



CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

.....Working to Create a Cycle Friendly City



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 4th February 2026 at 7.30 pm at Bowling Green Court

Present: John Violet (JV) (Chair), Stephen Perry (SP) (Secretary), Cathey Harrington (CH), Nic Siddle (NS), Monica Robinson (MR), Simon Fitzmaurice (SF), Laura Ryan (LR), Peter Williams (PW), Ashley McCraight (AMc), Arnold Wilkes (AW), Julia Bennett (JB)

Remote attendance: None

Apologies: Eileen Morgan, Andy Ashton, Ian Slater, John Holiday, Steve Pemberton,

1) Minutes from the February 2023 Annual General Meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record

Proposed: CH Seconded: NS

2) Resolutions

There were no resolutions submitted for discussion

3) Reports from Role Holders: please see full reports in the appendices.

i. Treasurer's Report

The Campaign's bank balance at the start of the year was £5791.29 and at the end of the year was £6,106.41. Membership income was 1621.47. Major costs incurred in 2025 included insurance (£100.80), Chester Green Weekend support (£882.50) and website (£169.19). The meeting thanked Julia for her support as Treasurer.

ii. Secretary's Report

The role of Secretary has been very limited in the past year. The secretary's time has been spent mainly in support of the Active Travel elements of the Chester Green Weekend. The meeting thanked Stephen for his work.

iii. CWaC Liaison Officer Report

The past year has been characterised by active engagement with Cheshire West and Chester (CW&C) Highways, marked by significant procedural advocacy and the monitoring of major infrastructure trials. While we have seen the completion of certain pink route segments and utilized Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to clarify active travel spending, we have faced persistent challenges regarding the slow pace of implementation — most notably on the Grosvenor Bridge. There has also been a recurring lack of communication from council officers and sadly our key CWAC officer contact, Karen Stevens, is leaving this month. All of this has been very frustrating. The meeting thanked Simon for his time and efforts over the last year.

iv. Membership Secretary's Report

Membership reached 248 at end September (slightly down on the peak of last year, 268). 30 new members joined in the 12 months to end December 2025. These new members heard of the CC via a wide range of routes; Cycling Matters, our website, contact with friends, local events, etc. The meeting thanked Monica for her work over the last year.

v. **Webmaster's Report**

Our website now has 92 separate web pages across dozens of different topic areas arranged into a cascading menu structure. A slowdown in website speeds resulted in our web hosting company recommending the use of a caching service and a content delivery network (CDN), both of which were implemented towards the end of the year. This resulted in a dramatic increase in the responsiveness of the website. New features were added to the website, including quick access links to new Burton Marshes Path Surface Status and Millennium Greenway Flooding Status web pages, as well as a quick link to the CWAC Pothole Reporting Portal. There continues to be a steady reduction in website visits but we still have a good level of interest, with of our most popular pages, the 'Interactive Route, Cycle Parking and Access Map', being given greater prominence on our home page. The Complete Library of Free Chester Cycle Route Maps continues to be the most visited web page. The meeting once again thanked Craig for his sterling efforts in ensuring the high quality of the Campaign's website.

vi. **Development Control Officers' Report**

The routine for monitoring, delineating and commenting on applications has proved increasingly unsustainable. We will continue to keep the spreadsheet up to date but will no longer try to keep commenting on all applications as a matter of routine. The fundamental problem is the need to pick out applications that might merit an in-depth critique without the need for a detailed look at each application's documentation. There seems to be little vision from CWaC's Strategic Highways and Infrastructure team to promote Active Travel, even when significant sums of money are contributed via s106 and other payments. The most obvious frustrations from the last year would be Charterhall Drive, North Road (E. Port), Caldley Valley/Whitchurch Road. The meeting thanked Nic for his hard work and considerable achievements over the year.

vii. **Accessibility Officer's Report**

No report was submitted due to ill health, but the meeting thanked Eileen for her efforts during the year

viii. **Cycling Matters Editor's Report**

Three issues were produced this year, and all have been well received. Unfortunately, mail receiving systems within CWAC and NHS have meant that electronic issues to some recipients have been blocked. This is still to be resolved. The meeting recorded its appreciation of Bartlett's Solicitors support in printing our CM editions. The meeting thanked Cathey for her continued effort as Cycling Matters Editor over the past year.

