

London Living Streets Group

MINUTES, Thursday 24 November 2016, 6pm-8pm

PRESENT: Alastair Hanton (Southwark), David Harrison (Islington), Peter Hartley (Vice Chair), Symon Knightswood (Lewisham), Richard Lambert (Living Streets staff), Jeremy Leach (Chair), Charles Martin (Sutton & LCC), Robert Molteno (Secretary), Susie Morrow (Wandsworth), Andrew Orford (Lewisham), Stephanie Palmer (Islington), Sue Penny (Haringay), Philip Peake (Lewisham), Tom Platt (Living Street Policy Director), Brenda Puech (Hackney), Rosalind Redhead (Islington?), Patty Singleton (Tower Hamlets).

APOLOGIES: Amy Aeron-Thomas (Roadpeace), Corin Ashwell (Lewisham), Michael Bach (Kensington & Chelsea), John Hartley (King's Cross), Dave Irwin (Wandsworth), Toni Pattison (Sutton), Antony Porter, Margot Richardson (Islington).

ACTIONS AND NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS PROMISING TO TAKE ACTION IN RED

Welcome and Introductions (round the table)

1. **Minutes of 22 September 2016:** ACCEPTED
2. **Matters arising**
 - a. **Item 7: GLA and Health:** Tom Platt reported: all Living Streets recommendations had been included in the Assembly Cte's letter to Mayor. **ACTION: Tom Platt to distribute.**
 - b. **Item 9: Campaign & Action Priorities:** Alastair Hanton reminded us of our minuted discussion (22 Sept) that Air Quality is top of public agenda; Tom Platt's suggestion to identify a non-Central London street with school or church/mosque or shops; Dave Irwin's point that we must have an action plan for it. **ACTION: Actions & Campaigns by London LS to be MAIN ITEM on January 2017 Agenda.**

Housekeeping within London LS group

3. **Venue:** Peter Hartley has contact Architects firm; supportive of our agenda; near Farringdon Station; Campaign for Better Transport already use; free. **ACTIONS: (i) Next meeting to be held in new venue to try it out; (ii) Peter Hartley to firm up date and provide address.**
4. **London LS group YAHOO Group:** Brenda Puech has put all London LS participants on system, and sent us all message.
How it works: Every person in receipt of Brenda's message can send and receive a message (without the Moderator intervening); it will go (bcc – ie you can't see recipients) to everyone else. The email address to send group messages to is **livingstreetslondon@yahoogroups.com**
5. **Web section for London Living Streets:** David Harrison suggests some rewording of text: **ACTION: David Harrison to send to Jeremy Leach suggested rewording.**

Four London LS Consultation responses on web page already. **ACTION: Jeremy Leach to get LS to mount London LS Manifesto, A City for All Londoners response, and Air Quality response when each finalised.** Robert suggested site wld be humanised by having some names and faces (e.g. Chair, Vice-Chair). Disadvantage: all older, white and male! **ACTION: Despite some hesitation, Jeremy Leach to get it done.**

6. **Manifesto for London Living Streets:** Lively discussion in which everyone made constructive and detailed suggestions. Details of points made summarised in Annex to these Minutes. **(See ANNEX)** Urgent to finalise Manifesto because Mayor's Transport Strategy being drafted already for release in February/March 2017; we need to inject ideas into this process right now.

DECISIONS: (i) Manifesto must be brief (1 page?); (ii) at most some 7 Bullet Points (of high level objectives); (iii) presenting a positive vision; (iv) In due course, behind each objective, we need to draft more detailed proposals.

ACTIONS by each of us: (i) Send your draft wording to Jeremy Leach by Tuesday 29 November; (ii) Jeremy will redraft and circulate new version asap; (iii) Manifesto needs to be sent to Val Shawcross, Deputy Mayor Transport (preferably in face to face meeting).

Actions by London LS group

7. **Officers' Report- back:**
 - a. **Chair (Jeremy Leach):** Jeremy and Tom Platt have held meeting with City of London re future of Bank Station area. Jeremy and Robert Molteno met Oliver Lord, Deputy Air Quality Manager for London. **ACTION: Robert to circulate Lord's useful presentation of the facts behind the current Air Quality consultation.**
 - b. **Vice-Chair (Peter Hartley):** see Item 8 below.
 - c. **Media (David Harrison):** David & Jeremy had useful meeting with Tanya at LS Office & will get support from her. When *A City for All Londoners* consultation response finalised, David will issue press release (hopefully *Evening Standard* will pick up).
8. **Measures to encourage new Living Street groups:** **ACTION: (i) Peter Hartley will write to series of local papers around London encouraging residents to form new local LS groups. (ii) Jeremy Leach to put Peter Hartley in touch with 3 Barnet residents who might form a new group.**
9. **Consultations we need to respond to:**
 - a. **A City for All Londoners: Mayor's Statement of Intent** (CLOSING DATE 11 DECEMBER 2016) <http://www.london.gov.uk/get-involved/have-your-say/all-consultations/city-all-londoners> Some suggestions were made to amend David Harrison's draft. **ACTION: (i) Please send suggestions to David Harrison by Tuesday 29 November; (ii) David will finalise text & send to Jeremy Leach; (iii) David will issue press release when submitted.**
 - b. **Air Quality Consultation** (Part 1 Statutory; Part 2. Seeking views re possible remit of a revised ULEZ. (CLOSING DATE: 18 DECEMBER 2016) tfl.gov.uk/airquality-consultation

