



Cycle Alton Newsletter

August 2022

A round-up of recent cycling-related news, both local and national.

20mph Speed Limit Survey

Hampshire County Council (HCC) is seeking the views of residents about 20mph speed limits in Hampshire.

Cllr Edward Heron, the council's Executive Lead Member for Transport and Environment Strategy, said:



“We are keen to hear from as many residents, businesses and other stakeholders as possible, to find out their views on the implementation of 20mph limits.

“The findings from the survey, together with data about the use of the highway, speed enforcement, road safety and environmental impacts will be important in helping to shape future policy relating to 20mph speed limits.”

HCC has made a welcome U-turn on this issue, as it comes only one year after HCC reported on its trial of 20mph limits in 14 areas of Hampshire. In this it concluded no further such schemes would be implemented, and any future speed limit schemes would be in locations where accidents attributed to

speed occurred. Following widespread criticism of this conclusion, a decision was made last November to review it.

The survey runs until 12th September and takes about 15 minutes to complete.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/transportchemes/20mph-speed-limits-consultation>

Government publishes its second Cycling & Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS2)

The Government's delayed second CWIS2 was quietly published in July, covering the period 2021-2025. Its modest objectives include:

- doubling cycling trips made per year to 1.6 billion in 2025;
- increasing the percentage of short journeys in towns and cities that are walked or cycled from 41% in 2019 to 46% in 2025;

Beyond 2025, the government aims to increase the percentage of short journeys in towns and cities that are walked or cycled to 50% in 2030, and to 55% in 2035, while delivering a “world-class cycling and walking network” in England by 2040.

Disappointingly, the £3.78bn of funding made available is insufficient to meet its stated objectives, which means that councils and others now need to work together to ensure the money is spent as well as possible.

Transport minister Trudy Harrison has often spoken of her ambition to promote cycling in rural areas, yet one of the CWIS2 objectives will now steer the money back towards towns and cities. This reinforces the perception of many rural councils that promoting day-to-day cycling and walking is only really viable in urban areas, and that they wouldn't get Government funding for cycling and walking even if they tried.

In smaller towns such as Alton, many cars you see are likely to be making a trip that starts or ends outside of town. What's putting people off switching from driving to cycling isn't always the conditions in Alton but the far worse conditions on the single-carriageway A or B roads linking the town to nearby villages.

If we are to maximise specifically the climate benefits of cycling, including of e-bikes, more funding should target cycling and walking networks which enable people to cycle for journeys of around 5-8 miles. The new CWIS2 objective relating to short trips is therefore counterproductive.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-second-cycling-and-walking-investment-strategy/the-second-cycling-and-walking-investment-strategy-cwis2>



Children's Bikeability Lessons

ALTON TOWN COUNCIL **CycleRight**

DEVELOP YOUR CYCLING SKILLS THIS SUMMER
FREE BIKEABILITY LEVEL 1 LESSONS

THURSDAY 4TH AUGUST ANSTEY PARK **THURSDAY 11TH AUGUST JUBILEE FIELDS**

TUESDAY 16TH AUGUST ANSTEY PARK **TUESDAY 23RD AUGUST JUBILEE FIELDS**

THURSDAY 25TH AUGUST ANSTEY PARK

For full details and to book:
email: support@alton.gov.uk, visit
www.alton.gov.uk or call 01420 83986

Alton Town Council (ATC) is offering free Level 1 Bikeability lessons during the school summer holidays.

The sessions have been jointly funded by ATC and HCC through a Councillor Grant from County Councillor Andrew Joy.

Sessions are 1½-2 hours long and will be held in coned-off areas of the car parks at Anstey Park and Jubilee Playing Fields.

Visit their website for more information and how to book:

alton.gov.uk/Free_Bikeability_Lessons_42916.aspx



E-Bike Loan from Alton Town Council

ATC has secured a grant from HCC for use of an e-bike for a year. Local residents can borrow it free of charge for up to 10 days to try out.

The bike is a Carrera Crosscity folding electric bicycle, and is bookable on the ATC website:

http://www.alton.gov.uk/E-Bike_Loan_42919.aspx

The bookable dates are listed up until next June, and the first one 12th-22nd August has already been taken.

This is a great opportunity to try out an electric bike if you haven't already ridden one, so make sure you don't miss out!



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## All Things Local Market 10<sup>th</sup> September

ATC is holding the last of its summer markets in the Public Gardens on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September, 10-2pm. Cycle Alton likes to be present at these town events so more people find out about us, and we always gain new supporters during the day, as well as more support for our cycling charter.

At present we have no one to erect our gazebo, be present during the day, or dismantle our stall, as our core group are all away. Would you be available for an hour or two during the day to take on some of these tasks?

More information can be given. Please email us at [cyclealton@gmail.com](mailto:cyclealton@gmail.com) if you can help out.

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Cycling UK Summer Raffle

Cycling UK is holding its annual Summer Raffle, with prizes from top brands such as Raleigh, Garmin, Rapha, and many more, so don't miss your chance to win. Tickets are £1 to enter.

The proceeds contribute to Cycling UK's charitable and campaigning work, so please enter and support this worthwhile cause. You must be over 16 and a Great Britain resident but not necessarily a Cycling UK member.

The closing date is 30th September.

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/raffle>

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