

## Minutes of LCC AGM - 8/11/97

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE LONDON CYCLING CAMPAIGN HELD AT 2PM ON 8TH NOVEMBER 1997 AT THE LONDON VOLUNTARY SECTOR RESOURCE CENTRE

#### 1) Present:

Rose Ades, Mike Aiken, Rik Andrew, Doug Angus, Dave Bacon, Darrell Barnes, Sue Brown, Bruce Cadbury, Douglas Carnall, Andre Cassalotti, A Castallano-Smith, Andy Cawdell, Kath Church, Dave Clark, Fiona Clark, Bridget Cotter, Humphrey Couchman, Gary Cummins, Pippa Curtis, Siriol Davies, Kirsten Denker, Margaret Doherty, Chris Eardley, Guy Eagling, Tony Emerson, Richard Evans, Leslie Everest, Richard Everest, Alison Ewington, T A Flint, Alex Forrest, Elise Gibbons, Peter Glass, Paul Gannon, Neil Guthrie, Alastair Hanton, Charles Harvie, David Hedges, John Heyderman, Duncan Hibbard, John Hilary, John Hinshelwood, Mark Hubbard, Karl Jansen, Suzanne Jansen, Gavin Killip, Paul Kress, Charlie Lloyd, Andrew Mackenzie, Jo Mackenzie, John Mackenzie, Ian Manders, Charles Martin, Barry Mason, Rob McIvor, J A McKinnell, Caroline Morgan, Clare Neely, Ian Oliver, Brendan Paddy, Jeremy Parker, Michael Peel, Fiona Penny, Charles Robinson, John Sarson, Ben Shaw, Romney Tansley, S Taylor, J P Touchard, Crispin Truman, Robert Vaughan, Spencer Wain, Tom Williams, Colin Wing

#### 2) Apologies:

Michael Bridgeland

Julia Brundell

Philip Parker

#### 3) Welcome

3.1 Bruce Cadbury welcomed everyone to the AGM, and explained that he would be chairing the meeting. He also introduced Tim Eaton, who has just been appointed Director of LCC.

3.2 Charlie Lloyd said a few words about John Billeter, who was recently killed when a car hit his bicycle. John is best known for organising the Little Green Ride for the last six or seven years, but was also LCC's Islington co-ordinator until recently. His family have asked for donations to go to LCC. In addition, there is a collection to help pay for the funeral, and Charlie can pass money on to the family if anyone wishes to help in this way.

#### 4) Standing Orders

4.1 The standing orders had to be approved before the meeting could proceed.

4.2 PROPOSAL: *This AGM resolves to approve the standing orders as outlined in the paper.*

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Proposed by Karl Jansen                      Seconded by Rob McIvor  
For 43                      Against 0                      Abstentions 2  
The standing orders were APPROVED.

### 5) Minutes of 1996 AGM

5.1 PROPOSAL: *This AGM resolves to adopt the Minutes of the 1996 AGM as a true and accurate record of the event.*

Proposed by: Darrell Barnes                      Seconded by: Fiona Penny.  
For 42                      Against 0                      Abstentions 11  
The Minutes were APPROVED.

5.2 There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

### 6) Questions on reports

6.1 Chair - there were no questions

6.2 Company Secretary - no questions

6.3 Treasurer

6.3.1 Gavin Killip wondered why the deficit for 1997 was so much more than in 1996. Darrell Barnes commented that the financial situation is very tight, and that LCC will have very modest reserves at the end of 1997. LCC does have money in the bank, but care will have to be taken when the Management Committee set the 1998 budget on 1st December.

6.4 Membership and Office Administration - no questions

6.5 Campaigns

6.5.1.1 Mark Hubbard requested more information about the proposed 20 mph campaign.

6.5.1.2 Sue Brown explained that perceptions of road safety are very important when people are considering cycling, and that speed plays a major part in this. In Norwich, a reduction to 20 mph resulted in fewer accidents across the board, but particularly lessened those involving children and cyclists. The 20 mph campaign presents an opportunity to work with residents' associations, parents, schools and others, and to extend the appeal of cycling. The Campaigns Subcommittee (CS) would like to produce papers outlining the benefits of reduced speed, aimed at different groups including MPs and local election candidates, and to campaign for the speed limit to be set at 20 mph throughout London. Some roads could still have a higher limit, but the council would have to justify this, and give evidence that a higher speed was necessary. A Day of Action is planned for April, and LCC hopes to celebrate its 20th birthday with a rally in Trafalgar Square in the autumn, with a huge 20 mph sign hanging from Nelson's Column! Some work on this issue has already been done, and the campaign can tie in

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with the work of Slow Down, who are launching a briefing in February calling for all urban roads to be reduced to 20 mph. However, limited resources will make it difficult for all this work to take place, and donations would be very welcome!

