Cycling UK Lincolnshire Campaigns Officer Report 2018-2019

During the last year we have worked on and are actively engaged with issues such as the North Kesteven Relief Road, we have consulted on the Grantham Bypass (thank you Rodney for your work on this one), the A46 roundabouts & Welton Road reconfiguration (thank you to Andy who did the real work of formal objection for us & attended key face to face meetings on this issue), the Lincoln Transport Strategy & both the Lincoln and North East Lincoln Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure plans.

Both Andy, Tim and myself have been and are attending stakeholders meetings on these issues and others as they arise, but I'd ask that you as members in the area's always attend or engage with any public roadshows where cycling is or could be an issue, or do the online surveys when available as numbers really do count.

North Kesteven now have a new Cycle Plan Strategy in place to see them promote cycling in their area. We support this but will continue campaigning for better and safer infrastructure provision.

Active Lincolnshire developed an app called GoExplore and North Kesteven District Council proactively put a series of cycle routes on it. The Cycle England project is continuing in promotion of Lincolnshire as a cycle routing destination, Tim does a good job of reminding them we too are about cycle touring.

Access Lincoln are encouraging people to give up a car journey where they can, and engage with us on  helping promote cycling as part of this, and just this Friday we led a 'Light the Night' together engaging with other groups and individuals to help push lights and night cycling in a fun interactive way. It's at least a bit of a cycle push.

I have been contacted by a few people, including via Chris Boardman's office, who wanted information on how best they could campaign locally in Lincolnshire & there is now a 'quick guide to basic campaigning that everyone can do' on our Cycling UK Lincolnshire website.

It remains concerning that we continue to see fatalities and serious injuries happening. We continue to campaign and write to the police etc asking them to do more 'opclosepass' work in the county & asking the highways departments & councils to put in safer infrastructure.

I highlight any issues both national or local that I become aware of on my social media platforms and will send out the link to surveys when I have them.  
It's also important for you as individual members to report or send in letters of complaint about the lack of safe infrastructure or alternative access, or dangers when you spot these things. Please also cc us in to these things too.

Finally, we are still campaigning and highlighting issues and dangers across the county, locally, and nationally when needed, but just as I said last year, I still cannot stress this enough though. We need your individual voices and stories out there. Without the local and county agencies especially being aware of the dangers and genuine needs of everyday bicycle riders. Young, old, those that use anything other than a standard bicycle, or that use their bicycle as a disability aid etc they just won't listen and believe that there is a real need for change in our actual areas.  So I urge you just as I did last year to please be local campaigners and agents for change, join your local area policing forum, join your local authority panels, make the phone calls, send texts, emails or write in to the shows, media, and to your local MP's and Councillors, be the voice of bicycle riders like yourselves. Be polite be forthright and speak out and remember we, as your member group, are here to help you and advise you but we need you as individuals to proactively and en-mass make your voices, needs and wants known and heard to the powers that be.

We'd also like you to consider being active volunteers for us, could you carry leaflets telling folk about us & our campaigns, groups or rides, could you spare time to promote us at a local fete or event, could you be a local link between us and your Councillors, libraries, community groups & venues?  
We, the committee, can't do it all alone - especially in areas we aren't local to, but with you we could do more so please think about it and see or contact me later if this is something that resonates with you. Thank you.