ix. **Publicity Officer's Report**

No report available - role vacant

x. **Social Media Coordinator's Report**

No report was received.

xi. **Electronic Bulletin Editor's Report**

Campaign Bulletins are sent to members of the Chester Cycle Campaign electronically every month with the main purpose to update those members of the Campaign that do not attend the regular campaign meetings. In the year 2025/2026 a total of 12 regular Bulletins and 1 special announcement Bulletin were published. The meeting thanked Laura for her efforts as Electronic Bulletin Editor.

xii. **Chester Sustainability Forum Report**

No report was received.

xiii. **Social meetings**

In mid-2025 it was decided to alternate business meetings with new and social meetings. The aim of the social meetings is to provide interesting cycling-based information to anyone interested, not just members of Chester Cycling Campaign. The hope is to educate and inspire people who are not necessarily keen cyclists. Subjects covered were 'Snickets in Chester', 'Roadside incidents' and 'Cycle Touring'. These were all well attended. The meeting thanked Andy for his efforts in promoting this new initiative.

Acceptance of the reports submitted

MR proposed that the meeting formally accepts the reports as submitted and this proposal was seconded by LR

4) Election/Appointment of Officers and Role Holders:

Appointments were confirmed to the following positions:

- **Treasurer** – Simon FitzMaurice was proposed by Stephen Perry and seconded by Nic Siddle
- **Secretary** – Stephen Perry - proposed by Arnold Wilkes seconded by Laura Ryan
- **CW&C Liaison** – Cathey Harrington – proposed by Julia Bennett seconded by Nic Siddle
- **Membership Secretary** – Monica Robinson- proposed by John Violet seconded by Laura Ryan
- **Webmaster** – Craig Steeland - proposed by Cathey Harrington seconded by Stephen Perry
- **Development Control** (reduced scope)– Nic Siddle – proposed Stephen Perry seconded John Violet
- **Accessibility Officer** – Eileen Morgan - proposed by Arnold Wilkes seconded by Monica Robinson
- **Cycling Matters Editor** – Julia Bennett proposed by Cathey Harrington seconded by Arnold Wilkes
- **Publicity** –This Role is Vacant.
- **Social Media Coordinator** – no nominations were received
- **Electronic Bulletin Editor** – Laura Ryan proposed by Stephen Perry seconded by Julia Bennett
- **Events Co-ordinator** – This role is vacant
- **Social meeting coordinator** – Andy Ashton proposed by Laura Ryan seconded by Cathey Harrington

5) Appoint person to inspect the Campaign's Accounts

The meeting agreed to ask the wider CCC membership if anyone is willing to review our accounts as an independent party. If not successful JB will ask Sam Marshall and feedback to a future regular Campaign meeting. **Place an advert for help in our CCC bulletin - LR**

6) Annual Subscription review:

The bank balance is healthy so it was therefore proposed to keep the subscriptions unchanged.

Proposed NS and seconded JV

7) Review of our 2025 Objectives and setting 2026 Objectives:

Objectives 2025 - results	
1	Work with the local authority in an attempt to progress improvements on at least 3 identified key routes within the city centre that need to be modified to ensure easy and inclusive cycle access and/or permeability. Worked hard but no real success
2	To review, refine and prioritise our full list of identified cycling infrastructure improvement projects to have the means to exert pressure on the local authority and other bodies to deliver results when funds are available Not achieved
3	Provide comments on relevant planning applications and pursue action on enforcement as necessary through various channels. Achieved and done a lot
4	Maintain electronic maps so they can be more readily referred to by CW&C Transport and Highways in future programs of work for improving cycling infrastructure . Achieved and kept up to date
5	Continue to organise and publicise campaigns to report and follow-up on the lack of cycle path maintenance and involve councillors in follow-up Done as far as possible
6	Increase Social Media engagement across all channels, linked to an active engagement in a programme of events and activities throughout the year. Not able to judge whether engagement has increased as hoped, but our social meetings have increased local engagement.

