

New Cycle Friendly Cafe

Yvonne's River View Cafe has set up in Connah's Quay at the T Junction after the quayside (over the Hawarden bridge and down by the river to the Quay). This is very convenient from the cycleways. It is cyclist friendly and they intend to put some cycle racks outside. There are tables inside and out. Bear it in mind when planning a summer day out - possibly a reward for the children!

Monthly Meetings
7:30pm on the first
Wednesday of the
month in the
Custom's House,
Watergate Street

Support Cycling in Chester

Joining the campaign helps us pursue a better deal for cyclists in Chester. We'll keep you up to date with our regular newsletter, online discussions and monthly meetings. Valid Membership cards can also be used for discounts in local shops.

Yes, I would like to join the campaign for better cycling in Chester.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Phone _____

Email _____

If you would like to receive the Newsletter by e-mail so we can spend more of your subscription on campaigning, please tick here

.....Individual Membership (valid to October 2008) @ £5.00
Unwaged/Under 16/OAP (valid to October 2008) @ £3.00
Family Membership (valid to October 2008) @ £10.00
 (please provide family membership names on a separate sheet)
Life Membership @ £50.00

I enclose an additional donation of £.....

I agree (for Campaign purposes only) to this information being placed on an electronic database and shared with other Campaign members.

Signed _____

Please send completed form & cheque (payable to Chester Cycling Campaign) to:
 Membership Secretary 10, Balmoral Park, Chester CH1 4BQ
memberships@chestercycling.co.uk

Steering Committee

(enquiries@chestercycling.co.uk)

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Cyclomania

A voice for Chester cyclist



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Cycle Chester - One of England's New Cycle Demonstration Towns

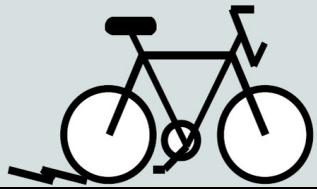
Chester has been selected as one of the new towns to be awarded cycle demonstration town status. Earlier this year **Cycle England** (the body set up by the government to promote cycling) launched a challenge to increase the present six towns (Aylesbury, Brighton, Darlington, Derby, Exeter and Lancaster) by another ten and plus one major city.

Chester Cycling Campaign was quick off the mark in realising the potential of making a bid. At a well attended February meeting of the campaign it was agreed that a letter would be sent to Cheshire's Director of Environment and that arrangements be made for a question to be asked at a full County Council meeting, both urging the authorities to submit a bid.

Chester and North Wales CTC also lobbied our local authorities to submit a bid.

Events moved quickly and against a very tight timetable (end of March) the campaign, represented by Peter Black and David Robinson, was invited to join a working group to compile a bid. Apart from cycle groups **over 30 organisations** wrote letters supporting the bid. Amongst the list were our local MP, The Chester Chronicle, local PCT, Police, Grosvenor Estates, the University of Chester, Chester Zoo and Chester Racecourse.

The comprehensive bid, which with matched funding, should provide about **£5million pounds** for cycling development over the next three years. The thrust of the bid *cont page 2*



Climate Change and the Chester Demonstration Town Bid

If implemented, the Chester Demonstration Town Bid will contribute to tackling the causes of Climate changes. Cycling causes almost no carbon emissions per passenger Km compared to 159 for car travel. Sustrans estimate that a 12% reduction in car mileage is realistic from a Demonstration Town project

Peter Black from the campaign analysed the Bid's impact and its value for money. **Marketing and promotion** is effective and very high value for money and will be increased..

Participation and promotion is high value for money. The bid includes substantial training elements for school children.

Low cost measures and infrastructure to make cycling in town centre more attractive is high value. **The Greenway infrastructure improvements** are medium value for money.

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Bid Success!

cont. Page 1 includes cycle promotion, better access to the city centre, cycle training and contributions to Connect 2.

Seventy six towns applied and in May Chester learned that together with 18 other towns and major cities it had been short listed

for interview on June 2nd. A team for the interview was assembled which together with senior officers from our two councils and the lead politician for the environment, included Chester Cycling Campaign representative David Robinson. The interview with Cycle England, held in Birmingham went well.

On 19th June the **Secretary of State for the Environment**, Ruth Kelly gave us the good news we had been waiting for. Our bid had been successful and Chester Cycling Campaign can justifiably say that they played a key part. Many thanks to all those involved. From the Campaign particular thanks to David Robinson and Peter Black's hard work. It just shows that campaigning and political will really does pay off, but now the real hard work starts.

Good news from the Western Cheshire PCT!

Following an approach from the Cycle Campaign, the Western Cheshire Primary Care Trust has recently revised its business mileage rates for cycling from a paltry 6.2p up to 20p per mile. This is the level that the Inland revenue will allow travel expenses by bike to be paid without incurring any tax liability.

This reflects the real cost of using bicycles for work purposes and to take account of the expenses of depreciation, wear and tear, servicing and special clothing that is required for cycling in wet weather. Car users get this consideration, so its only appropriate that bike users

Capital Project We Need Your Ideas

Momentum is building for encouraging cycling and improving infrastructure in West Cheshire.

The campaign has identified a possibly opportunity for funding for capital projects to improve cycle facilities across the new West Cheshire council. One option is a

Whilst this may not have too much of an immediate impact, it helps to give the message that cycling for local journeys is considered appropriate and expenses will be paid to compensate staff for using this mode of travel. Not too long ago Community nurses might be seen on their bikes delivering their skills to the population - perhaps we may see the beginnings of a return to this!

The Trust has also signed up to the "bike to work scheme" which is a government scheme that any UK employers can support to enable their staff to buy bicycles tax free to support commuting to work by bicycle. We hope that staff will take advantage of this to obtain a good quality bicycle at a substantially reduced cost - it might help reduce the parking problems and congestion at key health sites such as the Countess of Chester Hospital site!

promotion programme of 'Smart choices' to help people change their mode of travel. We would also like to offer a basket of infrastructure projects that as a whole will form a large capital programme.

We need your ideas for where infrastructure could be improved. An example might be an improvement to facilities at a bridge or roundabout. Please email your ideas to the campaign in the next month. Be part of shaping the look of our new county.

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