

CAMCYCLE



Chesterton Active Travel meeting

Wednesday 9 October 2019, Annexe Room at St Andrew's Hall

Present:

Anna Williams, Chris Howell, Matt Danish (Camcycle staff and trustees who live in Chesterton)
Plus 10 other members of the Chesterton community (mix of Camcycle members and non-members)

Format of the meeting

1. Arrivals, refreshments, sticker activity (to help prioritise issues raised by people in Chesterton at previous meeting and the Chesterton Festival), post-it activity to find out what people like and would like to improve about Chesterton
2. Introduction to Camcycle, the aims of the group and example of local active travel campaigns
3. Discussion on the four campaigns identified as the group's top priority based around a 'change planner' system. Identification of volunteers to be involved in each group.

Things people love about Chesterton

- The River Cam
- Convenient commutes into and out of town
- Still feels a bit like a village
- The Haymakers (with excellent bike parking!)
- Leafy but convenient
- Runs along the river
- Thursday evening church bell-ringing
- Friendly community and lots of green spaces
- Historic buildings and variety of architecture (added later on Chesterton Babble facebook page)

Things people would like to improve in Chesterton

- All footpaths
- Bad driving, especially on Fen Road
- Haling Way footpath – surface and signage
- Make the narrow section of Arbury road safer for walking and cycling
- Better/more equitable use of space
- Speeding cars and drivers on phones
- Children more able to travel independently around the area

Groups' prioritisation of the issues raised so far

Issue	People who would like to prioritise this	People who would not like to prioritise this
Water Lane is very unfriendly for cycling – high speed vehicles, blocked drain, and a difficult turn from Water Street if coming from the Green Dragon	5	
Need to tackle pavement parking	4	
Chesterton Road from Elizabeth Way to Mitchams Corner could be significantly improved for cyclists with narrower car lanes and high quality segregated cycle lanes	4	

The route of the Chisholm Trail from the new bridge to Moss Bank is going to need lots of improvements including a safe crossing of Fen Road. Would be great to have local involvement in planning this	4	
Lots of scope for improvement of the route from the Green Dragon bridge into the City along riverside used by a lot of Chesterton commuters – better surfacing on Riverside, easier access at the cattle grid between Stourbridge Common and Riverside, path alongside river on Stourbridge is over capacity with cyclists and pedestrians.	3	
The route for cyclists from the High Street near Church Street to the crossing on Elizabeth Way is unclear – when is it on or off pavement? Can it be improved and made easier and safer to follow?	3	
Reduce the width and radius of the curvature of the kerb Scotland Road/Union Lane junction and Union Lane/High Street junctions so that its harder for vehicles to make high speed and unsafe turns at these junctions.	3	1
Enforce 20mph speed limits, particularly problem roads like the High Street and Fen Road.	2	
How about a bollard or closure at one end of Church Street/Chapel Street at its junction with the High Street?	2	
Need a better Give Way at the Green Park Junction with Green End Road.	2	
Need easier route between Hawthorn Way and Oaktree Avenue – too many chicanes/gates.	1	1
Nuffield Road between Green End Road and the cycle access to the Guided Busway could be much improved for cyclists and pedestrians. Lots of people submitted ideas for how to reduce the number of high speed cars and heavy lorries, and create a safe, convenient route for cyclists and pedestrians, with segregated cycle lanes.	1	
Scotland Road speed bumps too harsh and crumbling – need cycle bypass or reconsider road layout. Narrow road with marked parking between trees.	1	
Chapel Street – constantly patched surface needs proper repair.	1	
Repairs needed to pavements.	1	
Encourage all cyclists to comply with restrictions including enforcement of regulations.	1	1
Need some bollards on the path from St Andrews Road to the Tesco footbridge to stop incursions by vehicles.		1
When the Chisholm Trail is opened, could we have a new cycle route down Cam Causeway to link the new Green End Road Scheme to the Chisholm Trail route?		

