

Walking Joint Steering Group minutes

Friday 11th September 2020, 10:00 – 12:00

Zoom

Present:

Richard Livingstone (RL) – Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency, Chair
Dale Foden (DF) – Head of Highways, Southwark Council
Alexia Williams (AW)-
Jeremy Leach (JL) – Living Streets
Ros Walton (RWa) – Dulwich Safer Routes to School
Jardine Finn (JF) – Strategic Development Officer, Southwark Council
Laurie Johnston (LJ) – Dulwich Safer Routes to School
Janet Morris (JMo) - STAMP
Clare Birks (CB) – Bermondsey Street
Gary Douglas (GD) – Sustainable Travel Officer, Southwark Council
Tom Robison (TR) - Programme Management Officer, Southwark Council
Jakub Mamczak (JM) – Southwark Cyclists
Maryam Brian-Akinlade (MBA) - Assistant Sustainable Travel Officer
Jack Skillen (JS) – Team London Bridge
Lucy Atkinson (LA) – Sustrans
Hamida Moncrieffe (HM) - Sustrans
Pip Howson (PH) – Team Leader - Transport Policy, Southwark Council
Tim Long (TL) - Team Leader - Transport Policy, Southwark Council

Agenda Item 4: Southwark Streetspace plan streetspace Programme

RL- Doing some low freight work – traffic here - Dulwich

RL- Includes the work to rapidly expand our school streets plan

Dale mentioned batch 3. Programmed a batch 4 and batch 5 – in October.

DF- batch 4 instalment next week. Guys and St Thomas scheme next week

School in camber well, Peckham, Walworth – measures to make it easier to walk to school.

LJ- positive feedback on phase 1 measures – seeing a huge increase in families going to school.
Free safe crossings-

PW- browning St – got quieter- surprisingly quiet. One issue – scooters and mopeds – maybe something to think about.

RL- keep an eye on solution on what could be done.

JL- Southwark has done a fantastic job. John Ruskin St- concern. Bird in Bush road, Comber Grove- love to see if it has a qualitative interest going further

Jakub- such great improvement. Same with Dulwich Square proposals with Dulwich village- needs low traffic neighborhood

Low traffic neighborhood – improving pavements – taken maintenance budgets for pavements

LA- had funding through healthy streets Programme – use it for extra measures for Bird in Bush road.

In-between Old Kent and Queen's road station – rat running – low traffic neighborhood. Between the 2 main road Asylum road – a lot of speeding.

LJ- Big picture items incident where one department said we can't do it.

Important – level of communication phase 1 implemented no supporting information from Southwark.

No CPZ – has knock on effect. Each phase has very clear wins.

DF- looking to update on common place website – to express their comments. Just to give idea of proposals.

RL- has raised good points about how the council needs to better communications

Pw- lead on from what Laurie was talking about – communication is very important

Browning Street- could do with signage letting people know that they are able to walk there instead of squeezing through.

Agenda Item 5: Southwark Policy regarding turning safe pavement into crossing

LJ – east Dulwich grove – kids going to and from school – an issue- went from a sidewalk to a road – created a new danger – a parent nearly got hit. Southwark officers have been brilliant – however the way its been sorted drivers are still given priority- need understanding about that and when the updated are put in understanding of what will happen.

DF – it is a communication thing- don't see results on till it happens – general public gain as much benefits from their changes. We do know the issues and we are working with out colleagues in planning to get approval

TL – it's a UK worldwide problem not a Southwark problem – Residence say they want to park off street- created loss of greenspace – increases biodiversity.

LJ – just asking to check pedestrian impact.

DF- they are national standards- not always applicable in urban environments –

JM – one of pavements will be closed off which leaves another pavement closed off – however there was a loss of one neighborhood walkway – they drilled to widen the pavement – was great something was done. Who is talking to who with the councils and the community – its not simple-

Agenda Item 6 -Green Walking Progress

JL – council plan refresh – 2 years in to council plan – green walking network – with some delivery up into 2022-

Would like to know where we are.

TL- in a pandemic. We've done the quick piece of work which is the experimental closure – when more permanent will take a bit more time and a lot of money- our priorities are getting people to school. Not been forgotten

JL- just wonder – agree something about the character about the network – as schemes as delivered we can have the network in place- if we have an idea of our framework – we can deliver them as the IDM gets rolled out.

RL – very good point – we cant lose track of how the green space and green walking network interact

Jeremy and Tim to do abit of thinking to bring back to the meeting to have a broader discussion about this.

TL – central London walking plan-

JL –footways London –

PW – Is happy to join in with that.

JS- Low line project link up with the green walking project will talk with Jeremy on how they overlap.

