

Minutes of Chester Cycling Campaign meeting

Wednesday 6th May 2026

On-line

Present:

Cathey Harrington (CH) (Chair), Stephen Perry (SP) (Minutes)
Andy Ashton (AA) Simon FitzMaurice (SF), Nick Siddle (NS), Paul McCormick (PM), Arnold Wilkes (AW), Monica Robinson (MR), Laura Ryan (LR),

Apologies: Andy Ashton (AA), Julia Bennett (JB), Robert Vaughan (RV), Peter Williams (PW).

CH, as the meeting chair, explained that the meeting had a single item agenda; to discuss whether the Campaign should acquire a Smoothie Bike, for use at the upcoming Chester Green Festival in June, and at subsequent community events in future years. It was agreed that the minutes of the April meeting will be reviewed in June meeting and not at this meeting.

Attention was then drawn to the information supplied in advance to the meeting by SP.

In response to this introduction Stephen explained that although he was fully supportive of the principle of trying to acquire a Smoothie Bike for future CCC use, he felt it was important to emphasise some of the consequences that would follow beyond the expenditure to acquire the bike.

He emphasised that consideration will also need to be given to where to store the bike, who will manage and maintains it and to what extent will CCC choose to allow other partner community groups to use the bike and under what terms.

SF proposed that we should try to evaluate how much the bike will be used and what benefit it will bring to support the aims and objectives of the campaign. It was agreed that in recent years use of the Sustrans' Smoothie Bike by the Campaign has been limited to one occasion per year.

At this stage in the discussion PM explained that he had decided to take on the challenge of building a Smoothie Bike and was now able to confirm that the bike in question had been built and tested, and worked well. It was at that time being painted before re-assembly. PM explained that he would be happy to rent his bike to the campaign for a nominal fee that could be donated to a charity of his choice.

The meeting congratulated PM for this impressive initiative and thanked him for his kind and helpful offer. After some further discussion it was agreed that PM should be paid a rental fee for the hire of his Smoothie Bike. He could then decide how that money would be used. The meeting agreed to pay PM £200 for the use of his bike at the Chester Green Festival on the 7th June.

Having reached this positive conclusion there was a brief AOB discussion reference the use of 'Cyclescape' for on line discussion between CCC members and, as recorded in the minutes of the last meeting, CCC members are encouraged to investigate Cyclescape and give their feedback at the June meeting.

The meeting finished at 8:30pm.