



Aldi Meeting



CycleKnutsford attended the recent planning meeting at which the Aldi supermarket development was approved.

The team from CycleKnutsford received a positive and supportive reception as two improvement suggestions were put forward. The proposal to increase the number of covered cycle parking was agreed to by the developer. The request for 'advance refuges' at the traffic lights was not supported as it was viewed that this would increase congestion.

With one proposal accepted and one not, the team will now focus on pushing to establish safe cycle routes to the proposed new store.

Of primary importance is for cyclists to be able to access the store using the pedestrian entrance, which in effect would enable them to avoid the busy Brooke Street traffic. A request has been made for signage to show that this access is dual use for pedestrians and cyclists.

Complementary to this signage should indicate a cycle route down Middle Walk from the Mobberley Road junction, turning left along the Moor-side and continuing to the King Street junction, before going under the railway bridge and into the pedestrian/cycle access to the Aldi store. George Osborne has written to Cheshire East Council requesting that these views be fully considered.

A key part of CycleKnutsford's work is to influence local planning decisions to consider cycling issues. Any member is very welcome to help with this work and no planning experience is needed.

Cycle Map for Knutsford

The "Cycle Map for Knutsford" project will create a comprehensive map of the town's roads colour coded to indicate the level of skill and experience needed to cycle each route.

The project will reuse the classification method established by the mapping team in [Cheltenham](#).

Cyclists interested in joining the project team should call **01565 651036**

Longridge Fun Day

CycleKnutsford pressed forward with its efforts to get more people on to bikes by having a stall at the Longridge Fun Day. We set up our pitch opposite the disco and fronting the bouncy castle was a prime site except that the volume of the music made it difficult to talk with people. Jane Mcharry took the initiative and relocated us next to the ice cream van, the perfect spot to catch many people passing by.



This new location proved a big success with many new supporters joining the group on the day. The new Mayor of the Cheshire East Council stopped by as did the events hosts, the Manchester Methodist Housing Association.

The event was valuable in reaching out directly to both individual cyclists and promoting the objectives of CycleKnutsford to the wider community

Toft's Brownies up to the Test

Tim Donnelly and Barbara Pountney took up the challenge to help the 2nd Toft Brownies achieve their Cycling Badges. 17 Brownies attended the session and were helped through how to look after their bikes and basic cycling safety tips. After a practical skills exercise the evening ended and each Brownie left with a quiz sheet and fluorescent key fob.



CycleKnutsford Newsletter

September 2009

Family Fun on Bikes

Six families had plenty of fun demonstrating the pleasures and benefits of riding their bikes on a family ride to the Plantation Nursery run by Cycle Knutsford last Sunday [23/08/09]. Modelled on the recently launched Sky Ride Local rides the Knutsford run catered for people of all ages who want to gain confidence by riding their bikes and getting fitter and healthier in the process. "The ride was really well-organised," said Michelle Hammond who brought her husband and two children along. "The distance was just right, the pace comfortable and the route attractive. We had time to chat and meet and make new friends as well as getting useful tips on riding and looking after our bikes. We are looking forward to the next one!"

If anyone is interested in organising or joining a social bike ride please contact one of the committee members

Training Day

There are many people who have not ridden a bike for years. This can result in a lack of confidence to get back in the saddle given the demands of today's traffic. To help with this challenge one of our members Steve Nixon ran a refresher course. The course was held at the Fire Station and attended by 8 cyclists under Steve's instruction and the watchful eye of the Fire Crew. Even for regular cyclists there was much to be learned from the sidelines.

The course was judged a success by all involved and we hope to repeat the event. Please let us know if you could be interested. As usual there is no charge as Steve gives his time for free and the local Brigade get a little light entertainment during their watch.



And Finally.....

1. Fire Station Open Day 20th June

The new CycleKnutsford banner was given its first outing at this event, strung between two bicycles as we supported the Fire Station Open Day. The day was well attended and gave us the opportunity to reach out to many interested people. We distributed lots of information and raised the groups profile within the Knutsford community and with the emergency services.

2. Bike Week Event - Quarry Bank Mill

A new 6 mile cycle route was launched over the weekend of June 13th at Quarry Bank Mill. People cycled the route either as part of the organised guided tours or independently. Free route maps and instructions are always available from the Mill ticketing area or online. On the day the Wythenshawe Wheelers, an all ability Cycling Club attended and gave advice and support anyone with who finds cycling a challenge. Further support is available from them at their venue in Wythenshawe Park (Sue Blaylock 07753428937)

3. Cheshire East Cycle Forum

CycleKnutsford have started to engage with this group. The group meets with council officials about every 4 months to discuss strategic cycling matters affecting all towns across the county.

Committee Members

Chairman:	Mrs J McHarry - 01565 651036
Vice Chairman:	John Richardson - 653835
Secretary:	Heather Richardson - 653835
Membership:	Barbara Pountney - 651078
Treasurer:	Mr J McHarry - 651036

Committee:	Tim Donelly, Paul Morphet, Peter Raynes, Paul Thompson
------------	---