



## ***Maps.camdencyclists.org.uk Discussion Meeting***

***Wednesday 17 October at Central St Martin's College, Holborn***

**Present:** George Coulouris (chair), Jean Dollimore (notes), Ralph Smyth, Richard Philpott, Jonathan Rowland, Lionel Shapiro, Anne Boston, David Mason, Chris Nicola, Alan Logan, Dave Vine, Oliver Schick, Trevor Stone, Joyce Stack, Simon Nutall, James Day, Dave Princep, John Ackers, David Borella, Quil Forbes, Philip Benstead, Trevor Parsons

**Apologies:** James Bell, Philip Loy, Chris Ashby, John Chamberlain

### **Discussion notes**

#### **Meta-comments:**

- we should aim to achieve something that will be both durable and definitive, such that e.g. local authorities will both use it and administer parts of the data.
- we can't do everything so need to identify priorities relative to where we are now.
- suggestion that there is a need for small groups to work on topics such as usability of the map, organisation of the 'library', etc.
- Quality control/moderation of the data is important.

#### **Structuring the 'library':**

- use barriers to define the areas (for folders) e.g. Thames, North Circular
- the structure will need to change as the map and the data grow
- organise sets of routes into 'spiders' around a given spot
  - e.g. schools as already illustrated
  - tourist destinations
  - railway stations
  - parks

#### **Uses for the map:**

- finding a route for regular use
- working out where you want to go and see what route pass nearby
- e.g. drag a rectangle to define an area of interest or better two rectangle for start and end of a route
- collecting and using information for campaigning
- tourist information (how to get between tourist sites, eg Tate Britain -> Tate modern)
- anything that improves on a 'trial and error' approach to penetrating the London road jungle is helpful; he literally spent 3 days probing different routes from Enfield to the centre.
- Finding nice leisure routes
  - some felt this would lead to 'scope creep'
- studying permeability of an area
  - GC: we don't have the network data needed for this at present

#### **Suggestions and offers of additional data:**

- LCN+ unit can offer MapInfo data on bus lanes, 20 mph zones and LCN routes
- more than 50% of participants want to be involved in contributing data

### Other suggested features:

- something like the 'yellow routes' on the TfL maps ie quiet roads that are useful links between official routes
- cut-throughs, contraflows and barriers would be useful
- frequency counts could be computed for the overlapping segments of various contributed routes to indicate popularity
- commenting: probably the most commonly suggested feature is to provide facilities for users to add their comments on any and all of the map's resources. The comments should be available both geographically and in listed form. E.g. print all the comments on a given route or all the comments on stands in Camden.
  - difference of views on whether anonymous comments are of value
- Rating of features: e.g. security of bike stands
  - could use radio buttons/tick boxes
- support for quality control/moderation of the data, e.g. hazards should be regularly reviewed to ensure that they are still present.
- Facility adding photos which can be displayed directly the map (à la Cambridge photomap).
- Need for 'findability' (from outside the map) of all the resources in the maps
  - (nb. Google have a new feature that enables us to point their search crawler to scan our KML files. We haven't yet deployed this.)

### Map presentation:

- Need to print something like a 'Cue sheet' giving all the street names and junction cues.
  - GC: But we don't have the data to do that at present. The true 'route planner' applications (TfL, Cyclemaps, Cambridge planner) all do that.
- Time of day-related information
- Accessibility:
  - disability
  - language

### Other comments:

- Portability of the data
  - the system ought to support the export of all the data in convenient standard formats.
- Monitoring the use of the system, e.g. for campaigning purposes
  - who is using it and how
  - routes and other resources accessed

### Data ownership and legal issues:

- GC declared that the intention was to place all the data in the public domain
- Here is an excerpt from the current 'legal terms' page linked to the map:
  - The conditions of use of the Google Maps element is governed by [Google Maps Terms and Conditions](#).
  - The cycle map interface and its underlying computer code is copyright of CCC.
  - The cycling data is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 2.0 UK: England & Wales License](#).
  - No express or implied representation is made as to the reliability or accuracy of any of the cycle map interface or cycling data and no liability is accepted for any loss howsoever caused by reliance in any way on anything herein.

## Actions

### Mailing list:

- A mailing list will be set up progress the many-threaded discussion and to reach some decisions for actions on:
    - a) extending the coverage of the maps through data contributions.
    - b) developing the system to enable it to more effectively support both cycle campaigners and London cyclists.
  - ***The list has been established and all participants have been invited to join. Others wishing to join the discussion and support the project are invited to join at:***  
<http://maps.camdencyclists.org.uk/mailman/listinfo/supporters> [maps.camdencyclists.org.uk/](http://maps.camdencyclists.org.uk/)
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