



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



**Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5 November 2025
at 7.30 pm at Bowling Green Court**

Present: Andy Ashton (AA), Julia Bennett (JB), Jim Gayes (JG), Cathey Harrington (CH) (Minutes), Steve Pemberton (SLP), Monica Robinson (MR), Nic Siddle (NS), Ian Slater (IS), John Violet (JV)(Chair).

By video link: Stephen Perry (SP), Peter Williams (PW).

1. **Apologies** Simon FitzMaurice (SF), Paul McCormick (PM), Eileen Morgan (EM), Laura Ryan (LR).
2. **Minutes of September meeting.** Draft Minutes were approved, ready for posting on the website. **Action: CS to post to website.**
3. **Matters arising from the minutes of the September meeting.**
 - Carried forward: **Publicity for Cycle hub** – Andrew Arditti (CWaC Officer) has not responded to SB's emails. AA confirmed he had prepared leaflets ready for printing. Agreed SB would send these documents to Andrew Aditti for approval and printing.
Action : SB
 - **Cycle Rack Provision suggestions** – See [“Cycle Rack Repurposing” tab on “CCC Diary and Meeting Roles” document](#) Re-allocation of cycle lockers dotted around Chester to be taken up with next mtg of CW&C. IS working on contact with CW&C.
Action: SF, IS.

Grosvenor Bridge 20mph response. SF's report stated that concerns were raised with councillors and MPs , but there was no substantive response.
4. **Treasurer's Report (See report below).** Total monies in bank approx £6100. Note that we are not adding to our reserves. Most memberships for the year have been received.
5. **Expenditure Bids**
 - a. Andy A proposed leaflets aimed at non-cyclists, explaining that cycling infrastructure would make it better for all. Est. 5000 leaflets, to be distributed in same places as Cycling Matters! It was suggested that the same content be offered to the A5 brochures delivered free to homes in Chester **Action: AA to mock up & circulate.**
 - b. CCC to pay SP's membership of [Chester Great & Small](#). SP represents CCC at Chester G&S, which is an collective of about 30-40 local businesspeople and stakeholders in Chester who are trying to make Chester “the most liveable city in Europe and the vibrant hub of a dynamic and prosperous sub-region”. Current projects are to push forward the One City Plan and the next phase of the Northgate development. The membership is £35 per year, which pays for general admin & maintaining the website. Agreed. **Action: SP, JB.**

6. CW&C Liaison. (See report below).

It was agreed to invite Karen Stevens to a CCC meeting, either Jan (preferred, as the sooner the better) or March, for an update from CW&C about what aspects of cycling they are working on & how we may support it. **Action: SF.**

It was noted that Councillor Chris Copeman had raised a motion about Active Travel at the meeting of full Council on 16th October. It was passed after slight amendment to remove clean air zones. Post-meeting note: the webcast can be viewed [here](#) (go to Agenda item 13 Notice of Motion: Active Travel).

Councillor Chris Copeman, who is a member of CW&C's Transport Board, messaged CH this morning, requesting a "very brief summary for what things you would like to see happen in Chester for transport. We've been asked to comment on the transport board." Agreed that CH would reply saying LCWIP, particularly Charterhall Drive and Hoole Road Bridge, and looking at CCC's proposed cycle lanes on Boughton out of S106 money. **Action: CH.**

7. Potential Single Issue Campaign.

Discussion pointed out that we had not considered spending the S106 money from Saighton Camp, which is separate from the LCWIP. Agreed that campaigning should include this as well as the LCWIP. **Action: All.**

8. Membership. (See report below). Now 212 members. We did not lose many members at renewal, most have renewed.

9. Development Control (See report below).

Discussion about how CCC should respond to a proposed new development in Mickle Trafford. SLP suggested that new Golden Rules for developments on Green Belt land should be referred to in all CCC responses to relevant developments. **Action: NS.**

10. Inclusivity activity. No report.

11. Feedback on recent campaign activities.

Glamorous Gals & Dapper Chaps bike ride 21 September attracted 37 participants and was covered by both Chester Chronicle and Cheshire Live.

12. AOB

a **CCC reply to CW&C supporting Guilden Sutton School Streets** –agreed CH would respond on behalf of CCC. **Action: CH.**

b. **Uni of Chester Student Projects.** 3 ideas were put forward:

- Cycle Streets Chester update
- Survey about improving cycling rates at Upton High School, in light of school's rebuilding.
- Cycle parking in city centre, best places for it, existing provision.

Action: CH to submit ideas.

c. **Social meeting December.** "Cycle Touring Speed Dating" Wed 3rd Dec, at St Werburgh's Parish Centre. 6 x 10min talks, each about recommended cycle touring routes.

St Werburgh's charges £40 for room hire. Agreed to pay for October & Dec meetings, but see if negotiable. **Action: CH.**

Next Business meeting: Wednesday 07 January 2026.

Chair: tba.

Minutes: tba.

Meeting closed at 9.36pm.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

September – October Treasurer's Report

These are the months when the bulk of our membership renewals take place.

Up to 31 October Membership income for the year stands at £1,307.45

Total expenditure for the year so far stands at £1,390.

We are therefore not currently increasing our reserves which are £5,039.68

Key expenditure during September and October was:

Public Liability	£
Insurance	100.80
	£
Krystal Hosting (web page annual fee)	14.39
	£
Cycling UK Membership	88.00
	£
Connector for Campaign laptop	27.54

CW&C Liaison (SF's report received after the meeting, due to technical issues).