6.5.1.3 Charles Harvie pointed out that the police do not enforce the current speed limits. Sue agreed that enforcement is essential, particularly since it would be too costly to try to traffic calm every road in London. Some action can be taken by central government without the need for legislation. Fines should be increased, and a hefty administration fee could be added, with this money going directly to the police. Speeding enforcement could also be made into a "key objective", which would mean the police's performance would be assessed against this. There is also a need for social education, so that speeding is seen to be anti-social, rather than something everyone does.

6.5.1.4 Kirsten Denker asked for a general overview of proposed campaigns in 1998. Sue explained that the CS have produced a five year plan, and each autumn they will use this to identify priorities for the following year. In 1998, both campaigns chosen relate to safety and reach out to non-fanatical cyclists, with assistance for adult cyclists (through Dr Bikes, Bikemate, short easy rides, etc) and the 20 mph campaign being prioritised.

6.5.1.5 Alastair Hanton emphasised the importance of working with other organisations, especially pedestrian groups. He also pointed out that local groups can press for local 20 mph zones at the same time as London-wide lobbying is being carried out. In Southwark crash rates have reduced by 50% where traffic calming has taken place.

6.5.1.6 Douglas Carnall echoed the view that this could be a very inclusive campaign, and that non-cyclists would join in because it is very pleasant to live within a 20 mph zone. It also presents an opportunity to persuade people who don't currently cycle to give it a go, and often once they try it and see how efficient it is they will cycle more. Hackney LCC had some success with this when they took their borough engineers out on a ride, because it persuaded them that cycling is the fastest way to get around.

6.5.1.7 Kath Church raised a concern that some roads may end up with a higher speed limit than they have at present if councils are able to apply for this. Sue accepted that there would probably be cases where this was so, but pointed out that at least under this system the council would have to show that the advantages of the higher speed outweighed the safety benefits of lower speeds. The campaign would not be taken seriously if it argued that every road should have a 20 mph limit, since there are roads where this would not be appropriate, and the proposed method would get around the problem of opponents using roads where a 20 mph limit would be inappropriate to rubbish the whole campaign. In addition, as residents see the benefits of lower speeds it will become harder

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to get councils to agree to higher limits.

6.5.1.8 Ian Manders suggested that all the existing signs could be retained and could refer to km/h instead of mph! He said that London's first 20 mph zone was in Kingston, and was very successful, although there can be a backlash from motorists and local residents on roads where traffic has been diverted as a result. It is necessary for those who are supportive of schemes to keep up pressure on politicians.

6.5.1.9 Tony Emerson stated that an ALARM UK report had said that most existing traffic calming had occurred in middle class areas, and that a London-wide campaign such as that proposed would benefit everyone. Others pointed out that traffic calming has been carried out on council estates as well.

6.5.1.10 Richard Evans felt that in the longer term the onus should be on car manufacturers to stop producing cars capable of high speeds, rather than on the police to stop speeding. It is already possible to fit speed limiters to vehicles, and this method would shift the financial burden from tax payers, who pay for traffic calming, to motorists and manufacturers.

6.5.1.11 Rose Ades pointed out that even if 20 mph zones were put in place there will still be a need to campaign for improved cycle facilities.

6.5.1.12 A show of hands in favour of the proposals for a 20 mph campaign had unanimous support.

6.5.2 Paul Gannon asked whether there had been any progress on canal towpath charges in Kennet and Avon. Charlie Lloyd explained that there had been a strong reaction against the plans nationally, including from LCC, and the issue had received a lot of coverage. British Waterways have no plans to extend the charges to London, and are aware of the problems with the scheme.

6.5.3 Caroline Morgan asked whether LCC had made a response to the Integrated Transport White Paper, and Sue replied that she is currently collating everyone's drafts and amendments and will be sending a response before the deadline for comments.

## 6.6 Staff and Volunteers Subcommittee

6.6.1 Richard Evans requested more information on the new Director post. Crispin Truman explained that the decision to appoint a Director was agreed over the past two years, and a lot of work had gone into the process. The recruitment panel was made up of himself, LCC Chair Bruce Cadbury, Rose Ades from the Campaigns Subcommittee, and an external representative. The recruitment process involved an initial interview, a meeting with the staff and a final interview. Tim Eaton then spoke about his background and plans, particularly to raise LCC's profile and increase its

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income.

6.6.2 Crispin thanked the subcommittee, particularly the co-opted volunteers John Hinshelwood and Paul Soames.

### **6.7 Marketing**

6.7.1 John Hilary asked if there were plans to insert LCC materials in other magazines. Pippa Curtis explained that the publicity budget is typically around £1500, and that last year was the first time LCC could afford to try this recruitment method, largely to use up leaflets with the old address. This year the most successful inserts were repeated, and the same may happen again in 1998. All forms are coded and monitored, but it can still be difficult to determine the response rate.