ACTIONS: (i) Brenda Puech will draft London LS response; (ii) Anyone who wants to suggest input, send to Brenda by 29 November; (iii) Brenda will circulate draft to all of us; (iv) she and Jeremy Leach will finalise and submit.

- c. **Tavistock Place:** John Hartley sent message: 15,000 responses, 78% in favour of scheme, including 61% of residents. Camden Council keen to implement scheme. Looks likely to go ahead.
 - d. **Buses in Central London consultation:** Tom Platt reported this is being launched 25 November 2016. **ACTION: Tom Platt will draft London LS response and send draft to Jeremy Leach.**
- 10. London Assembly Transport Committee investigation into Traffic Congestion in London:** Tom Platt reported Cte has taken evidence. **ACTION: Tom Platt will find what action, if any, Cte has decided to take.**
- 11. Mini-Holland Project:** This likely to be incorporated in London LS *Manifesto*.
- 12. Vigils:** Jeremy Leach, Susie Morrow and Rosalind Redhead attended vigil for cyclist killed on Lavender Hill, Battersea. **ACTION: Peter Hartley with Amy Aeron-Thomas to draft a *How to Organise a Vigil* for us to use.** (Essential, and sometimes difficult, to contact family members involved and get their consent and participation). Peter has a banner and loudhailer.
- 13. Interface with TfL -- Report-backs:**
- a. **Better Junctions Design Review Group** (Brenda Puech, Dave Irwin): No new meeting scheduled. Simon Munck of LCC has still not drafted a Junctions Design Guide incorporating both cyclist and pedestrian concerns that both LS and LCC could use to influence TfL consultants re future junction re-designs. There seems to be some fault line dividing pedestrians from cyclists re (a) Cycle lanes crossing pedestrian footways on corners where cyclists in danger from left-turning lorries; (b) at floating bus stops, whether pedestrians crossing across segregated cycle lanes from pavements to bus stops should have priority or not; and (c) one or two other points of conflict.

Note: There is already Tom Platt's detailed *Living Streets position statement on TfL Better Junctions Review*, 21 December 2015, that lists Principles, Information to be provided, Pedestrian Crossings, Footway widths, One Way streets, and Cycle Bypasses. **ACTION: Dialogue between London LS and LCC needed to try and develop a common position. [Brenda Puech & Dave Irwin to undertake? Not discussed]**
 - b. **Road Safety Steering Group:** Tom Platt: no meeting currently scheduled.
 - c. **Pedestrian Road Safety Action Group:** (David Harrison; Jeremy Leach) No meeting currently scheduled.
 - d. **Bus Stop Bypass Working Group** (Brenda Puech & Dave Irwin): **ACTION: Robert Molteno to circulate Dave Irwin's Notes from Bus Stop By-Passes Working Group, 3 October 2016.**

- e. **London Freight Enforcement Partnership (LFEP):** Susie Morrow distributed a detailed explanation of this group. The Freight Compliance Unit is setting up a LFEP webpage by Christmas where newsletters and information on drivers and operators will be posted. **ACTION: Robert Molteno to circulate Susie's explanation.**
 - f. **Pedestrian Town Centre Pilots in Peckham & Tooting:** Tom Platt: No meeting held. But TfL has now authorised both projects to proceed.
14. **Interface with GLA:** Tom Platt and Jeremy Leach meet Tom Layfield of GLA re **Oxford Street**. Meeting again 5 December.
15. **Active Travel Commissioner in TfL: What action by London LS once apptd:** Date of announcement may be imminent. A 3-day a week role, covering both Walking and Cycling Londoners. **ACTION: Jeremy Leach and Peter Hartley to meet as soon as s/he appointed.**
16. **Local Living Streets groups – Feedback:** Peter Hartley mentioned one development in Westminster.
17. **LS Trustees' current exploration of relations with Local Groups: Update:** Peter Hartley had long conversation with LS Trustee; Brenda Puech was not approached. This trustee will be making recommendations to the LS Board re the membership question and how LS can support local groups more effectively.
18. **Place-based issues (Oxford Street etc): DECISION: Next London LS Meeting will focus on what Campaigns we do, including around particular Places.**
19. **Walking summit and Living Streets AGM (18 March 2017):** Tom Platt reported Val Shawcross, Deputy Mayor for Transport, will speak. Will hopefully be link with aTfL event on previous day.
20. **AOB**
- a. **Shared Surfaces Report by Living Streets :** Symon Knightswood suggested this might be relevant in helping LS and London Cycling Campaign develop a common position on shared space. **ACTION: Tom Platt to send to Robert Molteno for circulation to all London LS participants.**
 - b. **Clear Space & Personal Air Pollution Monitors:** London LS been approached by this organization; want to us to collaborate in making these monitors available free of charge to those who want them **ACTION: Jeremy Leach to send details via Yahoo Group to all London LS participants.**
21. **Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 25 January 2017, 6 – 8pm. NOTE CHANGE OF VENUE:** Alan Baxter Architects, 75 Cowcross St., London EC1M 6EL. [very near Farringdon Tube Station (on Hammersmith & City, Metropolitan, and Circle lines). In Boardroom in Basement (takes 20 people).

