

Kenilworth Town Council
Cycling Delivery Group Report
19th October 2023

Thank you to all the members of the Cycling Delivery Group who have worked so hard over the last few months keeping cycling on the agenda in the town and further afield.

Progress on key projects
Supporting and promoting cycling to and from the new school

Cycling Awareness Day

Organised in Talisman Square with support from Warwickshire Cycle Buddies, WCC Safe & Active travel team, Mike Vaughan Cycles, the Cycle Recycler, and raffle prizes donated by a range of local businesses. A very useful (if very wet) day engaging with members of the public.



The Bike Gang

A parent-led initiative to encourage people to cycle to the new school. Piloted in the summer in St John's to coincide with the sports camp at the new school, the Bike Gang consisted of 13 children plus adults. 9 of the children are now cycling to the school independently. The school have been very supportive and have publicised the initiative in their newsletter.



"It was fun - I liked learning the route and making new friends. Cycling makes my head feel clear when I get to school..." Alex (yr7)

Bikeability Level 3

Funded by WCC, organised by KTC and delivered by Outspoken Training at the Kenilworth Centre. Aimed at year 6 leavers, 27 children took part in the programme which involved developing competence and confidence on road and discovering some routes to the new school.

There is a further Bikeability 3 training session for children in the October half-term.



We would like to thank all the children, parents, volunteers, local businesses, community groups and schools who have supported these initiatives this summer. And many thanks to the WCC team for their support.

Infrastructure Update

K2L	Cllr Milton attended the six-monthly WCC stakeholder workshop with representatives from WDC, Cycleways and Clean Air Warwickshire in September. Phase 1a within Leamington is currently under construction (split into two phases) with some improvements being made to the initial work delivered before the summer. Phase 1b Leamington to Blackdown is the next priority and is anticipated to commence construction in Summer/Autumn 2024. Beyond this, whilst some dates have been put forward they are somewhat academic and it is likely that the programme will extend into the second half of the decade. A decision has now been made of the preferred mode of river crossing at Bericote (that's progress) and we have asked the programme to look at a more complete project plan that identifies where activities can take place in parallel to achieve a faster implementation.
Borrowell Lane and Bridge Street – at either end of the proposed Abbey Fields routes	High level drawings have been completed Design work is being undertaken by consultants on behalf of WCC. We should have designs and costings by Christmas.
Warwick Road from the cricket ground up to St John's Church	High level drawings have been completed Work is progressing on the changes to the speed limit but design work on the cycleway is on hold. WCC are seeking additional resource.
Windy Arbour to Glasshouse Lane	High level drawings have been completed Design work is being undertaken by consultants on behalf of WCC. This will include linking in with the s278 works being done by developers to create a continuous route from Windy Arbour up to the new School. We should have designs and costings by Christmas.
Rawnsley Drive – Finham Road – Mill End - Greenway	High level drawings have been completed Work is progressing on the changes to the speed limit but design work on the cycleway is on hold. WCC are seeking additional resource.
School Lane/NCN52 junction	High level drawing completed but proposed solution deemed not feasible. This needs to be rethought.
Abbey Fields	Design work being undertaken by Sustrans and engagement with FOAF ongoing.

	It is expected that consultation will be carried out in early 2024.
Coventry Road/Greenway connection	The scheme is funded from the HS2 fund. Details tbc
Station Road	Scheme to explore making it two-way for cyclists to be explored further
Farmer Ward to Windy Arbour	Potential to use the pathway behind Hermitage Way has been explored but is deemed too complex, mainly for legal reasons.

Additional Schemes discussed:

- WCC are designing a new spur from the Greenway to new developments at Westwood Heath, funded by developer contributions
- The group briefly discussed the cycle route along Dalehouse Lane which is part of the LCWIP but didn't feel that this should be prioritised over and above other schemes that WCC are working on.
- The group noted some of the excellent new facilities being provided by Coventry City Council but also the poor state of the cycleway along Kenilworth Road. ***Town Council is asked to contact Coventry City Council asking if this route can be addressed and improved.***

Bike parking

WDC is in possession of a number of cycle racks that are part of the Commonwealth Games legacy and have asked for guidance from the group about where these could be used, if one or more were made available to Kenilworth.

Whilst the group's preference is for more covered cycle parking the following sites were considered to be priorities:

- Abbey End
- Abbey Fields car park (in the vicinity of the pay machines at Bridge Street)
- Abbey End car park (southern end in the vicinity of the ex-Wilco store.)

The Town Council is asked to agree these as our priorities

Other initiatives

The group is keen to support the Christmas Market and anticipate carrying out similar activities to the Cycling Awareness Day in July.

Members are in discussion with WCC about bringing events to mark Clean Air Day (June 20th) to Kenilworth in 2024.

We have investigated with the local police the potential of bringing Operation Close Pass to Kenilworth. This is a police operation which seeks to educate car drivers about the need to give people on bikes sufficient space. They have informed us that the programme is normally carried out by a member of the local SNT who would require training. ***Town Council is asked to contact the local SNT expressing our support for this to happen.***