

**Minutes of Chester Cycling Campaign meeting  
Wednesday 7th January 2026  
Bowling Green Court Brook Street Chester**

**Present:**

Andy Ashton (AA) (Minutes), Cathy Harrington (CH) (Chair), Stephen Perry (SP), Monica Robinson (MR), Laura Ryan (LR), Nick Siddle (NS), Ian Slater (IS), Mike Smart (MS), John Violet (JV).

**Present by video link:**

Paul McCormick (PM), Steve Pemberton (SLP), Peter Williams (PW)

1. **Apologies:** Julia Bennett (JB), Simon FitzMaurice (SF), Eileen Morgan (EM)
2. The minutes from the November meeting had been read and were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Action: CS to post on website.
3. **Matters arising**  
SB action: publicity for cycle Hub – to send documents for approval for printing. Deferred.  
**Action: SB.**
  - AA to mock up and circulate leaflets and non-cyclists. Complete.
  - SP's membership of "small and Great" be paid. Complete.
  - Invite Karen Shaw to a CCC meeting. Complete.
  - CH to write to Chris Copeman to pass on what CCC would like in Chester. Complete.
  - NS Golden rules for Green belts to be in all correspondence.
4. **Reports received,**
  - a. **Treasurer** (see full report at the bottom of these minutes). Current bank balance £6106.41.
  - b. **Council liaison** Main points from SF's report (see also full report at the bottom of these minutes):
    - The agreed meeting on cycle parking has still not been held.
    - 20mph Grosvenor Bridge – no update. When work does recommence, another public consultation will be needed.
    - Newly formed CW&C Transport Board: Cllr Chris Copeman has undertaken to raise various CCC issues with the Board. Transport Board is chaired by Cllr Karen Shore and appears to be an update from Council Officers to Councillors. Councillors Kerr, Eardley and Copeman attend. Before Christmas, Cllr Simon Eardley (SP's local Councillor) invited JV and SP to meet with himself and Cllr Chris Copeman and agreed that CCC should have representation on the Transport Board. SP & JV suggested that:
      - o Councillors should have the opportunity to make suggestions to the Board.
      - o CW&C should look at the cycle lanes proposed by CCC for Boughton.
    - CCC has been invited to a Zoom meeting about CW&C's Bus Franchising Pilot. It is unclear how this fits with CCC's work. SF is unable to attend. SLP is attending on behalf of Cycle North Cheshire and will update us. **Action: SLP.**
    - Missing Frodsham Street cycle stand: Highways have determined that "no action is required". No explanation was provided.
    - Gorse Stacks: the meeting agreed with SF's comments that there is risk of collision between cyclists exiting the shared use path onto George Street (opposite the bus interchange) and confronting oncoming vehicles whose drivers have moved across prematurely, whilst still in the 2-way section of the road. SF has experienced this on 4 occasions to date. SP reported having met Andy Coward on site about this previously, but CW&C not having a solution. The risk therefore still exists.

- CW&C Roles – Karen Stephens' imminent departure from CW&C means that she will not attend a meeting with CCC. CCC has thanked Karen for her help. Time scale for replacement is unknown.
- Chester Movement Strategy Study. Discussion questioned whether active travel funds would be used for this.
- Fountains roundabout consultation. NS has asked Highways how cyclists' views were taken into account but has not had a reply. Discussion revealed that there were 3,500 responses, of which only 47 from cyclists. Discussion supported the view that the Fountains is not a desired cycling route so CCC efforts we best directed elsewhere.
- Cliveden Road - Highways will be delivering the works on Cliveden Road, Lache this financial year. They have submitted the Cliveden Road / Poplar Road junction proposal to Active Travel England for the Consolidated Active Travel Fund and await their response.

JV reported that the Duck and Dagger pub on South Canal side are putting out bollards and tables into the Brown route. JV has raised this with Simon F who reported this to Highways 16/10/2025. No reply so far

PS noted they also have a canopy over the road. The general consensus within the meeting is that this is not an area which belongs to the pub, it is a public right of way. SLP mentioned that they had a similar issue with a tyre business letting people park on the cycle path. They raised it with their local PCSO who then spoke to the tyre business and the problem was stopped. It was suggested we could discuss with the PCSO for this area and mentioned that the Duck and Dagger are blocking a PRoW. SP will write to Catriona Kerr (Councillor for City). Action: SP

JV said our objective for this year is to ensure LTP4 has adequate cycling strategy in it. It was noted that the combining of authorities is causing delay in the implementation of LTP4. SLP observed that CNC's work on LTP4 is similar to hours. SLP is happy to share their work with CCC, an offer which was warmly welcomed.

SF is no longer be able to continue in the CW&C liaison role next year. CH suggested that it may be that we do not have a liaison officer next year, and concentrate our efforts elsewhere.

