

CycleHerts: Minutes of meeting held Tuesday 12th November 2013

1. Apologies for absence: John Shead, Bob Jones, Peter Bate, Nick Truran.
2. Present: John Metcalf (Chair), Adam Edwards (Secretary), Chris Whitehouse (Treasurer), Ian Gregory (Website), Simon Geller (Cyclenation), Jim Brown, Roger Bangs, Richard Stubbs, Tom Spaven.
3. Simon Geller, Secretary of Cyclenation, gave a presentation on Cyclenation and what they do:
 - Presentation to be circulated to members not present. **Action AE.**
 - Mission is “Building a nation of cycle friendly communities” by supporting local groups and giving them a national voice. A federation so no fixed policies.
 - Focus on utility cycling to shops, work, school, so as not to clash with CTC, Sustrans etc
 - Keen on: Ordinary activity, 20mph speeds, choice on helmets, cycle network, Bikeability
 - Coordinate between groups and keep them informed on national issues and chances to bid for funds. Good links with CTC.
 - Represented at UK government level via the UK Cycling Alliance. UK Cycling Alliance pays for a parliamentary worker.
 - Annual conference: To be in London 2014. Date to be announced.
 - London CC is the biggest member of Cyclenation with 10,000 members. Membership increasing again
 - Concerned about the issues of local authority officers who don't know how to create good cycle routes. Cyclenation looking at best practice world wide and adapting for UK use, not just Netherlands know best.
 - Campaign for 2014 will be to campaign on Space for Cycling, taking the LCC campaign nationwide. This will build to elections on 22nd May 2014 (at same time at European elections). A questionnaire for local councillors will be made available for local groups.
 - Cyclenation has a picture library of positive normal cycling images on Flickr. Please send contributions. **Action All.** Also they use Twitter, Facebook, a blog and the web. Cyclenation.org.uk is being relaunched shortly.
 - It was suggested Cycle Herts should affiliate to Cyclenation with local groups as members, given our structure. Cyclenation funding is tight with only £5000 in the bank.
 - Newsletter articles needed, so contributions welcomed. Please distribute this on to others via mailing lists. The newsletter can be viewed online.
 - How to get new cycling groups formed: Hold a meeting and get local celebrity who is keen on cycling. Involve other local groups and ask what is stopping them cycling. The aim of the meeting should be to establish a local Committee. There will be toolkit for how to do this on the on the new web site
4. Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd August 2013: Adopted.
5. Matters arising
 2. *Police and Crime Commissioner:* John still to do. CTC have sent their *Road Justice* document to PCC and Chief Constable and had no response. Agreed John to ask to meet PCC to discuss. **Action JM.**
 4. *Cycle mapping:* Need to ask to meet Trevor Mason to improve maps through our local knowledge. **Action JM.**
 5. *Rural footways:* No developments.
 - 6 *20mph:* Documents including our submission circulated.
 - 8.c *Meetings with David Lloyd and Terry Douris:* Meeting with Terry Heritage arranged, see 11 below.
6. Update from Herts County Council (HCC): David Burt not responding to emails so no information. John to try to find a way to contact him. **Action JM.**
7. HCC Speed Management Strategy Consultation – to consider a draft response:

- Can only introduce 20 mph limits where there is no problem. There are no plans for blanket limits across entire areas. HCC are putting a less positive spin on this than the Government, so John has compared HCC with DfT guidance. Document tabled.
- Risk is the HCC policy may lead to increased limits, not decreased. PCC is offering the chance for local volunteers to check speeds on local areas after police training. Registrations can be recorded and Police then send letters. Suggested Police should write to insurers instead to result in increased premiums. This idea to be raised when we meet the PCC. **Action JM.**
- LCC policy ideas on speed limits are good: Agreed these should be circulated with a view to adopting a similar policy for Cycle Herts to campaign for. **Action JM.**

8. Bike Week: 14-22nd June 2014. STACC members reported poor attendance in bike week in 2013 and therefore groups should be looking at joining local charity rides. However, need to ensure local groups don't disappear in the publicity.

9. HCC cycle forum - Report from the meeting on 10th September : No major issues.

10. HCC 20 mph scrutiny
- a. Recommendations: Sent round
 - b. Submission from CycleHerts: Sent round

11. Health benefits of cycling: We have arranged to meet the portfolio holder Terry Heritage and the Director of Public Health to urge them to promote active travel (walking and cycling):

- John and Roger to meet DPH in December. **Action JM.**
- Need to encourage Schools and cycling given concerns about heads who oppose cycling to school. **Action CW to contact Steve Rowsell.**

12. Treasurer's report: Donations from STACC, Spokes and Tring received. £150 is in the bank. All local groups contacted. Agreed CTC locally should also be asked if they can help. **Action CW.**

13. WebSite: Running well. Mailing and discussion list has been set up. Eight people have subscribed. The list should be expanded to cover everyone who normally attends or could attend meetings this can be used for Minutes and Agenda and discussion. **Action AE to inform members that they need to join for future communications with Cycle Herts.**

14. Dates of future meetings: Quarterly.

15. Any other business

- Invite A10 campaign (Royston) to meeting. **Action JM.**
- CTC: Software to target all members in the area to send template letters can be used by affiliated groups.
- Cyclescape (<http://www.cyclescape.org/>): STACC is progressing use. It is still not officially released yet. Deals with issues on a location basis. STACC will discuss when set up by them and advise other member groups on best use.
- UH talk: 4:15pm till 6:00pm, 5th December 2013: Dr Robert Davis, Road Danger Reduction Forum, speaking on Can we go Dutch? <http://www.herts.ac.uk/about-us/events/2013/december/can-or-should-we-go-dutch>