6.7.2 Richard Evans asked when LCC would be able to accept direct debit payments. Pippa agreed that this was a priority for retaining members, and explained that the IT Strategy Working Group had recommended a new membership system which would allow LCC to process direct debit payments. It is hoped that this can be implemented in 1998.

6.7.3 Brendan Paddy commented that much of LCC's press coverage is reactive, in response to media enquiries. Pippa agreed that the press now contact LCC for comments far more than they used to, and this presents an opportunity to be more pro-active. Two press releases were issued this week on the LCN awards. Ideally LCC would have a press officer who has the time to build up good links with journalists. Rob McIvor pointed out that a lot of the London press is localised, with the Evening Standard and Big Issue being the only papers covering the whole of London. Local papers are often willing to run stories, and work on this needs to be done by local groups. He offered his help to any group on this.

6.7.4 Douglas Carnall wondered what progress had been made on marketing electronically. Charlie Lloyd reported that LCC has a web site which is run by volunteers using space donated by Cerbenet. It is not clear how many hits this receives, but a small number of people have joined using the form on the site. Some local groups also have their own web sites. At present the LCC office has no e-mail capabilities. Pippa pointed out that a communications audit is due to be carried out, and all areas of the organisation will be consulted as part of this.

A vote of thanks to those involved on committees and to the staff was approved.

### **7) Approval of accounts**

7.1 PROPOSAL: *This AGM resolves to approve the accounts and to re-appoint Gotham and Co as auditors.*

Proposed by: Darrell Barnes      Seconded by: Tom Williams.

For 46                      Against 0                      Abstentions 6  
This was APPROVED.

## 8) Elections

8.1 The chair passed to Andy Cawdell for the elections. He outlined the procedure, and then the MC members not standing for election each spoke, to give an idea of the whole group.

8.2 Each candidate then made a speech, and then answered questions from the floor.

8.3 Andy explained that Julia Brundell was getting married and Philip Parker was on holiday, and both had sent their apologies for being unable to attend. He read out their statements from "London Cyclist".

8.4 The results of the election were as follows:

| <u>Candidate</u>      | <u>Proposed</u> | <u>Seconded</u> | <u>Votes</u> |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Rik Andrew</b>     | T Penn          | R Cope          | <b>20</b>    |
| <b>Julia Brundell</b> | D Barnes        | C Truman        | <b>37</b>    |
| <b>Bruce Cadbury</b>  | R Tansley       | C Truman        | <b>57</b>    |
| <b>Dave Clark</b>     | C Davies        | P Box           | <b>22</b>    |
| <b>Leslie Everest</b> | C Truman        | L Gaskell       | <b>67</b>    |
| <b>Barry Mason</b>    | A Cawdell       | D Barnes        | <b>68</b>    |
| <b>Philip Parker</b>  | C Truman        | L Gaskell       | <b>25</b>    |
| <b>Romney Tansley</b> | C Lloyd         | B Cadbury       | <b>39</b>    |
| <b>Crispin Truman</b> | M Harrison      | M Kennedy       | <b>77</b>    |
| <b>Tom Williams</b>   | L Reilly        | C Lloyd         | <b>46</b>    |

As a result, Crispin Truman, Barry Mason, Leslie Everest, Bruce Cadbury, Tom Williams and Romney Tansley were elected to the Management Committee.

8.5 There were as many candidates as there are places for the Policy Group, and so no election was held. Dave Clark, Mark Hubbard and Paul Gannon will all be on the Policy Group.

8.6 Bruce Cadbury returned to the Chair.

## 9. Shared Use Policy

9.1 Margaret Doherty introduced the policy, which was the result of a high level of debate over the past year. It recognises the commonality of interest and vulnerability between cyclists and pedestrians, and seeks to reflect the difficulties there can be between the two groups. The policy emphasises the importance of considering all users, and suggests that shared use is not ideal, and that each situation must be considered on its merits.

9.2 The Policy Group proposed their amendment because they felt the initial policy didn't make clear their view that shared use should only be used when it is the least bad option.

9.3 Rik Andrew and Charles Robinson felt the value of shared use should not be underestimated, particularly in central London, and expressed concern that the amendment gives the impression that LCC does not support cycle use of towpaths and parks. Rob McIvor felt the last sentence of the amendment allowed for such use, since these are areas where there is no road space to reallocate. Margaret Doherty explained that the Policy Group wanted to ensure that shared use was not seen as a way to keep cyclists out of the way of motorists.