Agreed Objectives for 2026 Objectives

Objectives 2026	Proposal	Owner
1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make representations to CW&C about progressing LCWIP route to Chester railway station from Westminster Road and Charterhall Drive. • Ensure active contribution to the LTP4 consultation and expected consequent review of LCWIP and the Cycling Strategy • Pursue with CW&C how the Saighton Camp S106 funds will be spent. • Raise with CW&C issues of current concern to cyclists in Chester and re-establish regular meetings with the Highways team. 	Keep from 2025 as modified	Cathey Harrington

New 2	Ensure agreed cycle paths are implemented connecting Ellesmere Rossmore Rd East to footpath 35	Add	Peter Williams
3	Provide comments on significant planning applications in the Chester area and pursue action on enforcement as necessary through various channels	Keep from 2025 but with a limited objective	Nic Siddle
4	Maintain and update the Campaign's Interactive Route, Cycle Parking and Access Map to keep it relevant and useful, for the public and maybe for CW&C Transport and Highways in future programs of work.	Keep	Nic Siddle
5	Maintain Social Media engagement across all channels, linked to an active engagement in a programme of events and activities throughout the year. –	Keep	Simon Brown, Laura Ryan
New 6	Produce and distribute up to 4 issues of Cycling Matters!	Add new	Julia Bennett
New 7	Organise regular public, cycling related social events to be held at St Werburgh's Parish Centre with the aim of widening our influence and raising our profile amongst the Chester cycling community.	Add new	Andy Ashton

8) Any Other Business.

There was no other business. The Chair thanked members for their participation in the meeting and thanked the Campaign's officers for their hard work over the past year.

The meeting thanked John for chairing the meeting which closed at 21.25.

Date of Next Ordinary Meeting: 7:30 pm on 1st April 2026 at Bowling Green Court

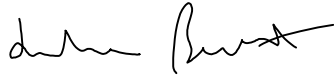
CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Accounts 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Bank Account

Year Start Bank Balance Current account (Lloyds)	£ 786.35		
Deposit Account	£ 5,004.94	Total	5791.29
Income	Amount £	Expenditure	Amount £
Membership receipts	1621.47	Activities & events including Critical Mass support and Chester Green Weekend	£ 882.50
Donations - personal	45.00	Bank Charges	46.02
Donation from Green Weekend match funding	308.00	Donation to Green Weekend to generate match funding	248.00
Deposit Account interest	39.79	Public Liability Insurance	100.80
		Equipment: laptop connector and Critical Mass speakers	72.51
		Cycling UK Affiliation	88.00
		Website expenditure	169.19
		Land registry	49.00
		Printing & stationery	5.00
		Postage	38.12
Total Credit	£ 2014.26	Total Debit	£ 1,699.14
Year End Balance	£ 6,106.41		

Total Campaign Assets			
Assets	Value		
Current Account Bank Balance 31/12/25	£ 1061.68		
Deposit Account Bank Balance 31/12/25	£ 5,044.73		
Year End Total Assets	£ 6106.41		

Signed: 

Julia
Bennett
(Treasurer)

Date: 12/01/26

Notes: In order to enable Chester Green Weekend to secure match funding we donated £248 to their fundraiser. They then donated £308 back to us which was used towards our costs for the weekend.

I would like to thank Sam Marshall for kindly checking the accounts for the last few years and being extremely helpful in finding a ready made spreadsheet which makes keeping track of income and expenditure significantly easier.

Secretary's Report to the CCC AGM – February 2026

There is very little to report for 2025.

Monthly CCC meeting minutes are completed by CCC members on a rostered basis and there has been no correspondence carried out specifically via the Secretarial role, other than the setting up of the 2026 AGM.

Letters and emails have been sent on behalf of the CCC by other members, when required to fulfil various liaison and officer roles.

In addition I have represented the CCC in the 'Chester Great and Small (GAS) team' and shared information from these meetings, in particular with reference to the Chester One City Plan

Stephen Perry

Secretary

February 2026

CWaC Liaison AGM Report, February 2026

Summary

The past year has been characterized by active engagement with Cheshire West and Chester (CW&C) Highways, marked by significant procedural advocacy and the monitoring of major infrastructure trials. While we have seen the completion of certain pink route segments and utilized Freedom of Information (FOI) requests to clarify active travel spending, we have faced persistent challenges regarding the slow pace of implementation — most notably on the Grosvenor Bridge — and a recurring lack of communication from council officers.