ANNEX: Finalising London LS Manifesto – Points made

Peter Hartley: Draft not radical enough. Suggests:

- **Ban on all Road Building in London** (incl. Silvertown Tunnel that Mayor has committed to)
- **A Mini-Holland for Pedestrians in every Borough** (involving reduction in road traffic)
- **20mph everywhere**
- **Ban all Diesels**
- **Road Pricing** (already exists in Congestion Charge area; and why only operational 5 days a week?)

Symon Knightswood:

- **A Public Transport policy**, especially in Outer London, that actively supports transferring people out of their cars. (Currently, congested trains etc are constraints)
- **Standardised minimum requirements for Pedestrians that are enforced:** e.g. minimum widths of pavements (currently cars allowed to park partly on pavements on some streets).
- **Policy to address real problem of Conflict between Pedestrians and Cyclists:** on pavements, in parks.
- **Space should be taken from Motorists, no longer from Pedestrians.**
- **A Scrutinising body should be set up over TfL:** currently only ways to challenge TfL are via Assembly Members asking questions etc, or the Courts.
- **Regular re-testing of Motorists' knowledge of Highway Code:** e.g. rules re who has priority when driver turning into or out of an intersection.
- **Controls over building works adjacent to Footways:** borough officers do not act.

Philip Peake:

- **Maximum standard widths for carriageways:** instead of trying to define minimum pavement widths.
- **'Cellulisation'/Convivial neighbourhoods:** Main roads around a particular residential area, but within it, all residential roads should have filtered permeability in order to prevent rat-running and transform the areas where we live.

Patty Singleton:

- **Public Highway notices should not be situated on pavements.**

- **Cyclists on Pavement:** Should be penalties if cyclists do not have lights or cycle on pavements where carriageway available.

Charles Martin:

- **Oppose Shared Use:** a problem for older people in parks.

David Harrison:

- **Shared Space:** London LS should work with LCC to resolve.
- **Remove Gyratories generally**

Brenda Puech:

- **Detailed comments re draft Manifesto:** has already sent to Jeremy Leach.
- **'Cellulisation' approach:** supports Philip Peake's point.
- **Vision Zero re Road Danger**
- **Time and Space: More car-free days and times of day.**

Susie Morrow:

- **Huge electronic advertisements:** ought to be banned because designed to distract motorists; and it is cyclists and pedestrians who pay the price in collisions.

Robert Molteno

- **Policy calls need to be nuanced and with more detailed proposals if London LS is to be listened to seriously.** For example:
- **Inner and Outer London:** One policy does not necessarily fit all.
- **Social Inequality and Road Pricing:** Road Pricing is a regressive tax (ie same tax regardless of income). And non-vehicle owning Londoners (c. half) need to benefit via re-distribution from any Road pricing scheme; such mechanisms could build political support for Road Pricing. So, too, low mileage car drivers. And some Londoners do require their vehicles in order to carry out their work.

Rosalind Redhead:

- **Style & Presentation:** current document difficult to read. We must prioritise the big points.
- **Safe and Convenient crossings on all streets:** particularly important in Outer London.
- **Big Delivery lorries parking on corners:** obscures pedestrians' vision. Is it lawful?

Tom Platt:

- **Who is document for?** Be clear. Shorter Manifesto more likely to be read.
- **Focus on things likely to have the biggest impact.**
- **Behind each Core Call, we can have lots of detail** (but not in Manifesto itself)
- **Future campaigns can focus down on particular (second-level?) issues.**

Jeremy Leach tried to summarise: There seem to be 2 contentious points – No new road building anywhere; Total ban on diesel. He suggested a Positive Vision in Manifesto with the following Main points (not necessarily in this order):

- Prioritising people on foot (liveability; convivial neighbourhoods)
- Vision Zero
- Tackling Air Quality
- Healthy Streets approach applied to all streets, not just local town centres.
- Mini-Holland in every borough.
- Road Pricing
- Safe crossings on every street