Campaigning priorities

The group discussed issues based around a theory of change planner. The elements of the change planner help us work out how to get to the overall impact of **safer and more pleasant journeys in Chesterton for those walking, cycling and using mobility aids. A nicer place to live for residents.**

As this was a new concept, the top four priorities were discussed together, rather than in smaller groups as originally planned.

Issue to be solved:	Water Lane including Water Street junction
Inputs <i>What do we need?</i>	Initial volunteers for this project were Ghisli, Valerio, Finlay and Chris. Other people in the group had drafting skills which may be useful.
Activities <i>What do we need to do?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walkaround of the area to look more closely at details. Several issues were highlighted around turning into and out of Water Street. • Observations of behaviour of road users e.g. where do cyclists and pedestrians cross Water Lane when travelling to and from Water Street? • Look at a detailed map of the area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Obtain a 1:500 map from the planning portal
Output <i>What are we aiming to achieve?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a suggested design for improvements to councillors and council officers
Outcomes <i>What do we want to happen to solve our issue? (short/medium/long term)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enforcement of cars keeping to the speed limit • Road layout changes e.g. a raising of the red turning area near the Water Street, perhaps a parallel crossing for pedestrians and cycles? A safer place to cross for pedestrians is certainly needed. Another suggestion was to continue the protected cycle lane that already exists on Water Street round the corner past the Water Street junction and towards the mini-roundabout on Chesterton High Street. Perhaps the bollards should be rearranged – with wider gaps or moved closer to Water Street? • Improvements to the mini roundabout itself and a clearing of the drain that is always blocked here. • An idea was also raised to replace the square speed cushions on this stretch of road with a sinusoidal hump or similar – something that speeding drivers cannot avoid by swerving around.

Three other issues were discussed in less depth:

Issue to be solved:	Need to tackle pavement parking
Inputs <i>What do we need?</i>	Initial volunteers for this project were Valerio, Ghisli and Al.
Activities <i>What do we need to do?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share how to contact the county council's civil enforcement team (01223 727 900) on Chesterton Babble and on & offline media. • Put together a flowchart on parking restrictions. Who to contact and when. Where you can park and when. • Develop a polite leaflet on considerate parking to leave on the windscreens of inconsiderate drivers. Explain that they are causing inconvenience to those using the pavement including people using mobility aids and pushing children in prams and pushchairs.
Output <i>What are we aiming to achieve?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More understanding by the community of how to report problem parking. • More knowledge and consideration of the issues by those who do park obstructively.
Outcomes <i>What do we want to happen to solve our issue? (short/medium/long term)</i>	A reduction in pavement parking in the area.

Issue to be solved:	Route of the Chisholm Trail from the new bridge to Moss Bank including a safe crossing of Fen Road.
Inputs <i>What do we need?</i>	Initial volunteers for this project were Chris and Finlay.
Activities <i>What do we need to do?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First activity is to find out more about plans already underway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Contact county councillor Ian Manning
Output <i>What are we aiming to achieve?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local involvement and lobbying in the plans for improvements in this area.
Outcomes <i>What do we want to happen to solve our issue? (short/medium/long term)</i>	Safe links from the Chisholm Trail and an improved crossing on Fen Road.

Issue to be solved:	Chesterton Road from Elizabeth Way to Mitcham's Corner
Inputs <i>What do we need?</i>	Initial volunteers for this project were Anna and Finlay.
Activities <i>What do we need to do?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First activity is to gather a wider group to work on this, including some technical experts. Need to build on ideas already discussed within Camcycle and published by Robin in the summer issue of the magazine.
Output <i>What are we aiming to achieve?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed designs to take to decision-makers. • A vision for the road to present to the local community.
Outcomes <i>What do we want to happen to solve our issue? (short/medium/long term)</i>	Safer and more pleasant journeys for cyclists and pedestrians along Chesterton Road and around the Elizabeth Way roundabout and Mitcham's Corner areas.