

Minutes of the Greenwich Cyclists Monthly July 2008 Monthly Meeting at the Armada Centre, Creek Road, SE8

1. Introductions and Apologies

Present: Anthony Austin (Chair), Tom Crispin, Sarah Ellis, Grant Griffiths, Teri Griffiths, Chris le Breton, Stuart Parkins, David Senior.

Apologies: Andy Braben, Derek Mark

2. Approval of June Minutes

Approval of the June minutes was deferred until 8.30 pm when it was hoped that Derek Mark (Treasurer) would have arrived at the meeting as he had informed Anthony that he had a number of points on the June minutes as well as the AGM Minutes.

3. Matters Arising

- (a) **Banners** – The new banners were on display outside the Armada Centre. The bases took about 15 minutes to fill to stabilise them. They will be kept in the Armada Centre in a dedicated space in the cupboard.
- (b) **Greenwich Park** – There was no further news on the possible speed reduction through the Park.

4. Planning Issues

- (a) **Old Royal Naval College** – The Greenwich Wheel is currently erected on part of the cycle path. Bikes are currently allowed to enter via the gate near the Tourist Information and a notice is displayed noting the central path is a temporary cycle path. The Trafalgar Tavern Gate is now open again having been closed for a short time. It was agreed that members cycling through the Old Royal Naval College should watch the situation while the wheel is in operation. The path still closes at 6.00 pm.

Action: Everyone

- (b) **Thames Path Missing Link – Westminster Estate** – Anthony reported that there is a meeting on 11 July when Nick Raynsford will be talking to the leadership of Greenwich Council. Greenwich Cyclists are not invited to that meeting but Barry Mason will liaise with Nick Raynsford and update the group.

Action: Barry

- (c) **Greenwich Town Centre** – Anthony had heard that nothing is happening with Greenwich Council's Unitary Plan for Greenwich Town Centre. Our preference would be for a cycle contraflow north to south on the southern part of King William Walk and east to west along Nevada Street. Anthony will pursue, possibly with a question to open council.

Action: Anthony

5. Meridian School

After exhaustive research six new childrens bikes had been delivered to Meridian School to start an after school bike club for the children, parents and staff. The four smaller and two bigger Carrera Subway bikes with six helmets and currently two locks, had cost £875 with a 20% discount for a group registration from Halfords. Last Thursday Anthony and Teri attended a handing over ceremony (pictures on the website) and there is an inaugural ride at 3.30 pm on 15 July. The school has applied for a travel plan to obtain grant money for a bike rack and more locks. Tom recommended a long chain to lock the bikes together and Anthony will continue to monitor.

Action: Anthony

6. Rides

Teri, as new rides co-ordinator, is working out some rides which are taking some time to plan. Sarah reported on a couple of short, easy rides which she had led recently and David reported that unfortunately only one person (other than himself) had turned up for the ride he led in Bike Week.

Everyone was reminded that the joints rides meeting with Lewisham, Southwark and Bromley cyclists takes place at 6.30 pm on the last Wednesday of each month in the Dog & Bell and anyone who wanted to lead or even had an idea for a ride, was welcome to attend.

David reported that he had done the Mayor's Ride on 22 June; about 50 people took part and the food at the end at Erith had been good.

7. Any Other Business

- (a) **Lewisham and Greenwich Young Cyclists** - Tom Crispin reported that he had received a grant of £4,125 on behalf of Lewisham and Greenwich Cyclists to run a school bike club for the schools where he works aimed at years 5, 6, 7 and 8 (aged 9-13) to be called Lewisham and Greenwich Young Cyclists. The inaugural meeting where Tom will share his vision for the club over the next year is being held on 9 July at John Ball School where officers will be elected. Tom will be co-ordinator which is not an elected post. Thought would need to be given to equipment, publicity, training for instructors, maintenance, CRB checks, first aiders, insurance and legal liability and legal responsibility when taking unaccompanied children on rides. Tom confirmed that before applying for the grant he had consulted with Anthony and Liz but apologised that he had not mentioned his plans at either the monthly meetings or on the e-list. Anthony confirmed that he is thoroughly in favour of Tom's plans which should receive the full support of the senior group.
- (b) **August Meeting** – It was agreed that there will be no meeting in August.

At this point in the meeting, Derek Mark had not arrived so it was agreed to revert to item 2 on the agenda and discuss the June minutes and the AGM minutes. Anthony circulated the June minutes, the AGM minutes and an e-mail which Derek had sent to Anthony setting out a number of points he had on those two sets of minutes.

Derek felt that the minutes of Charlie Lloyd's report to the AGM did not accurately reflect what had been said. After discussion it was agreed that Anthony would forward to Charlie Lloyd both the minutes and what Derek considered should be said in the AGM minutes asking Charlie to amend as he considered appropriate. Generally the meeting felt that the minutes covered all the points which Charlie had made to the AGM.

Action: Anthony

Derek mentioned in his e-mail that he was disappointed no-one had requested any of the newly printed cards to be distributed on rides during Bike Week.

Derek felt that the postponement of the Bike Breakfast during Bike Week could have been avoided and had been badly handled.

Derek was also disappointed at the small number of people who had attended the Bike Week Barbecue.

Derek also mentioned that the LCC had mislaid the Greenwich (and Bromley) accounts.

Having noted the above comments, the minutes of the June meeting were approved.