Financial Review & Active Travel Funding

Transparency regarding funding was a primary focus this year. Following multiple unanswered inquiries, an FOI request in September revealed the following for the 2024-25 period:

- **Capital Expenditure (£1,308,078):** Major works included the White Barn(Cuddington), Backford, and St Anne Street junctions.
 - **Revenue Expenditure (£159,738):** Covered design fees, school street assessments, and adult cycle training.
 - **Future Outlook:** Approximately **£28m** is earmarked over the next four years via the Local Transport Grant, though the specific allocation for active travel remains "to be confirmed."
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Infrastructure & Operational Highlights

- **Fountains Roundabout Trial:** A major point of contention. The trial (May–July 2025) resulted in the permanent removal of traffic signals. While CW&C cited improved motor traffic flow, we remain concerned about the safety of cyclists navigating the unsignalled junction. A permanent pedestrian crossing was a positive outcome of the trial.
- **St Anne Street / St Oswald's Way:** Works were partially completed. However, we highlighted that the desire line for cyclists toward Oulton Place remains unaddressed.
- **20mph Speed Limits:** Despite a fatality at Wrexham Road in late 2024, progress on 20mph zones near schools has been stalled by "data gathering requirements" and outdated 2009 policies.
- **Gorse Stacks Safety:** We identified a serious risk of head-on collision at the shared-use path exit near the bus interchange, where drivers prematurely enter the contraflow lane.

Key Challenges & "No Progress" Items

- **The Grosvenor Bridge Saga:** Originally planned for 2024, the 20mph limit has been repeatedly delayed, supposedly due to embankment works and design constraints. It is now pushed to the 2026-27 financial year, requiring a total restart of the public consultation process.
- **City Centre Permeability:** Positive support from (most) councillors, but no action.
- **Pepper St ASLs:** Requests for reinstatement of the Advanced Stop Lines (ASLs) at Pepper Street/Bridge Street have met significant "push-back" from officers, citing the LTN 1/20 standard as a reason to maintain the status quo.
- **Maintenance & Reporting:** The "Report It" app remains a source of frustration, with valid safety concerns (such as the surface of Elizabeth Crescent) being rejected. Damaged infrastructure, such as the Frodsham Street Sheffield stands, remains unreplaced after a year of reporting.

Future Outlook & Strategic Goals

1. **LTP4 Consultation:** The Campaign submitted a response to the Draft Local Transport Plan 4 and will monitor its adoption in 2026.
2. **Chester Movement Strategy:** We were invited as stakeholders for this new study; an opportunity to embed active travel within city planning.
3. **Liaison Stability:** With key contacts Karen Stevens and Kay Parry leaving their roles, a priority for the coming year is establishing robust relationships with their successors.
4. **Bus Reform:** We will monitor the Bus Franchising Pilot to ensure that bus reform complements, rather than hinders, cycling infrastructure.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT to AGM - 2025 MEMBERSHIP YEAR.

The membership status was as follows:

- Membership reached **248** at end September (slightly down on the peak of last year, 268).
- **30** new members joined in the 12 months to end December 2025.

	As at 31/12/2024	As at 31/12/2025	Profile of new members
Family	91	90	13
Life	49	52	3
Individual	67	66	14
Corporate	9	5	0
Unwaged	6	4	0
TOTAL	222	217	30

The 30 new members got to hear about us via a variety of routes:

Friend Recommendation	3
Cycling Matters! Newsletter (Meadow Lea and Bike Factory mentioned)	5
Local Event (Not specified)	5
Website or Social Media	5
Upgraded to Family	1
Local press	1
Not specified	10

Reminders have gone out to those who have not renewed and there has been some good response. Corporate members are down for a variety of reasons and more work will be required to follow that up. I took over the role last September and have been getting used to the new systems. They certainly make the payments and recording of data lot more straightforward.

