



Cycle North Cheshire and Frodsham Town Council – a partnership?

Background

- Was formed about 10 years ago to promote cycling as a preferred transport method for commuting and leisure, we have moved to incorporate walking and wheeling aspects within our areas of activity as there are key common issues.
- Centred on Frodsham, Helsby and the surrounding villages
- We were active members of the CWaC Active Travel Forum and on the drafting of the LCWIP. (Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.)

Achievements

- Elevation of Frodsham and Helsby as an area of low priority within CWaC , (on these issues) to one of medium priority. (Only areas with high deprivation scores can reach high priority.)
- Inclusion of the principal of linking from the Halton border to Helsby as one of the boroughs key projects for further development within the LCWIP, with the added objective of exploring how this could be linked up to the Greenway at Mickle Trafford leading to a 19 mile safe segregated path from Frodsham to the N Wales coast.
- Our active lobbying led to the first phase of this path (Helsby High to Netherton Hall) being constructed.
- We have developed strong relationships with Sustrans and CWaC senior officers and ensured all plans overlap, this opens up routes to potential funding.
- We successfully led the crowdfunding campaign to raise money to get a full route alignment/budget exercise from Helsby High to Hornsmill. This will position CWaC/Sustrans to make funding applications as relevant pots of money are released.

- We facilitated the funding of cycle stands at Helsby High.
- Developed and published cycling maps for Frodsham and Helsby to promote cycling for families.
- Ran cycling promotion events in Frodsham last summer, with free bike safety checks/minor repairs & adjustments in order to engage potential cyclists.
- Are central to the evaluation of the re-purposing of the defunct Helsby to Mouldsworth railway line as a safe segregated cycling/walking route, with the links into Delamere and onwards to the Chester Greenway from Manley. Working with Network rail, Sustrans and CWaC.

What do we want to achieve?

- Making progress in Frodsham can be achieved faster and more effectively by working with others. Frodsham Town Council is the key “other” with whom we feel we need to find ways to work more collaboratively.
- We need to establish mechanisms whereby we can communicate directly and work on joint projects that lead to more residents electing to walk/ride with the attendant health and environmental benefits.
- We would like to see FTC more visible in their support of a physically active lifestyle and find ways of supporting such initiatives. E.g.
 - Safe passing distance reminder signs at key pinch points , A56 Ellis Lane to Howey La, passing Castle Park etc A good example seen in Congleton recently of simple signs on lampposts.
 - CNC Promotional presence at key FTC events
 - Joint family safe ride events
 - FTC using active travel guidance within its review of planning applications.
 - Evaluating how FTC resources/assets can be mustered and focussed upon supporting physically active lifestyle.
 - Ideas and initiatives from FTC that we can use our knowledge and skills to help make more effective.

