



**Cycle Alton is an
umbrella group for all
local cyclists**

**Join our consultation on
making cycling safer
after lockdown**



Website: altonclimatenetwork.org.uk Email: altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com Facebook: [@AltonClimate](https://www.facebook.com/AltonClimate)

We are delighted to announce the formation of a new group called Cycle Alton, which aims to address cycling issues in and around the Alton area. It is an umbrella group for everyone who cycles, whether for commuting, shopping, leisure rides, sport, or just getting from A to B.

Following the formation of the Alton Climate Action & Network (ACAN) group in June 2019, it became apparent there is a need for a group to focus on active transport, and Cycle Alton came together as an informal network of individuals who wish to facilitate cycling around and outside of the town. The group's aim is to promote cycling as the natural choice for short journeys within Alton, and between the villages and Alton. This ties in with similar groups across Hampshire such as Cycle Basingstoke, Cycle Winchester, Cycle Gosport, and Cycle Hampshire which includes representatives from them all.

A new Facebook page for the group has been set up, so if you have access to Facebook please Like and Follow us! See <https://www.facebook.com/Cycle-Alton-108176250895096/>.



A couple of meetings were held before the lockdown but until this week, progress had stalled somewhat. However, towns and cities across the UK are now planning to prioritise active travel over motorised travel, by taking road space from traffic and creating more space for pedestrians and cyclists. Transport Secretary Grant Shapps is setting up a £250 million emergency fund to encourage active travel, which is the first part of a £2bn investment in cycling and walking announced in February. Chris Boardman says "What coronavirus has shown is that if you give people safe, traffic free streets they will walk more and ride bikes". Hampshire County Council is still waiting to hear how much of that emergency fund and £2bn is coming our way.

Cycle Alton are hoping to build on the current momentum for more and safer cycling everywhere to make some changes within the town and outside.

There will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday 20th May at 10am to discuss proposals for making cycling safer in Alton & the local area.

If you'd like to join the discussion please email for an invitation

altonclimatenetwork@gmail.com

ACAN have an on-going survey called 2020 Vision running until Friday 22nd May (this week) where they're asking for everyone's views on what positive aspects of life from recent weeks we'd like to retain after lockdown ends, such as safer routes for cycling, cleaner air, more local shopping, the community spirit, hearing more bird song, less consumerism etc. To have your say, follow the link here: <https://altonclimatenetwork.org.uk/acans-2020-vision/>. ACAN will collate the responses and put them to the Alton community and Alton Town Council for discussion and action.



Thanks, and please pass the word on to anyone you know who may be interested!