Monica Robinson

29.1.26

Webmaster's Report to Chester Cycling Campaign AGM February 2026

Overview

After years of development, our website now has 92 separate web pages across dozens of different topic areas arranged into a cascading menu structure. Including WordPress itself, the website now consists of 24,119 files, which take up 2.2 GB of disc space on the web server. This is in sharp contrast to the original website which I created in hand-written, commented HTML for the Campaign twenty-two years ago, which had a total of 250 files taking up 29 MB of disc space! It is still viewable on the Wayback Machine:

<https://web.archive.org/web/20050921135017/http://www.steeland.eclipse.co.uk/index.htm>

The Year in Brief

20225 presented a number of challenges for the webmaster and some significant changes to the website backend services. A slowdown in website speeds resulted in our web hosting company recommending the use of a caching service and a content delivery network (CDN), both of which were implemented towards the end of the year. This resulted in a dramatic increase in the responsiveness of the website.

This was followed by an upgrade to a new version of WordPress which contained a number of bugs resulting in several display issues for which solutions were eventually found. New features were added to the website, including quick access links to new Burton Marshes Path Surface Status and Millennium Greenway Flooding Status web pages, as well as a quick link to the CWAC Pothole Reporting Portal. Finally one of our most popular pages, the 'Interactive Route, Cycle Parking and Access Map', was given greater prominence on our home page.

Web Statistics

During 2025 there was a further drop in the number of website visitors, continuing the downward trend over the past three years. One likely explanation for this is a greater awareness by web users of privacy and security issues. Most web browsers now include cookie blocking technology which will prevent their visits to our website being recorded by Google Analytics which calculates our web statistics.

Page views have shown a greater reduction than site visitors. This suggests that users may be visiting the website for one particular purpose and not browsing the site more widely, or have clicked on a specific link in an email. This theory is supported by the increase in those visiting the website from a direct email link.

Month	Page Views				All Users			
	2022	2023	2024	2025	2022	2023	2024	2025
January	6,174	4,528	1,775	1,353	1,418	908	865	685
February	5,249	4,654	1,719	1,571	1,113	1,042	829	935
March	5,849	4,452	2,176	1,902	1,284	1,013	1,030	963
April	9,239	5,094	2,165	2,207	2,249	1,437	1,072	1,019
May	9,318	3,572	2,753	1,903	2,393	1,470	1,236	1,023
June	6,107	4,552	2,861	2,245	1,304	2,261	1,239	1,098
July	5,924	2,954	2,867	2,035	1,292	1,300	1,307	986
August	6,615	3,850	15,403	2,197	1,387	1,602	7,677	1,093
September	6,268	3,372	2,305	2,268	1,254	1,615	1,143	1,169
October	6,115	2,994	1,997	2,232	1,500	1,352	947	1,434
November	4,831	1,742	1,190	1,403	1,190	780	657	1,030
December	3,428	1,335	930	1,319	716	644	513	880
Totals	75,117	43,099	38,141	22,635	17,100	15,424	18,021	11,868

Hosting Costs

Website hosting costs from Krystal Hosting were £84.00 which covers the year from 14 August 2025 . In addition there was also an annual domain registration fee of £14.39 incurred during the year, resulting in a total expenditure for the year of £98.39.

Search

The website is the first search results when an internet user does a search on the words "Chester" and "cycling" using Google, DuckDuckGo or Bing. Continued refinement of the website and its structure has now resulted in all three search engines displaying results for our website which include subpages, titles and descriptions. During 2023, 2024 and 2025 our website was accessed in the following ways:

Website Access Method	2023	2024	2025
Search engine	55%	40%	55%
Directly via email link, typed URL or PDF link	29%	21%	39%
Clicking on link in another website	2%	36%	3%
Social media	14%	2%	3%

The relatively high percentage of those directly accessing the website from clicked links suggests that people are reading and clicking on links in our monthly email bulletins and our copies of Cycling Matters.

Popular Pages

Not including our home page, the most popular pages visited in 2025 were:

No	Web Page	Views
1	Complete Library of Free Chester Cycle Route Maps	2,621
2	The River Dee Round	838
3	Maps and Routes Archives	705
4	Bren Bikes - Bike Refurbishment Project	653
5	Interactive Route, Cycle Parking and Access Map	563

Mobile Site Visitors

After falling for many years, the numbers using a desktop PC to access the website have shown a significant, unexplained rise. This could be due to changes in the Google Analytics algorithms.