The following issues have been raised with CWaC:

- Bicycle parking provision in city centre: suggestions
- Fountains roundabout follow-up (including issues raised by Arnold)
- Duck and Dagger café obstruction of Brown Route (canal towpath)

No response has been received to any of the above.

Grosvenor 20mph speed limit implementation:

Concerns raised with councillors and MPs - no substantive response.

Charterhall Drive development:

A [public consultation](#) has been announced - the closing date for submissions is Thursday 20th November 2025 (only 2½ weeks away). A webinar is taking place on Tuesday 11th November at 18:30, for which I have registered. Registration:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zW4IOQWRRhqYETXDYGah3Q.

LPT4 comments - no objections from members, so our submission is being made publicly available.

Membership

I have not prepared a detailed report for this meeting but can confirm that at today's date there are 211 paid up members of the Campaign.

I have had a good response to the reminder email and the first follow up email at the end of Oct and some recurring payments are still coming in.

Many thanks to Ian and Craig for their help and advice which has been very necessary.

Development

CCC Report on Planning application submissions for Nov 2025 meeting

Three significant development applications have recently been announced at Mickle Trafford, Kelsall & Tarporley. The common features include size (120-160 dwellings), building on agricultural fields and an attempt to get Green Belt land re-classified as 'Grey Belt'. The recent central Government changes to the definition of housing shortfall has meant CWaC has gone from a more than adequate building land supply to a shortfall which enormously increases the pressure for approvals on the planners. For CCC, I only comment on Cycle relevant issues and it will be difficult to justify a suggestion for any meaningful surrounding infrastructure demands on projects of this size.

1. FOI Request

I have submitted a Freedom of Info request asking for the use/plans of s106/s78/other Developer contributions around Caldley Valley Rd and the A41. See:-

https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/developer_contributions_to_infra?nocache=incoming-3200827#incoming-3200827

2. Charterhall Drive

A proposal has been released for one of the last two remaining vacant plots – this will in essence fill the existing large car park. There is a survey at <https://charterhall.habiko.uk/> ('Have Your Say'). The initial questions are very much of the "when did you stop beating your wife" variety, but once past this, there is a space for individual comments. On a personal basis, I have outlined the need for an SUP segregated from the carriageway and also remediation of the 'Waitrose' bridge. There is a webinar on 11th Nov (for which I have registered) and they are looking for any feedback by 20th Nov. I will formally respond for CCC once the initial application is submitted and we see some detail.

3. More Government Kow-towing to developers

It has recently been reported that the Government, under pressure from developers, is going to allow the sell-off of previously already built or planned agreed 'social' and 'affordable' (S&A) homes into the commercial market at market rates¹. The argument appears to be that properties are not being moved into the S&A markets because Councils and Housing Associations cannot afford them (nothing to do with cuts in Central Government funding then.....). Quite how this move would solve the existing problems for low income families is *not* explained. What it potentially does do is make a nonsense of developments like those at Charterhall Drive where a high proportion of 'affordables' is the justification for lower than normal parking provision. If residents are paying market rates for the accommodation, they will have more vehicles and there will be spill over parking into the surrounding areas.

4. Active Travel England

Ian was contacted by Stella Shackel of Merseyside CC about a project to apply for funding from Active Travel England (ATE). Ian and I had a Zoom meeting with her. She is an Honorary Research Fellow at Liverpool Uni. Appears that some funding is available (up to £100K) for projects promoting engagement with AT.

Stella and a colleague are trying to draw up a proposal (deadline 14th Nov 25, so little time....) for submission. Initially talked about connectivity to existing transport hubs covering S.

Liverpool, Frodsham, Helsby & Chester but quickly became apparent that this was too ambitious. As a ‘proof of concept’ it was agreed that they should tackle a much smaller area. We suggested perhaps some review of the interconnectivity of the area between Chester Train Station and the Bus interchange. Stella will revert. It sounds as though the proposal, if accepted, would involve interviews with ‘stakeholders’ and I personally would have a concern that any outcome may end up as words rather than action. Ian has already suggested that Jim Gayes may be able to make a useful contribution using his video mapping. We should also be making sure that they are directed to the appropriate council representatives and functionaries.

Recent planning outcomes on checked applications;-

(Outcomes:- green - OK, peach - mixed, red - not so good, lilac - uncertain, white – info only)

24/01890/FUL	Extensions/alterations of an existing dwelling and the erection of an additional new dwelling	97 and 97A Whitchurch Road Christleton Chester CH3 5QD	Withdrawn	Infrastructure in area and storage	No reason given for withdrawal
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24/01521/FUL	Demolition of Existing House and Erection of Replacement Dwelling	Newlands Rowton Lane Rowton Chester CH3 6AT	Approved	Helen Jameson	Garage too small to meet SPD	Revised plans submitted. Officer report only says re-storage:- " This takes into account that ample secure cycle storage could be created within the dwelling". It does not say that it should be conditioned, and nor is it, in the final permission. I doubt that a provision will ever be made
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The complete list of applications monitored is at:-

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 Googlesheet you have to press ‘Alt + Enter’ to activate the link (at least in Windows) – and not simply ‘double click’ the link.

Nic

¹ ‘r’ Newspaper, 1 Nov 2025