HM- footways map – have recently been in contact with London living streets – distribution of the maps to Southwark schools – will launch next week

Agenda 7: Walking to and around Southwark Principle Town Centres

JL – 3 streets scape – town Centre’s such as Peckham, camberwell. With the pandemic – making sure the quality of walking routes into town centers are high.

Quality of the walking routes – is this something the officers are thinking of. High levels of deprivation are really important

RL- things quite timely – a lot of discussion as to does the pandemic change our shopping patterns. Even after the pandemic things will change behave in terms of shopping- something we should put on the agenda- may be slightly early to think about a strategy on this.

TL – good example will be browning st. by closing browning st has made the high st quitter and cleaner.

Pandemic has emphasized to shop closer to home. Deliver as much as we can – as these experiments become permanent.

LA- trial a location and start looking at mapping. Think about how pedestrian and cycling to the locations could be improved –

RL- talk to social economic colleagues – promotion of local shopping area- how to get their easier.

CB- testing out with the pedestrian of how they experienced the changes.

DF- will get back to Claire on timescales. Timescale will be dictated on what happens. Insure we have the relevant financial means. 18 months is a cut off date.

Bermondsey st – consultations comments from now. Emails from angry taxi drives about the schemes. Some sort of live consultations

CB- will find that very assuring if they could leave feedback .

DF- Live on the council webpages. Where feedback can be left

Agenda 8: Rye Lane Changes

JL – excited about that happened on rye lane. What do pedestrians think

DF- we amended so we can allow deliveries from 7-10. Cycle lanes will be going in. 2 meter cycle lane. Can please everyone. Face to face consultations. Much better environment for cycles and pedestrian. We got issues with scooters/mopeds working with enforcement teams. Slight problem with positioning of cameras. Levels of complaints have gone down. Long term it will stay in place depends on how things develop.

RL – accidental experimental – traffic measures- initially widened the pavement for social distancing but still didn't work. New station square coming along. Need to think about this about rye lane tied together effectively.

JL -Structures research of rye lane shoppers and

RL- bit of research with Southwark gas networks – wasn't clear if there was a negative impact on trade.

TL -Higher footfall. More people but spending less. Shop more frequently as it's harder to buy in bulk when rye lane was closed for over 6 months.

Received compensation around 13 to 15.

We would like to improve rye lane – would compare it to Brixton- but a lot of improvements have been made to Brixton. Literally have to close the roads for improvements- Very fortunate we can monitor it. So far so good hasn't been a disaster.

LA- look for ways to engage with residents that aren't digital. If conversations are going on.

Jack Team LB -Narrow way (mare street) – bus lane heavily congested- hackney trial closing out- now it's busy and thriving- not gentrified either really good place to look at. Trial st closure in 2013 – interesting example similar to Peckham

Peckham arch – TfL publish report about improving the crossing from rye lane to the arch. Will start implementing that in autumn. Expected wider pavement in the arch and better pedestrian and cycling.

Agenda 9: Street Lighting as an essential aspect of healthy streets

JM- streets are not properly lit they can't be healthy streets.

Can we have a confirmation if street lighting is part of the conversation about healthy streets? Shad tames - we can use it as a pilot.

RL- really important – as we are trying to persuade people to walk. Doing a lot of work to move our street lights to LED lighting – some complains that they're too bright- make sure the lighting is appropriate. People do need to feel safe in order to walk

DF- we have our own in-house streets lighting teams – we are looking to do a renewal programmed for more efficient lighting.

JM – I will volunteer shad tames as a pilot.

PW – we can think about how lighting is done. Street lighting can be more specific – more focused light could be put over pavements – reduced total number of lights but increase where people walk.

RL –get somebody from the lighting team so we can have a bigger discussion on that.

Agenda 10: Refresh of the Council Plan 2018-2020

RL – we are going through it now. We put in place for 4 years- covid has created a need for us to refocus. Has included everything we do. Climate emergency – includes transport as part of that.

JL – does this refresh supersede all the bullet points from before.

RL – yes it does.

JL- parking charges can have an effect on driving

RL – scrutiny report has been shared with cabinet – October cabinet is where the response will be given. Discussion on whether to have a borough wide CPZ.

About 67% of the borough has currently got controlled car parking.

We know there are other places to look at CPZ particularly north old Kent road.

Discussion around Dulwich village for CPZ said by Laurie earlier.

AOB –

LJ- a lot of queries about School streets

DF- managed to get additional funding for this – comprehensive approached- slightly skewed the Programme.

RL – streetspace scheme has allowed us to accelerate with the school streets Programme.

Jack Team LB-

Tooley triangle- space outside London underground St.

Traffic lights on St Thomas St- green man authority

Low lines – current study happening – urban movements to look at the low line – movement analysis- got quite a lot of funding – have a short time frame

Pavement licensing- national legislation- would be nice to get pedestrian perspective.

RL – next agenda item to pick up – Low lines