

Town Clerk | Swaffham Town Council

From: Town Clerk | Swaffham Town Council
Sent: 18 November 2020 12:08
To: 'Oona Kelly'
Cc: David Ormerod
Subject: RE: Cycle friendly Swaffham Town Centre

Hi Oona,

Thanks for your comments on bike racks, we have to take advantage of grant monies as and when they become available for whatever reason. Breckland Council in this instance were able to draw down funds for the five Market Towns together, that was not available to us on an individual basis.

There is a national cycling strategy that has just been 'wheeled out' by the government, this hopefully will mean that our Transport, Access and Environment Committee will be able to work through some of the desired improvements identified in our Neighbourhood Plan. The problems you identify are well known, but the 'wheels' turn much quicker on the bikes, than they do in Local Government. The funding schemes and solutions won't be quick coming down to our level. We are encouraged that there is now a general aim 'nationally' but we will be competing with every other Town up and down the country to get our share of the funding here in Swaffham.

Thanks for your thoughts on cycling improvements, I will pass these on to the Transport Committee, as I am sure they will take these on board.

Best regards,

Richard Bishop
Town Clerk

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-----Original Message-----

From: Oona Kelly [redacted]
Sent: 11 November 2020 09:11
To: Town Clerk | Swaffham Town Council <townclerk@swaffhamtowncouncil.gov.uk>
Cc: David Ormerod [redacted]
Subject: Cycle friendly Swaffham Town Centre

Hi Richard

Good to see something is being done for cyclists in the town centre- new bike racks. However it's a bit underwhelming as this still avoids the main priority - which is safe cycling space on the roads. Any chance of ever getting any designated cycle only space?

For example is it possible to look at cyclists using Theatre Street (in both directions) and Whitsands Road with a designated Cycle Lane? Thus avoiding the heavily used London Street and Lynn Road. It would be a start. It would also get drivers to acknowledge that they share the road with other users.

I already use this route because as a daily cyclist I know I hold up lorries, vans and larger cars as I pass parked cars. It is not a good feeling - nor is it safe.

Only the most intrepid take on the challenge! Sometimes I push my bike home because I give in to the traffic.

If more people felt safe cycling into the town centre it would actually remove some cars and improve air quality. Why not have a themed Cycle to Market day to highlight how enjoyable cycling can be? Perhaps to coincide with the opening of some new cycle lanes?
Please pass on these requests.
Best wishes
Oona Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

