

**London Disability Cycling Forum  
Minutes  
15 January 2009 at the LCC offices**

**Present**

Belinda Sinclair, LCC community cycling officer  
Oliver Schick, LCC board member  
John Simnett, WizzBIKE Foundation  
Paul Lowe, CyclingInstructor.com  
Lindsay Wilson, London Sports Forum for Disabled People  
Janet Paske (chair), Wheels for Wellbeing

**1. Apologies**

Jim Blakemore, Bikeworks  
Trevor Lenthall, Sutton Council  
Dominic Everitt, RNIB  
Christof Nicklaus, London Sports Forum for Disabled People

**2. Minutes and matters arising**

Minutes agreed.

*Numbers of disabled people cycling*

BS reported that a volunteer is looking through various reports and is collating evidence about cycling by disabled people as they come across it.

**Action:** JP yet to contact Veena re monitoring numbers of disabled people who cycle.

*Special Olympics:*

LW told us about an event on 7 June at Battersea Park being run by the Special Olympics – it's called Serious about Sport. Bob Billson is the Special Olympics contact, should anyone want to go along/ get involved

[bob.billson@sogb.org.uk](mailto:bob.billson@sogb.org.uk)

*All Ability guide and launch*

BS updated us on their soon to be published guide. A draft had been circulated to people with entries in the guide.

§ Mental health

JP said that although "mental health" is mentioned at the start of the guide there is no other mention in the guide. As there are many more people with mental health issues than people with any other impairment it seemed a shame to miss the opportunity to raise awareness of the benefits of cycling for this group of people. There is also, generally, no need for expensive cycles for this group of people.

**Action:** BS said she would look into this.

§ Common terms

JS raised the issue of wording – the LCC use All Ability, the Forum is a "disability" forum, schools are used to "special needs". We thought it would be

useful to come to an agreement about terms. What should we use so people know what we are about? We recognised that any term would no doubt go out of date as others become current but having a common word would still help.

LW said the LSF use the social model of disability, and talk about disabled people, and people with impairments. (JP I've just done a quick google and you may find this article helps with understanding this approach <http://inclusion.uwe.ac.uk/inclusionweek/articles/socmod.htm> I can't vouch for anything else on the site). Also the Mayor and GLA use the term "Deaf and Disabled".

JP said that on the disability awareness course her staff had attended – run by disabled people – the lead tutor, when asked about "All Ability" as a term, replied that it made her feel "omnipotent". It wasn't a term she recognised in her world.

PL was concerned that any word should also work with primaries.

"Inclusive" was also a word suggested, but it was agreed that although we believe in inclusivity, it's not what our Forum is about. We focus on disabled people, not non-disabled people, not people from BME communities (unless disabled) and so on. However, people liked the feel of the word.

Ideas weren't flowing by this time although we came up with (helping out the LCC here!):

- § Inclusive Cycling Guide
- § Deaf and Disabled Cycling Guide

Similarly, the Forum could be the London Deaf and Disabled Cycling Forum, or the London Inclusive Cycling Forum. Another suggestion was to have a word which people could associate with what we are about ie encouraging and supporting more disabled people to cycle, but JS pointed out that without a budget to help people make the connection it would not work.

**Action ALL:** JP to ask all Forum members their thoughts on a name for us. Can you think up something we could use? Can you let me know your thoughts in time for our next meeting so we can look over them again and come to some agreement?

(The LCC will not be able to benefit from our input as they go to press too soon).

§ The LCC's All Ability Guide launch  
Mags at the LCC has asked me to include this:  
London Cycling Campaign is launching its All Ability Cycling Guide and Film on Thurs 26th Feb – 4pm @ Roxy Bar and Screen near London Bridge.

The All Ability Cycling Guide and Film are a guide to disabled cycling in London and offer not just practical advice but also inspiration for people of all

abilities who want to take up cycling, improve their cycling skills or meet fellow cyclists.

If you would like to attend the launch of the All Ability Cycling Guide and Film, please contact London Cycling Campaign by Monday 2nd February 2009.

Email Mags ([mags@lcc.org.uk](mailto:mags@lcc.org.uk)) or Rosie ([rosiet@lcc.org.uk](mailto:rosiet@lcc.org.uk)) or call LCC on 020 7234 9310 to receive an invitation.

