

Southampton Cycling Campaign Minutes of May meeting 11/05/15

Present: Eric Reed, Cllr Steve Galton (Millbrook), Cllr David Fuller (Bitterne Park), Cllr Alex Houghton (Peartree), Jim Probert, David Thomas, Stephen Edwards, Hugh Davis, Jon Bingham, Sue & Barry Colborne, Pete and Tina Davis, Su White, David Pemberton, Tim Wakely, Eleanor Vamplew. **Apologies:** John Heath, Chris Jenkins, Chris Bluemel, Jonathon Chant.

Minutes of previous meeting: Pete Davis passed around his minutes of the April meeting with Darren Ord and gave a report of the main points of Darren's talk on cyclist safety.

It was agreed that, as some Campaign officers were not present, it would be better to postpone the AGM until June. This would also allow more time for discussion with the councillors.

Crown Court Trial: Tina gave a report on the trial of Sophie Whitmarsh, charged with causing death by dangerous driving of cyclist Mr Logan in Curdridge last year. The defendant "did not see" the cyclist; she was found guilty by the jury. Tina said the trial was more satisfactory than the David Irving trial, due in part to a better prosecuting barrister. Members were reminded that there was a Magistrates' Court trial on 20th May of a driver who had deliberately rammed a cyclist.

Newsletter: Liz will produce the summer newsletter in time for Bike Week (13th – 20th June) if she receives contributions in next week. The following contributions agreed: Shared-use paths (David P); New schemes in Eastleigh (Eric); Results of election candidates survey (David T); Rides (Lindsay); Crown Court Trial (Pete); Darren Ord's talk and website (Pete); Review of book about roads and bikes (Jon); Rideride (Lindsay to ask); Air Quality Scrutiny Panel recommendations (Cllr Galton).

Bike Week: the following rides agreed: **Monday** Chilworth and Lordswood, meet 6.30 pm at the Cowherds **Tuesday** Stoke Park Woods, meet 6.30 pm at Lakeside cafe **Wednesday** Hamble, meet 6.30 pm at the Bargate, 7pm at Woolston Station **Thursday** John Heath will lead a ride to a local pub, details to be confirmed **Friday** Durley, meet 6.30 pm in Riverside Park by Cobden Bridge. Eric informed us of a cycle event in Eastleigh on the first Sat of Bike Week.

Direction of the Campaign: discussion around the role of the Campaign and how it could be more effective. Steven asked the Cllrs how they thought we could play a more constructive role. Members raised concerns over Highways inadequate consultation with cyclists, leading to expenditure on unnecessary works, particularly dangerous roads (Shirley High St, Bassett Avenue and Bitterne Rd West) and specific issues (uneven paving slabs in Above Bar by Guildhall Sq, No Right Turn at top of West Park Rd). Cllrs noted all the issues and agreed to raise in Council where possible. David Pemberton questioned the Council's supposed aim of modal shift. Eric spoke about the Cycle Forum and Cllr Galton expressed an interest in attending. Su thought that nothing would change unless councillors actually got on their bikes and cycled around the city to see for themselves how terrible some routes were. She agreed to organise a ride for councillors on the second Bike Week Saturday.

Election candidates questionnaire: David explained how he had carried out the survey, based on Cambridge Cycling Campaign's survey of candidates. About 25% of questionnaires were returned; this varied from party to party, some returning over 50%, others far less. Most candidates were in favour of 20 mph zones; Jacqui Raiment (Labour, Transport and Environment) was opposed because of the cost. Cllr Galton expressed his support and denied that it would be expensive to implement.

AOB: Lindsay reminded people about the Brummell Bummel on 17th May. The Cllrs were thanked for their attendance, which was much appreciated.

LB 11/05/15