

Minutes of the 2021 AGM

Tuesday 19th October 2021, 18:00-21:00
Cecil Sharp House, Regent's Park Road, NW1 7AY



1. Welcome

Vice Chair, Christian Wolmar, standing in for the Chair, Terry Patterson (who was unwell), welcomed all those attending in-person and online.

2. Treasurer's Report

- 2.1 Treasurer Simon Clark summarised a positive year. Membership held up and reserves were up from prior years.
- 2.2 Local groups have reduced their reserves where higher than needed, and spent the money effectively.
- 2.3 The **motion** to approve the 2020-2021 audited accounts was passed without opposition.
- 2.4 The **motion** to reappoint UHY Hacker Young as auditors for the 2021-2022 year was passed without opposition.

3. Chair's Report

CEO, Ashok Sinha, read out Terry Patterson's report. Highlights:

- 3.1 LCC has expanded our campaigning base and is more financially secure.
- 3.2 A tribute was made to Alastair Hanton, LCC trustee, long-standing activist, and leading figure in the area of sustainable and ethical finance, who sadly died this year.
- 3.3 Improving the diversity of our membership, local groups and board, will again be a key priority in the year ahead.

4. CEO's Report

- 4.1 The CEO, Ashok Sinha, began by remarking that Simon Munk is now LCC's new Campaigns Manager, having previously been our Senior Infrastructure Campaigner; Simon will be presenting campaigns highlights from the past year.
- 4.2 He underscored the importance of addressing diversity and inclusion within LCC and thanked all those who were assisting with this.
- 4.3 Ashok talked briefly about LCC's headline campaign, Climate Safe Streets. He explained and stressed the reasons why decarbonisation of London's roads by 2030 is so important (ahead of the UK whole economy net zero target date of 2050), in the context of keeping global heating below the Paris Agreement goal of 1.5 degrees C.

- 4.4 Credit was given to the Marketing & Membership team for capitalising on the uplift in the interest in cycling to grow the membership significantly.
- 4.5 Congratulations were also given to the Campaigns team for their extraordinary fortitude in overcoming the multiple, tough obstacles they faced when advocating for cycling infrastructure, low traffic neighbourhoods, and Vision Zero (road danger reduction).
- 4.6 Ashok concluded with a warm, personal tribute to Terry, as she steps down from both chairing the board and being a trustee.

5. Campaigns Manager's Report

- 5.1 Campaigns manager, Simon Munk, began by thanking the membership and local campaigners and groups for their work this year.
- 5.2 Emphasis was given to the rapid action now being intended by some councils, and the strength and leadership needed to deliver these successfully.
- 5.3 Introductions for new campaigns team members were made.
- 5.4 Simon expressed his optimism for the year ahead, following what he called a decade's progress to create safe space for cycling having been made in 18 months, a response to the demand for socially-distanced transport during the pandemic.
- 5.5 He concluded by saying that our Dangerous Junctions campaign had been restarted and, alongside Climate Safe Streets, would be our key priorities over the next year.

6. Report from the Diversity & Inclusion Working Group

- 6.1 Trustee Kris Sangani, introduced himself as chair of the group, giving a brief summary of his own journey through LCC up to his election as an LCC trustee.
- 6.2 Kris highlighted the unequal access to cycling and its benefits.
- 6.3 It was noted that LCC must be more representative of London at all levels of the organisation.
- 6.4 Actions taken thus far were summarised and aims for the year ahead were outlined.

7. Introduction to the 2022 Local Elections Climate Safe Streets campaign

- 7.1 Campaigns manager, Simon Munk outlined how the 2022 borough elections would be an opportunity to tailor principles and targets to each individual borough, to obtain the best and most ambitious results in each.
- 7.2 LCC will be assessing Climate Action Plans from councils.
- 7.3 It was noted that boroughs and the London Mayor having declared a climate emergency gave us leverage to hold them to account for failings.
- 7.4 Emphasis was given to the importance of the next four years in setting the basis for achieving roads decarbonisation by 2030, and the unacceptable consequences of inaction.
- 7.5 Our emerging network of Climate Safe Streets champions were noted as a means to energise each local campaign.

8. Panel Discussion: “Climate Safe Streets May 2022: making sure your borough & London delivers”

Chaired by Clare Rogers (LCC Healthy Streets Campaigner)

Sian Berry AM

Nick Moffitt, Borough Coordinator of Ealing Cycling Campaign

Carolyn Axtell, Possible

Simon Munk, LCC Campaigns Manager

- 8.1 Sian Berry highlighted her three part vision; healthy neighbourhoods, reducing traffic on main roads and an answer to people who have to drive.
- 8.2 Nick Moffitt addressed U-turns by Ealing Council regarding active travel measures.
- 8.3 Carolyn Axtell highlighted the urgency, noting an excessive focus on electric vehicles saving us.
- 8.4 All panellists agreed that coalition working would be vital moving forward.
- 8.5 All panellists agreed that strong leadership would be crucial to avoid further U-turns and to adjust rather than abandon plans in the face of opposition.
- 8.6 All panellists agreed that climate action leads to positive outcomes for cycling and that uniting behind this goal helps our common cause.

9. Introduction to LCC’s new Climate Safe Streets Champions

- 9.1 Suami Rocha, Climate Safe Streets Campaign Officer, opened by thanking LCC patrons and other funders for supporting his position and this new network.
- 9.2 The champions in the room were introduced.
- 9.3 Suami highlighted the need to share ideas and knowledge widely, within and between LCC groups.
- 9.4 It was noted that the Network Coordinator, Katy Rodda would be on hand to help link missing gaps amongst groups and support communication between groups.

10. Campaigner Awards

The awards presentation was compered by Katy Rodda and awards were presented by Simon Munk. All the results and photos can be found on the LCC website.

11. Chair’s Closing remarks

- 11.1 Christian Wolmar, standing in for Terry Patterson closed by reminding the room that it is not a war on our roads, despite how some people may choose to describe it to promote division; there is enormous support for action to make streets healthier.
- 11.2 Christian concluded his remarks by highlighting the need to turn positive political words into positive actions at local and national levels.

The meeting was then closed.