### 3. Dates of next meetings

We agreed on Tuesday 21 April, Wednesday July 22, Thursday October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

We discussed locations as we need more fully accessible central places where we can meet. Suggestions included:

- § Inspire off Walworth Road, 10 minutes walk from E&C tube but there is a fee
- § Coca Cola offices (**Action** LW to pursue)
- § Riverside Studios (but in Hammersmith and Fulham so not so central)
- § Franklin Williams Buildings, Kings College (**Action** JP to pursue – Philip or Charlie may have contact)
- § Princess Diana Memorial Rooms, West London - LW has since discovered that these are only available during the day

**Action all:** do you know of any central London locations we can meet – preferably for free – in the early evening?

### 4. Plans

*Promoting ourselves*

**Actions** were agreed as follows:

- § We will wait for a decision about a name (see above) before getting a domain name.
- § OS offered to set up a website even whilst we wait for a website. We have a temporary slot until things are finalised at <http://www.wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk/wfw/index.php/lcdf/> and the new website address can replace these contents
- § Once we have a domain name, we will seek links from
  - British Cycling/ everyday cycling – Phil Godfrey (BS will liaise)
  - Sustrans
  - Already on TfL (see Community Links under Cycling)
  - CTC (JP to do)
  - BBC pages
  - BS suggested link to London Youth Games – cycling playing quite a big part for them
  - Equality and Human Rights Commission? (EHRC)
  - PCTs/ Healthy Partnerships – something to ask LSF dev officers to take forward
- § **Action:** JP to add LSF development officers to the LDCF list and ask for CSPAN chair contact details / other disability specific subgroup contacts (eg inclusive and Active groups)

- § LW has given us a contact for free directory mag – Leisure Kicks – where we could get an article/ editorial  
Nasar Niaz  
[nasar@leisurekicks.com](mailto:nasar@leisurekicks.com)  
tel - 020 8374 2515  
mob - 07957 661751
- § JP has contacted smartmoves and they await content/ info from us.  
**Action** JP to liaise.
- § We need some fliers to hand out at events

#### *Events*

- § We'd like a presence in the Mall at the Freewheel – means we need a banner
- § BS offered to get Mags to raise issue of presence at Walking and Cycling with Elizabeth Claridge at TfL.
- § Perhaps also at the Liberty Festival in September. Debbie Lala – GLA. Tel 020 7983 6521, email [debbie.lala@london.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.lala@london.gov.uk) is the contact.
- § We should have at least some fliers available for the All Ability launch on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>

#### **Outstanding Action needing urgent attention**

Is there anyone who could design a simple flier we could photocopy using our current name? We need it for 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. Once we have agreed our name we can do something a bit more professional.

#### *Future meetings*

- § JP agreed to follow up with Sustrans/ Matt Winfield about coming along to speak to us about their work on cycling on greenways. He's agreed to come along to the April meeting.

#### **5. AOB**

- § JS mentioned the work they'd done to get British Waterways (BW) to remove the barrier across the towpath near Brentford. BW will monitor over the next 6 months. The barrier was meant to stop motorcycles using the towpath but they were never a problem but only stopped other legitimate users.
- § **Action all:** LW asked if LDCF members could let her know [lindsay@londonsportsforum.org.uk](mailto:lindsay@londonsportsforum.org.uk) 0207 717 1699 of any projects/ services you provide which are accessible to all. The LSF is doing an audit and will use the info as the basis of an info hub for disabled people.
  - **Action:** BS to send LW All Ability Guide as starter for 10.
- § JP raised the issue of us and/ or LCC hosting an event focussing on disabled people cycling - perhaps invite manufacturers along?
- § **Action:** JP asked BS if she could check that she is on the LCC community events list so she can circulate details to the LDCF members.
- § **Action all:**JP raised the "It's behind campaign" of the LCC about the introduction of motorbikes in bus lanes. You can register any objections at <http://www.lcc.org.uk/index.asp?PageID=1250> or call the LCC for more details on **020 7234 9310**.

*Some longer term objectives*

- § OS said he would liaise with Sara Basterfield at the CTC about getting a disability-related indicator onto the Borough Cycling Officer Group's benchmarking list. He's since replied – Sara said that the borough will decide the content of the benchmarking so there may or may not be a disabled angle. Sara thought perhaps a special benchmarking process should be set up.
- § PL noted that professional members of the CTC can access benchmarking reports for each borough / authority (?)
- § JP followed up on TfL's Disability Equality Scheme (see [http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/RightsAndObligations/DisabilityRights/DG\\_10038105](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DisabledPeople/RightsAndObligations/DisabilityRights/DG_10038105) for more info on what one of these is). The 2006/8 scheme covers buses and tubes etc but there is no mention of cycling. She's received an email stating

“I can inform you that we have just finished recruiting for a second two-year period (January 2009 – December 2010), an Independent Disability Advisory Group (IDAG), who's role is to: review a number of key policies and projects and recommend guiding principles to ensure that we succeed in promoting equality for disabled people in London. A key output for the group will be to ensure involvement of disabled people from across London

Our Disability Equality Scheme (DES), was launched in 2006. The new IDAG will start to work with us in January 2009 to redraw the **Action** plan, and then monitor and advise on its implementation during 2009/10. “

I've sent another email asking how we can get cycling included from the start.

- § OS mentioned that the EHRC audit the Disability Equality Schemes of statutory bodies. Getting the EHRC to recognise that cycling should be included for disabled people at this level will start to get it taken more seriously.

JP reported that:

- Sustrans would like to come and talk to us about their Greenways projects.