



Wilko Junction doesn't Feel Good



The GoCycle Wheatfield Way scheme is currently being built at the junction of Clarence Street, Wheatfield Way and Old London Road by Wilko (#WilkoJunction on Twitter). Kingston Cycling Campaign (KCC) flagged to the council that we were not happy that pedestrians and cyclists would no longer have separated areas and would be made to share the same "Toucan" crossing. The council nevertheless continued with a design that makes it just about impossible for cyclists to mount the new triangular island in front of Pizza Hut. The 'dropped kerb' to get onto the island is supposed to be somewhere in advance of the front wheel of the bus in the photo above. This means that if a bus is stopped at the lights - which is very frequent because Eden Street reputedly has more buses per hour than any other road in London except Oxford Street – then a person on a bike cannot safely get onto the island.

We have visited the junction with Councillor Hilary Gander, who clearly understood the problem, and we asked that the island is shortened and that people on

bikes should transition onto the island at ninety degrees to a kerb rather than at an acute angle which can be very hazardous. This would separate cyclists from the buses and mean the route would be much more accessible and safer. Unfortunately this would mean that cyclists would still have to cross Wheatfield Way mixed with pedestrians. Arguably this isn't very different from before as pedestrians often crossed on the cycle crossing.

An additional toucan crossing is being built on the southern side of the junction which will mean that cyclists and pedestrians will be able to cross from where Maplin used to be to where Skipton Building Society is now. It will be interesting to see whether having a second crossing reduces the congestion at the crossing nearest Wilko and whether drivers will stop at the first crossing or find they continue through to the second crossing where they have been used to stopping previously.

Wilko Junction continued.....



Danger zone: the dropped kerb for cyclists is somewhere to the right of the bus.

Now that the eastbound cycle lane has been removed we have observed a number of cyclists going the wrong side of the bollard (against on-coming traffic, see first photo) – presumably because they can't see where they are supposed to go and because where they are supposed to go is blocked by a bus. We hope to hear from Kingston Council soon

that they have redesigned the layout and will revise the construction. We will report updates on Twitter which can also be viewed via our website www.kingstoncycling.org.uk

Campaign on Tour

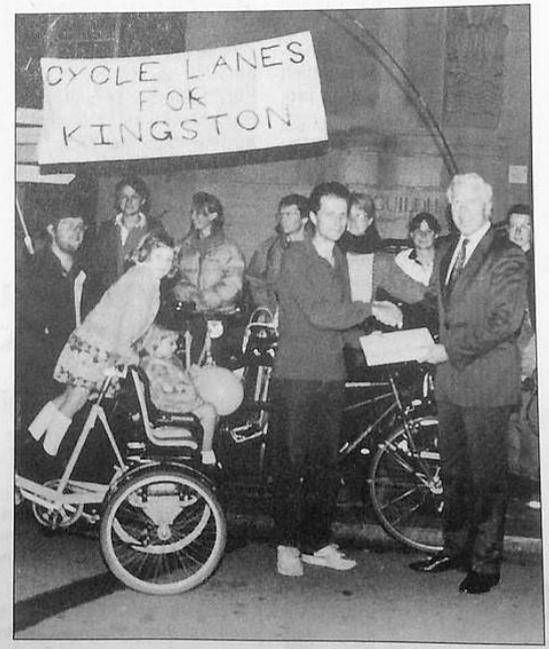
So far this year we've had promotional stalls at Kingston Carnival and the Transition Town Kingston (TTK) AGM. It's been good networking with other campaigners, meeting Councillors and introducing members of the public to what we do and what we offer. We will be at the Surbiton Festival on Saturday 29th 10-5 in St Andrew's Road. We expect to hear about cycle network issues, what frustrates people and what they like about the mini-Holland projects.

Keep up to date with news and rides

There's simply too much news to include in this short newsletter. To keep in touch with cycle route proposals and changes please follow us on Twitter and Facebook @KingstonCycling or check our website at www.kingstoncycling.org.uk where you can also find dates and times of upcoming rides.

LCC is 40 but we're only 32!

In the London Cyclist Magazine you will see that the London Cycling Campaign is 40 this year. What we've discovered from research for the Wheels of Time project earlier this year is that KCC met for the first time in 1986. The photo below is from 1993 when



Co-ordinator Matt Schutz and campaigners petitioned the council to implement a network of signed cycle routes and promote council organised "Cycle Days". If you know the people in this picture or have other archive material please let us know.

Kingston Bridge/ Horse Fair update

Frustrated at the lack of action to improve the cycle crossing travelling into Kingston from Kingston Bridge we have contacted the ward councillors and made them aware of cyclists' grave concerns that there is not a fully controlled crossing. Councillor Fiona Boulton took a trip out on her bike to investigate and she the problem and is taking this up with the mini-Holland project team who, it is understood were planning not to improve this junction after all the talk.

Campaign Meetings:

KCC campaign meetings happen on the second Tuesday each month i.e. 11th September, 9th October, 13th November etc. at 8pm. Our venue is the Kingston Environment Centre 1 Kingston Road, New Malden (by the Fountain roundabout). Meetings are open to all members and supporters of KCC/LCC. Call Jon on 07984 757761 if you want to check arrangements.