



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



**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 7 May 2025
at 7.30 pm at Bowling Green Court**

Present:

Stephen Perry (SP) (Chair), Laura Ryan (LR), Julia Bennett (JB), Nic Sidle (NS), Andy Ashton,(AA), Arnold Wilkes (AW), Simon FitzMaurice (SF), John Violet (JV), Monica Robinson (MR)(Minutes),

By video link: Eileen Morgan, (EM).

Apologies

Simon Brown (SB), Steve Pemberton (SLP), Ashleigh McCraight (AMc), John Holiday (JH), Cathey Harrington (CH), Peter Williams (PW), Ian Slater (IS)

- Minutes of April meeting.** Draft Minutes of CCC Meeting April 2025 (amended) were approved, ready for posting on the website.

Action: CS to post to website.

2. Matters arising from the minutes of the April meeting.

- **Climate Emergency Response Plan** – SF kindly circulated his response to the plan as requested.
- **.Volunteers to chair and minute monthly meetings:** A few slots left to fill, volunteers still needed please.

2025	Chair	Minutes
June	John	
July	Cathey	
August		
September	Stephen	SimonB
October		
November	John	Cathey
December	Simon B	Stephen

Please put names on [Google spreadsheet](#). **Action: All.**

- **Strategy for CCC currently held funds** – After some discussion the following outline principles for a draft strategy were agreed:

We will retain a capital balance to cover printing costs for one year of Cycling Matters (say £1000).

In addition we will retain an additional minimum for unexpected emergencies (say £2000).

We will spend a total maximum per year (say £2000, based on approximate annual income from membership fees) on cycling promotional activity or activities. Any proposed expenditure must be submitted in writing to the full CCC membership by the

end of August each year for evaluation and agreement at the September CCC meeting.

We will need to prepare a list of criteria against which any proposed activity will be judged and a format for submission in the next 2 months. These will need to be drafted for discussion at the June meeting and agreed at the July meeting before sharing with the wider CCC membership.

3. Treasurer's Report for April.

CCC funds stand at £5,880.44

JB was thanked for continuing to manage the Campaign's accounts until a volunteer takes on the role.

4. CWaC Liaison.

SF confirmed that he had received no response to his communications with Officers at CWaC regarding the permeability of the City Centre and other matters he has raised. He is also waiting for Highways to get back with a date for a meeting. SP suggested that a direct phone call to Andrew Coward (Highways) might get a response.

JV proposed a thank you letter for what has been achieved so far at St Anne St crossing of St Oswalds Way since it was done in response to CCC's request for an improvement to the Pink Route. (He acknowledged the delay to the completion of the project was likely to be the major work currently going on at the Northgate Arena and we need to monitor the situation going forward).

NS was asked to request a meeting with Chris Hardwick (CWaC Officer) and an important part of that meeting should focus on the (Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) which is currently very relevant to future Active Travel plans.

SF confirmed that the most responsive Officer is Karen Stevens and hopefully she will assist with future communications.

Action: SF send thank you letter to Highways. NS ask Chris Hardwick to meet members of CCC.

Fountains Roundabout.

A recent press release from CWaC announcing proposed time limited trials of changes to the Fountains Roundabout. They include turning off the traffic lights on the roundabout, with phase 2 installing a temporary crossing on St Oswalds Way for pedestrians and cyclists. All present expressed concerns about the proposals. It was agreed that our concerns particularly regarding the safety of cyclists, should be sent to Highways as well as local councillors.

AA agreed to draft a letter for consideration, and SF agreed to merge activists' views into a final document and to post to the Authority.

Action: SF send letter to CWaC

5. Development Control Report

NS noted that new Government policy might affect the planning application process in the future. We need to continue to press for support for Active Travel provision.

Currently the main issue of concern is to try and secure a protected cycle route from Westminster Rd to the Railway Station at the Charterhall Drive site. A meeting with Councillors, Officers and CCC representatives will take place on 8th May. EM expressed concerns about the safety of cycling down Charterhall Drive as well as

along the canalside JV explained the advantages of this preferred route and would be able to clarify this at the meeting the next day.

6. **Membership Report.** No report, waiting for volunteer to become Membership Secretary.
7. **Inclusivity.** EM reported back about her experiences of travelling by train. The main limitations are the size of the specific cycle involved.. However she feels that there have been improvements to the cycling provision at Chester Station. EM was advised to speak to Margaret Benson who is the Station Manager at Chester with her concerns.
8. **Green Weekend 7th & 8th June 2025.**

SP had circulated a rota detailing who would cover the various stations CCC will be responsible for over the weekend. Please contact SP if anyone can't manage those times.

He confirmed that a number of schools have agreed to have a cycling assembly, several are decorating bike wheels and some are committed to gathering at the Northgate ponds to then cycle the Pink Route to the Town Hall Square on Saturday 7th. This will be facilitated in a 'hands off' way, leaving groups to be responsible for their participants.

It is hoped that all our Gazebos will be in the Town Hall Square – not yet confirmed. The contents of the Gazebos will need to be taken away on Saturday night and reinstated on the Sunday morning.

AA raised his concern about the viability of handing the money we planned to pay the Eco Communities organisation without any guarantees about the payments. SP agreed to speak to Helen Tandy (Eco Communities) and let JB know as soon as possible when the £200 and any additional costs (previously approved) should be paid and to whom.

Action: SP contact Helen Tandy and report back to JB.

9. **AOB.**

AA confirmed that after posting on X a BBC article about the outcome of the court case regarding the death of a local Cyclist in Waverton, we recorded 10,000 views. Traffic returned to normal levels shortly afterwards.

The issue of illegal delivery bikes was raised and JV suggested he write again to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) suggesting other locations they could try. SF noted that it can be very time consuming for the Police and it can be difficult to identify that a bike is illegal. It was agreed that JV would write again

Action: JV write to PCC re illegal delivery bikes.

Next meeting: Wednesday 4th June 2025.

Chair: JV

Minutes: Volunteer required

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.