**c. Development control:** (see full report at the bottom of these minutes).

- PW said that Stuart Bingham was named in a report about S106 money for Ellesmere Port and 271K being spent. Near North Road/Rossmore Road East, the cycle path linking to F P 35 has not been progressed at all. He has since written to councillor Stuart Bingham criticising this report especially the FLY TIPPING in this area and lack of progress in a SUP that should have gone in this area.
- S106 Saughton Camp – CCC need to know what the Transport Board intends.
- NS' enormous workload is unsustainable. He can carry on downloading onto the Google Spreadsheet but will not have time to comment to CW&C. Everyone can monitor the spreadsheet and comment where appropriate. CH suggested we pay someone to do the sifting, if it is possible to find someone.

**d. Membership** 217 paid up members. People who have not renewed will be sent a final reminder.

**5. Feedback on recent activities**

- December activities, CCC social on cycle touring speed dating had 40 attendees and was welcomed as an enjoyable and informative evening. AA is organising speakers for the March social, on cycling with children. AA will put together a social media post. **Action: AA.** Post-meeting note: Done.
- Christmas lights ride was good but slightly inhibited by stormy weather.

- c. **Student projects:** there are two projects. One is to do with cycle parking which is being supervised by IS and the other one is comparing LCWIPs of different areas which is being supervised by CH.

6. **Hoole Green Festival 2026** (last year was called “Green Action Fair”). Date has changed – now Saturday 28th March, 1000 to 1500, at Hoole Community Centre. There was a request for volunteers to run a CCC stand. Post-meeting note: CH has requested a stand from Helen Tandy. If not enough volunteers are available, we can cancel.
7. IS reported there is a Free member benefit of a **Tool kit and Bike stand**, which was purchased from the Big Bike Revival fund. It is in IS’s garage and is available to loan to members of CCC, but there has been no uptake of this offer. Debate as to whether to sell this to increase funds or to try to publicise it more. Conversation extended to having a CCC social with more advanced cycle maintenance hopefully to publicise also the availability of the tool kit for loan. IS agreed to hold onto the tool kit for the current time.
8. AGM preparation: SP proposed a lighter workload for 2026 in view of volunteers’ time constraints and asked people to respond to his email. CH suggested that the focus for 2026 should be on promoting the cycling community in Chester. IS emphasised that social media activity is vital. AA will write a job description for social media people to try and attract some helpers for this function. **Action: AA.**
9. AOB
- Mike Smart proposed a “Tweed Run” ride for the North West. He will contact PM to progress ideas.
  - JV reported that when he worked for CW&C a potential cycle route was agreed in principle from Saltney (an underpass at Curzon Park could connect to this route) to Chester (near Telfords Warehouse), using the disused side of the railway line. Clearing of self-seeded trees would be required and it would cost millions, but be a very useful route.

#### **Next meetings:**

Business: AGM Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

Chair: JV

Minutes: SP

Social – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

Meeting closed 9.24pm.

#### **Treasurer’s Report November – December 2025**

Income: £330.26 in memberships;

£5 donation

£5.05 Deposit Account interest

Expenditure: £180 Room hire for this year (Socials) and next (Bowling Green Court)

£49 Caldly Valley Land Registry searches

£70.80 Website fix

£9.34 Bank Charges

Total funds: £6,106.41

## **CW&C Liaison Report:**

### City Centre cycle parking

A meeting was agreed with Highways on this topic, but it has not yet been held.

### Grosvenor Bridge 20mph speed limit

I have enquired as to the design (planned for completion 2025-2026) and implementation (planned for completion 2026-2027); the response is that there is “no update” (one assumes “no progress”). There will also need to be a repeat public consultation as the August 2023 implementation decision has long since been overtaken by time but this has, at the time of writing, also not been actioned.

### Transport Group

Cllr Chris Copeland has undertaken to raise various CCC issues with the CWaC transport group. There is a possibility of an active travel forum, but I don't yet have any details.

### Bus Franchising Pilot

We have been invited to a zoom “Workshop 3” meeting on Thursday January 8th, 1:30-3pm, the focus of which is described as “shaping a preferred approach to bus reform in the borough, recommending an optimal model or package of models, and considering how this may operate within the future devolved Combined Authority structure.”.

It is not clear how closely this fits with the concerns of CCC but, in any case, I am afraid I am not able to attend. Meeting details:

#### **[Zoom link](#)**

Meeting ID: 384 574 182 255 04

Passcode: Yu9nN9WH

### Missing Frodsham Street Cycle Stand

Highways have determined that “no action is required” to replace it. No explanation was provided.

### Gorse Stacks

I reported that on several (to date, four) occasions, on exiting the shared use path opposite the bus interchange, I have met head-on a car that had prematurely moved to the right-hand side of the road whilst within the two-way section of the road. There is a serious risk of collision here.

