarification.

In summary CC thinks that engagement with followers is good. Shares at weekends are usually more active. She offered to make a video to guide members and all thanked her for her offer and input in this area.

Action: CC

11. Charterhall Drive (SB)

Following a discussion about the proposal put forward by JV that a through route from the Station to Westminster Road along the boundary of the old Lloyds bank site and the Railway land would make a more direct and safer route for cyclists and walkers, SB offered to send an email to Katrina Kerr and the other City and Gt Boughton Cllrs explaining the benefits. This would raise awareness and enable them to scrutinise any future developments/planning applications for the land affected. He also felt that Councillors should be mindful that much of planning work is undertaken by outside consultants.

All thanked SB for his offer. **Action: SB** (*Post meeting note: Email sent and several replies received back*)

12. Tandem Pilot scheme (SLP)

SLP reported that Vision Support is looking for volunteer pilots to accompany visually impaired cyclists on tandems rides. There is an identified need in the Chester area and he wondered if anyone among the membership could help out. Both JV and IS have assisted in the past. LR agreed to circulate the request via the monthly Bulletin. **Action: LR**

13. Consultations (All)

Following little response to the Government's e-bike specs consultation it was agreed that in future the monthly meeting Chair would ask if there are any relevant consultations coming up. Details would be forwarded to all members via the Bulletin for individual responses.

Action: Future Chairs of monthly meeting.

14. CWaC request for ride leaders

SP reported that Sarah Collins from CWaC has asked for CCC's members to run a lead ride from the Portal council building in Ellesmere Port to the railway station, and possibly along the canal during Bike Week beginning 10 June. SB may be able to go along but no firm commitments were made. **Action: Any volunteer to contact SP**

15. A.O.B.

a. In response to IS query about who is responsible for monitoring Annual Objectives SB proposed that it be discussed at the June meeting. **Action: Item to be added to June Agenda.**

b. CH asked for ideas for the June edition of Cycling Matters. Currently being drafted.

Action: All

c. SP reported that Simon Stanford at Health Box requested that CCC take a stall at events planned for May at Chester and Ellesmere Port markets. No one was available for E Port but SB and CH offered to attend on 10 May and SB and AW on 14 May at Chester market. Thanks extended to all prepared to attend at short notice. **Action: SB, CH, AW**

d. IS confirmed that the Tourist office will no longer manage the temporary Cycle Hub passes donated by the Campaign. All 6 passes have been handed back. Two people made use of the passes during the course of this effort.

e. CC requested that when questions come through on Social Media that she does not know the answer to we need to try and remember to let her know either way. **Action: All**

Forthcoming meetings:

Month	Chair	Minutes
June	Ian	Stephen
July	Simon	Steve
August	Stephen	Simon
September	Simon	Ian
October	John V	Cathey
November	John V	Ian
December	Cathey	Laura

Next meeting: Wednesday 5th June.

Meeting closed at 9.29pm.