Year	Percentage of Visitors Using Phones	Percentage of Visitors Using Tablets	Percentage of Visitors Using Desktop PCs
2023	60%	4%	36%
2024	67%	3%	30%
2025	51%	3%	46%

Craig Steeland
Campaign Webmaster
12 January 2026

1. Development Issues

There have recently been some software changes within planning which affected the current download process but this has now been adjusted and the list of applications (at:-

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1dM_1NQWdqGosuktDSDxuimTrqd7F2w3NaG4p3SeD3Cg/edit?gid=0#gid=0) should now be up to date.

As previously notified, the routine for monitoring, delineating and commenting on applications has proved completely overwhelming and unsustainable. I shall continue to keep the spreadsheet up to date but will no longer try to keep commenting on applications as a matter of routine.

The fundamental problem is the need to pick out applications that might merit an in-depth critique (in terms of location, size, potential for infrastructure improvement, lack of conformity with local planning requirements etc) without the need for a detailed look at each application's documentation which can vary massively in size, detail, scope etc).

I suspect that the only way to manage this issue is by the use of AI, but this is well beyond my experience or capability. If anyone out there is familiar with using AI for sorting this type of data, please advise me.

2. Lack of Planning 'Vision'

As we are all too well aware, there seems to be little vision from the CWaC Strategic Highways and Infrastructure set up that might be seen to promote Active Travel. There appear to be no outline (let alone detailed) plans for areas that are being developed that can impose any overall vision, even when significant sums of money are contributed via s106 and other payments. The most obvious examples from the last year would be Charterhall Drive, North Road (E. Port), Caldly Valley/Whitchurch Road.

3. Lack of Implementation

Even where there is or has been a plan, execution and enforcement is woefully inadequate. The most obvious example here is Rossmore Road East. Years ago, the provision of an SUP was conditioned as part of a Planning approval. What we currently have, after years of chasing, is an unfinished, partially non-compliant SUP that will not, in its current state, encourage AT.

4. Q. - When is 'Green Belt' 'Grey Belt'?

A. – When a developer can find the footprint of a dog kennel in a field. We are seeing a significant number of development applications using the term 'grey belt' to try and re-classify Green belt (and therefore obtain planning permission). Coupled with Central Government's somewhat arbitrary changes to the way housing supply is determined, we can expect to see many of these approved. Unfortunately, some of these sites are relatively isolated

and do not lend themselves to demands for improved infrastructure via S106 or CIL contributions.

5. Achievements & Failures

- Obligation on McDonalds to put in connecting cycle path in E Port (they did their bit, CWaC seem to have no plans for linking up to the existing path)
- Old Hall Country Club. Failed to get SUP conditioned. Installation of a footpath was conditioned but developer trying to delay obligation until after units are sold. This is anathema to AT – the infrastructure needs to be there before the people or car use becomes the norm.
- Charterhall Drive – failed to secure a guaranteed AT route of the requisite standard. Part of the route will be the existing road.
- Involvement with Wirral Footpath people has failed to secure any routing alongside North Road.
- Attempts to engage with ATE (Active Travel England) have met with no response – not even an acknowledgement in the latest case.
- A large number of applications had cycle storage (which was missing from their original submissions) conditioned after our intervention. There is a general improvement in what is now deemed to be acceptable but still a way to go.

6. Contact List

We have an ever expanding list of contacts, where possible shown in hierarchy trees, which started as a response to CWaC's lack of production of usable organisation charts. I will keep this as up to date as possible, but need everyone to update me with changes or additions. It is available from the website.

7. Interactive Map

Numerous amendments have been made – mainly additional cycle parking (special thanks to IS). AS always, please advise any omissions or changes.

Nic

Chester Cycling Campaign AGM 2026

Cycling Matters! Editor's Report for 2025

Production

Season	Paper	Electronic
Spring	✓ Black & white	✓
Summer	✓ First in colour.	✓
Autumn	Neither, because I was away at the crucial production period	
Winter	✓	Not produced – I was away/busy.

Bartletts kindly agreed to print Cycling Matters! in colour at no cost to the Campaign. Up to Spring 2025 it had been printed in black and white.

Colour makes Cycling Matters! much more impactful and modern.

The Bartletts advertisement is now on the back cover - a more logical layout and a more effective placing for an advertisement.