### CWaC Roles

Karen Stevens (Decarbonisation Transport Officer) is leaving CWaC early this year. We have thanked her for her help to date. The timescale for replacement for the role is unknown.

Unfortunately it has not been possible for her to attend either of the proposed dates for the January meeting.

Kay Parry (Principal Engineer, Highways) has moved roles (destination unknown) and has indicated that she is no longer a suitable contact for implementation details.

### Chester Movement Strategy Study

[A study](#) has been commissioned for evidence base development work for the Chester Movement Strategy, funded from the Integrated Transport Block grant. Stakeholders, including CCC, are to be invited to participate.

### Fountains Roundabout

Cllr Chris Chamberlain raised our concerns at the last CWaC Highways Board meeting. His latest social media contribution reads as follows:

*The long-awaited pedestrian crossing across St Oswald's Way linking the city centre to the Northgate Arena and Northgate Village areas is due to be installed in the Spring.*

*Traffic lights at the Fountains Roundabout are being removed on a permanent basis following a two-stage trial conducted last summer.*

*A temporary pedestrian crossing also proved popular with the public, leading to a decision now to make it permanent.*

*This permanent traffic signal crossing will make use of latest technology and will be incorporated into Chester's urban traffic control system aimed at reducing congestion and maximising the efficiency of the road network.*

### Cliveden Road

Highways will be delivering the works on Cliveden Road, Lache this financial year. They have submitted the Cliveden Road / Poplar Road junction proposal to Active Travel England for the Consolidated Active Travel Fund and await their response.

## **Development Control Report**

### CCC Report on Planning application submissions for Jan 2026 meeting

#### 1. Development Role

As I have previously advised, I have been completely overwhelmed in trying to keep on top of this brief and have now concluded that I cannot sustain the role as I have done for the last few years. I can carry on downloading the info onto the Google Spreadsheet (once I sort out the Macro again) but am no longer comfortable trying to comment on even a selection of the individual applications.

(As soon as I get into the detail of an area like Caldley Valley, North Road or Charterhall Drive, everything else gets left behind). If others are prepared to monitor the Google spreadsheet and comment where appropriate, that would be fine and I will endeavour to keep it updated. I will also try to re-write the macro and procedure so that it can all be carried out on-line and within the Google sheet rather than having first to download to Excel and filter. This might take me some time.

I am happy to continue updating and editing the Interactive map. I will also keep updating the 'Contacts List' as I become aware of changes.

#### 2. Old Hall Country Club

The REM application has been approved. Our two points (that it should not be allowed until they had completed the footpath work, and that they haven't shown adequate cycle storage) were both deemed to have been covered as obligations in the original approvals and are therefore not a reason for refusal of this application. My suspicion is that the cycle storage will never be installed and I also have doubts about the satisfactory completion of the footway.

#### 3. Charterhall Drive

No meaningful or actionable responses from anyone other than Richard Beacham re the necessity of formally securing the LCWIP route from the Station to Westminster Road in the light of the proposed new Habiko Homes development.

Richard’s response was – “I agree that any option to deliver a ramp on that Waitrose bridge through developer contributions or other funding streams is essential, As for maintaining the route through, I don't want to speak for everyone, but I believe we are all on-board with the need to protect it as an access route to the station...”

4. Caldy Valley & Bloor Homes

I have already circulated the answers to my FOI request about unspent s106 contributions. Whilst there is a substantial amount available for AT, it seems that CWaC has neither the ambition nor the foresight to draw up advance plans that would allow some degree of influence over the planning expectations and process.

We are hopeful that Cllr McGlashan will organise a site visit this month but no word yet as to when this might happen.

Active Travel England never even acknowledged receipt of my pre-warning of the Bloor Homes proposal. Theoretically, they would be a statutory consultee, but Central Government is proposing to downgrade their status.

Recent planning outcomes on checked applications;-

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

|              |   |   |          |              |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|----------|--------------|---|---|
| 25/03515/REM | Reserved Matters application following 25/02684/S73 | Old Hall Country Estate Aldford Road Huntington Chester | Approved | Ed Bannister | Lack of footway progress & no detail on cycle storage | Footway said to be controlled by s73 on original approval. Cycle storage also said to be controlled by previous condition |
|--------------|---|---|----------|--------------|---|---|

|              |  |                                      |          |            |                  |  |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------|------------|------------------|--|
| 23/03096/FUL | Erection of a free range egg production unit with associated feed bins, hardstandings, underground dirty water tank, drainage attenuation pond, access track and upgraded highway access | Land At Wrexham Road Pulford Chester | Approved | Ben Teague | No cycle parking | Approved without addressing cycle parking issue. There is no officer report in the documentation so don't know whether considered or not |
|--------------|--|--------------------------------------|----------|------------|------------------|--|

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