

**London Disability Cycling Forum  
Minutes  
21 April 2009 at London Southbank University**

**Present**

Belinda Sinclair, LCC community cycling officer  
John Simnett, WizzBIKE Foundation  
Jim Blakemore, Bikeworks  
Nigel Frost, London Recumbents  
Christof Nicklaus, London Sports Forum for Disabled People  
Leanna Lloyd, Christof's signer  
Roger Crosskey, Wheels for Wellbeing  
Matt Winfield Sustrans (for his session)  
Janet Paske (chair), Wheels for Wellbeing

**1. Apologies**

Faryal Velmi, Transport for All  
Paul Lowe, CyclingInstructor.com  
Trevor Lenthall, Sutton Council  
Dominic Everitt, RNIB  
Oliver Schick, LCC board member  
Veena Natarajan, TfL

**2. Matt Winfield, Sustrans – cycling on greenways**

Matt gave a good introduction to Sustran's work on Greenways. It complements the LCN+ and is of particular importance to vulnerable road users, such as some disabled people, and people who want to avoid busy roads to get about.

Some of the issues highlighted included:

- § the difficulties of reading signs for people with severe dyslexia
- § how can agoraphobic people enjoy green ways?
- § Path widths, so people using cycles other than 2 wheelers can use greenways
- § how barriers to discourage motorbikes cause problems for some disabled cyclists, whatever cycle they use. Are these barriers really needed or should some monitoring take place before they are installed to check?

JP thanked Matt for attending.

**3. Minutes and matters arising**

Minutes agreed.

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

Other matters dealt with below.

**4. Promoting ourselves**

a. *Webstuff.*

i. Our name: After all the discussion last time, it was agreed that despite what anyone thought about our name, it is clear from the name what we are interested in. We remain the London Disability Cycling Forum.

ii. Web presence: we have a temporary presence at <http://www.wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk/wfw/index.php/lcdf/> . Oliver offered to create a website for us once we'd agreed on a name.

**Action** Over to you Oliver.

**Future actions:** get site linked to TfL, British Cycling, LCC, Sustrans, CTC.

#### *b. Smartmoves*

The Forum is due to be mentioned in the next issue of Smartmoves.

#### *c. London Cyclist*

We thought it would be useful to raise the profile of disabled cyclists via LC.

**Actions:** JS to provide article for next issue  
JB to provide for issue after that  
RC will ask David Dansky if he would provide for the issue after that.  
JP to get deadlines for publication

#### *d. Fliers/ banner*

JP said she had put in a CCFL application for these.

### **5. Events**

#### *a. LCC's All Ability Launch*

There were many requests for the LCC's guide.

**Action:** BS to provide a copy to Christof [christof@londonsportsforum.org.uk](mailto:christof@londonsportsforum.org.uk).

#### *b. TfL's Walking and Cycling conference*

Veena updated us on the conference which had happened that day. JP distributed fliers about the LDCF. Presentations are due to put online.

**Action:** Veena will forward the link for the presentations to us.

#### *c. Freewheel*

Everyone will be busy doing their own thing at Freewheel so not able to provide support at a stall.

Veena gave contact for event as Claire Davis at the GLA.

[Claire.davis@london.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.davis@london.gov.uk) should we want to be more proactive.

**Action:** Jim offered to put a banner on the back of his cycle.  
JP get banner and fliers and distribute.

#### *d. Special Olympics/ Paralympics*

Jim told us that Bikeworks is now a registered Special Olympics group.

There's a Special Olympics event in Battersea Park on June 7<sup>th</sup> . More at <http://www.mencap.org.uk/news.asp?id=9944>.

Veena said she would forward us a contact for the Paralympics at TfL.

**Action:** Veena to forward.

*e. NoLimits Sept 2009*

JP suggested we attend, and had added the costs in to the CCFL bid. Nigel did not think it was a good idea, based on his experience of the event. An alternative – Liberty – was suggested by Christof – on the 5<sup>th</sup> September?

**Action:** Christof to send info.  
Jim said he could produce something for this

## **6. Strategic issues**

### *a. Survey*

We discussed finding out about the levels of cycling by disabled people in London, partly to get a picture of what is going on, and also to find some case studies to inspire others. BS in discussion with JP had previously said that we could use the LC to mailout to members. JP had put in a request for some money to do this in the CCFL application.

**Action:** wait and see

### *b. TfL Disability Equality Scheme*

JP had received no acknowledgement of our interest in the DES for 2010-12. We agreed to ask Val Shawcross to help us get access.

**Action:** JP to pursue.

### *c. BCOG – get disability on their list of indicators*

Oliver had contacted Sara Basterfield at the CTC and she said it is up to the boroughs to decide what to use for benchmarking.

**Action:** all - think about how to get disability in some form to be considered by boroughs when they set up benchmarking schemes

### *d. CTC Benchmarking Group*

**Action:** JP to follow up

### *e. CTC Inclusive Cycling Forum*

This Forum met for the first time in March and is next due to meet in September. It's mission and aims are:

Mission Statement.

The Forum aims to be the point for information, consultation and communication on all issues that are relevant and important to members throughout the country.

The Forum will strive to:

- Exchange information relating to cycling for disabled people and people with long term health conditions on a regular basis.
- Mount a campaign to have bikes accepted as mobility aids.
- Promote cycling as a means of transport, leisure and exercise for disabled people and people with long term health conditions.
- Contribute to the wider disability cycling agenda, thus influencing policy at a local, regional and national level.

RC, JS and JP all attended.

#### 7. LCC update

BS had nothing to add.

#### 8. TfL update.

Veena had lots of news:

- § TfL is changing the way that it is funding boroughs from 2010/11. She will circulate a presentation she has created about this. See accompanying email for details.
- § There will be a larger scale promotion of greenways and cycle training – **ACTION** feedback please to Veena
- § The cycle hire scheme starts in 2010
- § Cycle highways - there will be 12 radial routes with 2 completed by May 2010.
- § There is no detail on cycle hubs yet – Veena is leading research on this.
- § There will be new cycle guides from May 2010 so **Action** please give any suggestions for changes to Veena.

**Action:** Veena to provide info on the Road Safety Officer/ School Travel Planners/ Cycling event due to happen in October 2009.

#### 9. AOB

JB mentioned a sponsored cycle ride Bikeworks is organising in Bikeweek. Further details to follow separately.

JP raised the issue of inviting British Cycling to the next meeting. There was some discussion about this. Due to time constraints we agreed to discuss it further at the next meeting.

**Action** CN said he would get the room booked for our next meeting.