



SHOTLEY PENINSULA CYCLING CAMPAIGN

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Here is our Spring Newsletter, which we hope you will find interesting, especially as we start to enjoy some pleasant, warm, cycling-friendly weather.

PROGRESS ON THE COMMUNITY PATH

We've had a real stroke of luck, and found a sympathetic supporter who is both a retired highway engineer and an experienced cyclist. He is willing to draw up the plans and diagrams we will need to support the planning application we want to submit to Babergh DC for the first section of the path (which runs from the edge of Ipswich at Bourne Bridge to the Freston Boot at the top of Freston Hill). So we can now look forward to getting our application in to Babergh later this year, which is great news.

CYCLING ON PAVEMENTS

Some of you may have seen an interesting statement on this from the Government earlier this year. In January, Roads Minister Robert Goodwill endorsed guidance originally prepared by the Home Office in 1999 that, before fining cyclists for riding on pavements, police officers ought to use their discretion if riding on the road could be dangerous. The original guidance, now being endorsed by the current Roads Minister says;

“ The introduction of the fixed penalty is not aimed at responsible cyclists who sometimes feel obliged to use the pavement out of fear of traffic and who show consideration to other pavement users when doing so. Chief Police Officers, who are responsible for enforcement, acknowledge that many cyclists, particularly children and young people, are afraid to cycle on the road; sensitivity and careful use of police discretion is required”.

This guidance has been re-issued to all police forces. Please note that pavements (sometimes referred to as footways, especially in rural areas) are not the same as public footpaths and that this guidance does not apply to the latter.

HOLBROOK ACADEMY

The SPCC is delighted that Holbrook Academy and Holbrook Primary School participated in 'The Big Pedal', a two week national event organised by Sustrans that took place from 3 – 14 March 2014 to promote cycling as a healthy and sustainable way to get to school. Children and parents from Holbrook Primary achieved some amazing results, coming 2nd out of 8 primary schools taking part in Suffolk and in the top 12% of primary schools in the UK. Likewise Holbrook Academy was one of only two secondary schools in Suffolk who took part, and the enthusiasm and energy of the pupils who committed to the challenge was impressive.

CYCLING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Women's Tour of Britain** – This national cycle race, which runs from 7 – 11 May, comes through this area on Friday 9 May, starting in Felixstowe and ending in Clacton. After leaving Felixstowe the race comes through Ipswich leaving the town by the Wherstead Road, before coming along the Strand up to Freston crossroads, and then on to Holbrook, Stutton and Brantham before heading south-east to Clacton. If you miss that then two days later (Sunday 11) you will have another chance to see the race when it goes from Harwich to Bury St. Edmunds via East Bergholt.

- **National Bike Week** – This runs from 14 – 22 June, and encompasses Bike to School Week (9-13 June). You can check their website for details.

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