



Shotley Peninsula Cycling Campaign

Newsletter No. 27, May 2022

www.spcc.info

Spring has sprung!

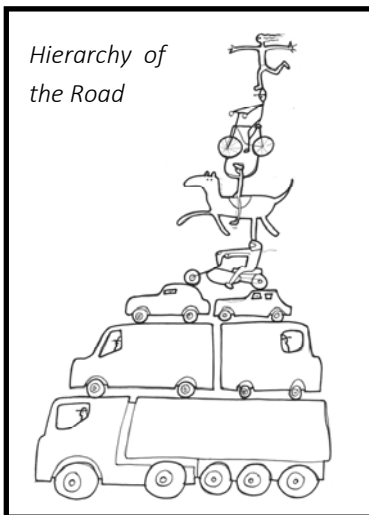
Warmest Spring greetings from the SPCC team and welcome to our latest newsletter (and sorry it's been a while since the last one)! In this edition we will be reviewing the latest changes to the Highway Code and looking at how cyclists are going to be affected. We also look at the impact of development and road changes in Wherstead at the junction with the A14 and examine other planning news.

A note for your diary: our AGM will be on Thursday 14th July, at 7pm Church Room, Chelmondiston. All invited!

Highway Code – new changes

New changes to the highway code say that **1.5m is the safe passing distance** for cars overtaking bikes (cars are required to give a **2m gap passing pedestrians** on the road where no footpath).

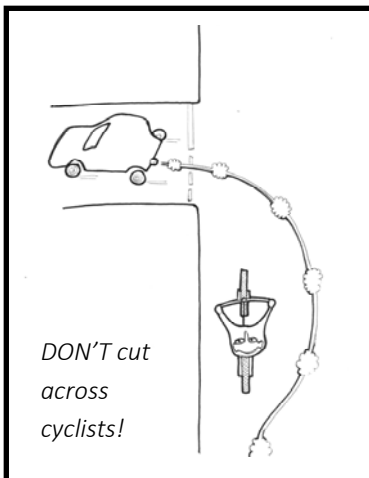
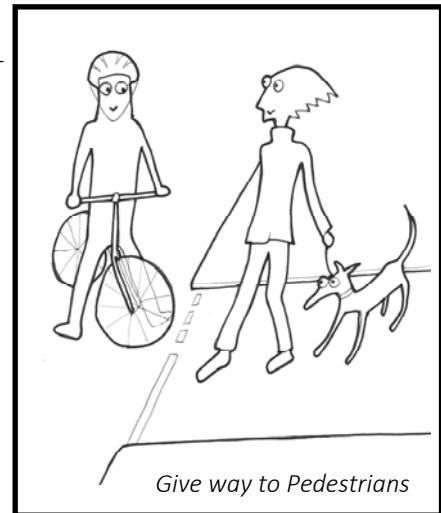
Here are the other changes in detail:



The Hierarchy of Road Users (Rule H1).

Larger vehicles have the 'greatest responsibility to reduce the danger posed to other road users'. The order of priority starts with pedestrians, then cyclists, horse riders, motorbikes, cars, vans and finally, lorries and other HGVs.

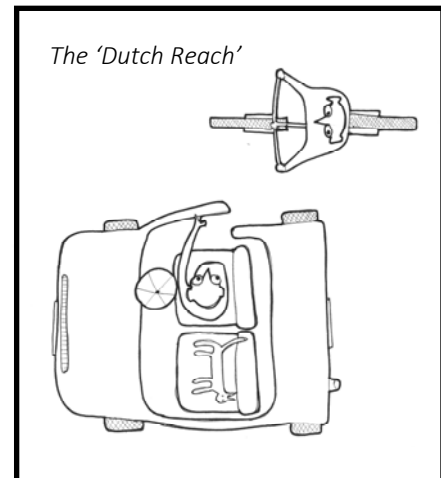
Clearer and Stronger Priorities for Pedestrians (Rule H2). At a junction, vehicles and cyclists should give way to **pedestrians** crossing or waiting to cross the road they're turning into.



Drivers give priority to cyclists in some situations (Rule H3).

Cars and motorcycles should not cut across cyclists when turning in or out of a junction. Drivers must wait for a safe gap before turning.

The 'Dutch Reach'. This forces *drivers and passengers* to look over their shoulder to check for cyclists before opening their door. The *Dutch Reach* makes you use the opposite hand to open the car door from the one you would normally use (i.e. use your left hand to open the right door).



Many thanks to Maurie Parish (Right to Ride officer, CTC Suffolk) for providing guidance and summaries of recent Highway Code changes. A very useful video by Cycling UK (CTC) is posted here on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MhWi-9NrJeU&t=8s>

Government advice is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>

SPCC Keeps an Eagle eye on Planning Applications, Mike Crouch reports:

One of the Committee's tasks has always been to keep tabs on the larger planning applications on the Shotley Peninsula. These can have a big impact on local cycling. So we've taken it upon ourselves to lobby Babergh on these occasions to try to ensure that if the Council is thinking of granting planning permission then it needs to ensure that these sites can be accessed safely by bicycle and on foot.

Work has now started on the new service area and industrial site at the Bourne Hill/A14 junction. This development will include new enlarged roundabouts at the top of the slip roads with much improved crossing arrangements for both cyclists and pedestrians.

Most recently, approval for 22 new homes in Woolverstone is to be accompanied by new off-road cycle paths into neighbouring Holbrook and Chelmondiston.

We have managed to ensure that a new cycle path should be constructed between Shotley Street and Shotley Gate on the back of the proposed redevelopment of the old HMS Ganges site whenever this goes ahead.

We will continue to monitor local planning applications so as to try to ensure that cycling doesn't lose out!

FREE MEMBERSHIP

Membership of **SPCC** is still amazingly, **COMPLETELY**, utterly **FREE!**

SPCC is committed to safe, healthy, low-carbon transport options for the Shotley Peninsula.

Please help us to expand by spreading the word and signing up here:

<http://www.spcc.info>