9.4 Caroline Morgan said she would rather see cyclists using pavements and giving way to pedestrians than have cyclists battling with traffic. She has had little difficulty as a pedestrian where there has been shared use with cyclists, although there must be clear signing.

9.5 Crispin Truman felt the policy did not recognise that pavement cycling could sometimes be justified. Clare Neely agreed that poor design can sometimes push cyclists onto the pavement, while Paul Gannon stated that there is a wider issue of inconsiderate cyclists, not just pavement cyclists. Margaret explained that the Group had specifically stated in the policy that shared use did not cover illegal pavement cycling to ensure the policy was not sidelined by this issue, while John Heyderman pointed out that the policy does later discuss reasons people may use pavements. He felt it was necessary to include the word illegal to allow for shared use where pavement cycling has been officially sanctioned.

9.6 PROPOSAL: *That the word "illegal" be removed from the first section of the amendment.*

Proposed by: Crispin Truman      Seconded by Suzanne Jansen.  
For 29                      Against 15                      Abstentions 2  
This proposal was APPROVED.

9.7 Paul Gannon then spoke against the amendment as a whole, believing that it makes the policy too negative by overemphasising the problems with shared use.

9.8 PROPOSAL: *This AGM resolves to approve the amendment to the shared use policy proposed by the Policy Group.*

Proposed by: Margaret Doherty      Seconded by Rob McIvor.  
For 26                      Against 11                      Abstentions 14  
The amendment was APPROVED.

9.9 Douglas Carnall was not happy with the policy, and felt that the opening paragraphs in particular were confusing. He felt that it should be referred back for amendment, but suggested the policy could be used as a guideline in the meantime. Margaret and John

opposed this, saying that there had been a lot of opportunities to amend the policy, and pointed out that if the policy was referred back it would be another year before LCC had a policy on shared use. In addition, the Policy Group is made up of different people next year. They suggested that people should reject the policy if they disagreed with it.

9.10 PROPOSAL: *This AGM resolves that the shared use policy be referred back to the Policy Group for further discussion.*

Proposed by: Caroline Morgan    Seconded by: Douglas Carnall

For: 13                      Against: 37                      Abstentions:

The proposal was REJECTED.

9.11 PROPOSAL: *This AGM resolves that the amended policy on shared use, as proposed by the policy group, be adopted as LCC policy.*

Proposed by: Margaret Doherty    Seconded by: John Heyderman

For: 34                      Against: 11                      Abstentions: 9

The amended policy was APPROVED.

## **10) Motions**

10.1 The Barnet group wished to withdraw their motion on "jug handle" turns, as they felt it was more appropriate for such technical matters to be discussed at the Campaigns Subcommittee.

10.2.1 Charles Harvie spoke in favour of the motion on local group financing. He pointed out that local groups are the public face of LCC for most members, and that they take on a wide range of activities, including organised rides, lobbying, and newsletter production. However, groups are underfunded, and have to organise jumble sales in order to cover their costs. John Mackenzie felt the proposal was modest, and stated that in Belgium local groups can claim up to 50% of the subscriptions paid by their members.

10.2.2 Darrell Barnes outlined the current system, where local groups receive £65 plus 65p for each LCC member in their area. He wondered whether it was intended that this system would be replaced by that proposed by the Barnet group, or whether both would operate simultaneously. The Barnet group clarified that they intended their system to replace the existing one.

10.2.3 Clare Neely expressed concern that this would mean smaller groups would receive far less funding from LCC than they do at present. These are the groups who need most support and are least able to do their own fundraising.

10.2.4 Leslie Everest pointed out that LCC's resources are already limited, and that if any additional money is taken out of the central budget it will limit the activities which can be carried out. She felt that fundraising is a fun way for local groups to get together and involve people. Darrell Barnes clarified that the system proposed by Barnet would double the amount of money going to local groups, and Mark Hubbard wondered which budget they

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would like to see cut to pay for this.

10.2.5 PROPOSAL: *This AGM resolves that LCC borough groups, to cover their running costs, will be entitled to claim up to 10% of the value of the subscriptions their members pay to the LCC.*

Proposed by: Charles Harvie    Seconded by: John Mackenzie  
For: 11            Against: 26            Abstentions:

The proposal was REJECTED.

#### **11) Any other urgent business**

11.1 Romney Tansley wished to make a proposal that policy should be formed by the Management Committee rather than the AGM. This proposal was ruled out of order because it does not relate to urgent business. It was pointed out that it has already been agreed by the Management Committee that the new Policy Group should discuss mechanisms for policy formulation.

11.2 Bruce Cadbury thanked everyone for attending, and thanked Spencer Wain for organising the day's events. He also expressed his gratitude to the staff and volunteers who had helped on the day.

The meeting closed at 5.15pm.

Fiona Clark  
19th November 1997

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