Distribution

Printed version:

- The print run is 2000. These are distributed by the activists to cafes, cycle shops, libraries, GPs, shops, community centres, etc and at events attended by CCC activists. There is a shared Google spreadsheet documenting all outlets, available to all activists. A few regular distributors have stepped back this year due to other commitments. Thanks to all who help with distribution.

Electronic version:

- CCC's MailPoet emailing system had been working well until this year. Immediately after the Spring issue was emailed out, 36 CW&C recipients all unsubscribed within 24 seconds! Other CW&C recipients did not unsubscribe. 3 of the NHS recipients unsubscribed similarly. Other NHS recipients did not unsubscribe. These unsubscriptions are 35% of our recipients, a significant number. I conferred with Craig, then contacted CW&C's IT department, who investigated but were not able to identify any setting or configuration at their end that would trigger an 'auto' unsubscribe. It appears to be an issue where MailPoet "bulk" emails are being detected and essentially blocked by large public-service bodies' email systems, perhaps at a higher level than local IT teams can access. Craig knows of an alternative system which I will try. It involves re-building our mailing lists.
- I post the electronic version to Facebook and Instagram and Andy Ashton posts it on Twitter. Distribution on Facebook is done by sharing, there is no system of posting to all groups at once. I have joined about 10 Chester community groups and share it on those.
- Thanks to all who post and share.

I am always on the lookout for opportunities to widen distribution further for both versions. Suggestions are welcome.

The printing of Cycling Matters! is kindly supported by Bartletts Solicitors, for which the Campaign is extremely grateful.

I have expressed an interest in the CW&C Liaison Officer role, but could not do that and Cycling Matters!. If anyone else would like to take over editing Cycling Matters!, I would be happy to hand it over.

Cathey Harrington

Editor, Cycling Matters!

29 January 2026

Report of Campaign Bulletin Editor – 2025/2026

Campaign Bulletins are sent to all 176 activist members of the Chester Cycle Campaign electronically every month and occasionally twice a month if there is time sensitive information to be disseminated. The Bulletin's purpose is to update those members of the Campaign that do not attend the regular monthly campaign meetings, or participate in the 'activists' email group as to the issues the Campaign are addressing and up to date news of progress. It also includes the minutes of the latest meeting and Campaign vacancies.

They are sent from an app (Mailpoet) that is included 'behind the scenes' on the Campaign website and includes a facility in each Bulletin sent for members to unsubscribe if they do not wish to receive the electronic messages any more.

In the year 2025/2026 a total of 12 regular Bulletins and 1 special announcement Bulletin were composed and sent out to the membership and others containing various current items of information. Each message also contains a link to enable anyone to sign up as a Campaign Member.

Chester Cycling Campaign Socials

Report for AGM 3rd Feb 2026

It was only decided in mid 2025 to have alternate business and social meetings.

The aim of the social meetings is to provide interesting cycling-based information to all comers, not just members of Chester Cycling Campaign. The hope is to educate and inspire people who are not necessarily keen cyclists already, to become so. The timetable and all meetings are organised by me, ably assisted by many members of the cycling campaign

Meeting 1 August "Snicket ride"

We met at the venue of all the social meetings, St Werburgh's Social Club at the town end of Brook street and then rode for about 1 ½ hours, taking some of the best cycling short cuts in town, and demonstrating that it is possible to cross town, East to West, almost completely traffic free.

Attended by about 30 riders.

Meeting 2 October "Roadside incidents)

Scene safety and Roadside First Aid – talk by Andy Ashton

Workshop on bike maintenance led by Ian Slater: Mending a puncture, how to mend a link in a chain

Attended by about 15 people

Meeting 3 December "Cycle Touring Speed dating"

6 speakers each giving their own view of types of cycle touring and places to go. 6 quite different talks, Well attended, about 45 people. Speakers were Ian Slater, Martin Bell, Phil Hayward, Andy Ashton, Sue Booth, Stephen Perry

Forthcoming meetings as per CCC website

Many, many thanks to Paul and Claudia for helping with the social media push as we try to advertise this to people who are not in the Chester Cycling Campaign sphere.

Thanks to all who have contributed, and to Cathey Harrington for finding and organising the venue

Andy Ashton

February 2026