

Bricycles News - 1st March 2023

Dear Bricycles Member,

First, thanks to all who responded to our Call to Action email. We hear your supportive comments about the Traffic Regulation Orders for Valley Gardens Phase 3 and the Trafalgar Street improvements have been counted. Both projects will help make the city better for cycling.

Their deadlines have now passed *but* there are three new projects that you can help by responding online. Both require immediate action and are fairly easy. They're the first items in this newsletter.

Then you can relax and read about how we're getting our ideas across to the decision-makers. With local elections in two months, it's a great opportunity to raise cycling up the political agenda.

Bricycles is not a party political group. We campaign and we need to know what irks and what pleases you about cycling in Brighton & Hove. So please let us know where we should focus our efforts. And the same goes for this newsletter, too. We hope you like it but, after all, it is your newsletter! [Tell us](#) how we can make it better.

Of course, we hope to see you, your friends, family, neighbours and colleagues on our ride on [Saturday 29th April](#)! We'd also welcome a bit of your time - see the volunteering opportunities at the very end of this newsletter.

In the meantime, Spring starts officially very soon, so oil that chain and those knees.

[Click here to email Bricycles](#)

Three Calls to Action

1. Make Elm Grove safer



A Traffic Regulation Order has been published to ban pavement parking in Elm Grove, Brighton. The ban should eliminate the vehicle manoeuvres onto and off the carriageway.

Every time someone drives onto or off the pavement they increase the risk of conflict with a person riding past on a bicycle. So there will be significant safety benefits for people who'd like to cycle

along this busy and steep road.

Please take just a moment to send a simple comment of support for TRO-7-2023. The deadline is **this Friday**, 3rd March, so do it **now**.

Click [here](#) and write something similar to the sentences above. Thank you in advance.

2. Save funding for cycling

Cycling projects 'cash cut'

CASH for walking and cycling projects are set to be slashed by two thirds in the Budget, The Sun on Sunday can reveal.
The budget for Active Travel has been suggested by transport chiefs as a possible area where "efficiencies" can be made.
Over £2billion was allocated to the fund back in 2020 and handed out via local authorities to create paths and cycle lanes.
The remaining pot running into hundreds of millions has been earmarked for savings.
A Treasury source said: "It's an area the department has identified and is under consideration."
The Department for Transport said they don't comment on speculation.

The Spring Budget will be delivered on 15th March and we need to ensure the Government continues to fund Active Travel England, which pays for a lot of cycling improvements. On 12th February The Sun on Sunday reported that its funding will be cut dramatically. To fight this, send a simple email to your MP, asking them to do two things:

1. To write to the Treasury and Dept for Transport about the importance of maintaining or increasing funding for Active Travel England.
 2. To ask a question in the House about plans for funding levels.
- Copy the two points above and paste them into a polite email to your representative. Don't forget to include your address.

Brighton Kemptown lloyd.russellmoyle.mp@parliament.uk
Hove & Portslade peter.kyle.mp@parliament.uk
Brighton Pavilion caroline.lucas.mp@parliament.uk
(To check which is your MP, enter your postcode [here](#).)

3. School Street Aldrington

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
Brighton & Hove (Prohibition of Motor Vehicles) (School Streets) Order 2021 Amendment
Order No. 2021 (Rev. TRO-11-2023)

NOTICE is hereby given that Brighton & Hove City Council (the Council) proposes to make the Order named above under the relevant sections of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended which if it comes into force will make the following changes:

- Prohibition of Motor Vehicles Monday to Friday 8.15am to 9.15am and 2.45pm to 3.45pm
- Term Time Only except for access in Eridge Road to encourage active and sustainable travel.

A copy of this Notice, the proposed Order, a plan showing the lengths of road affected and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order may be seen online at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/trocomment

All objections and other representations relating to the proposed Order must be made in writing and all objections must specify the grounds on which they are made and should be sent to the Executive Director (Economic, Environment & Culture, Brighton & Hove City Council) Parking Change & Implementation, Room G42, Hove Town Hall, Norton Road, BN3 3BQ quoting the TRO reference number shown above or by email to TROcomment@brighton-hove.gov.uk or in person (see details above) no later than 24 March 2023. Please ensure you include your full name and address.

Dated: 3 March 2023
Executive Director (Economic, Environment & Culture)
Brighton & Hove City Council
c/o Parking Change & Implementation
Room G42
Hove Town Hall
Norton Road
Hove BN3 3BQ
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/trocomment

This morning the Council published a Traffic Regulation Order for Aldrington Primary School, restricting the times motor vehicles can enter Eridge Road, so children and families can cycle, walk and scoot more safely to and from school. It's a good plan.

Please send a brief comment of support for **TRO-11-2023** through the online form [here](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/trocomment) or email it to TROcomment@brighton-hove.gov.uk. Include the TRO number, your name and address or it won't count. The deadline is Friday, 24th March but it's best if you can do it now.



City Council Elections

It's Question Time for Cycling

TRANSPORT & TRAVEL HUSTINGS

WHERE Brighthelm Centre WHEN 7-9PM Thursday 30th March

Come and hear your local party candidates discuss their plans for sustainable transport and travel around the city, and have your questions answered!



The hustings will help you and your fellow city residents choose between the best candidates and parties ahead of the local elections in May. The event will be in person and also streamed online.

(Links will be released nearer the event)



Are you aware of local council elections coming up in May? It's your opportunity to support the candidates who you think can do the most to bring forward plans for safer cycling in the city! But how do you know who those are? What specific plans do each of the parties have?

We have organised a Hustings on Transport and Travel, together with Brighton Active Travel, Sustrans, Living Streets and Friends of the Earth. At the Hustings, there will be a representative from each of the parties - Conservatives, Greens, Labour and the Liberal Democrats. The first part of the event will be questions put to the representatives from the Chair, Abigail Dombey, but after those there will be questions from the audience.

It's vital that we hold our local parties to account for their actions (or lack of action!) in the past four years. And also that we ask them how they plan to make the city easier and safer for cycling in the next four years. They need to hear from you - the voters - so we urge you to put this date in your diary and join us at the Brighthelm Centre, or on Zoom for a live-stream, on Thursday 30th March 7-9pm. Show them that this is a topic which matters to you at the ballot box!

The event is free, but please book yourself a space by going to Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/transport-travel-hustings-tickets-540887217227?aff=ALLEVENTS>

Bricycles Local Elections Campaign

We're calling on all political parties standing for Brighton & Hove's Full City Council elections on 4 May 2023 to sign up to Bricycles' 3 Pledges below.

Brighton & Hove City Council has set a goal to become carbon neutral by 2030. To do this we need to reduce carbon emissions from transport.

Bricycles' 3 Pledges will ensure Brighton & Hove remains a vibrant city for years to come by lowering transport emissions, air pollution, traffic congestion and road collisions, as well as promoting people's health and wellbeing.

Bricycles' 3 Pledges

1. Build well-designed, protected cycle lanes

- Protected cycle lanes keep everyone safe by separating each mode of transport, protecting people cycling from people driving and pedestrians from people on bicycles
- Well-designed cycle lanes ensure cycling is accessible for everyone, providing space for people with disabilities who ride adapted cycles
- Cargo bicycles can easily get around the city, promoting sustainable deliveries
- Providing people with safe cycling routes allows many more journeys to be made by bicycles, freeing up road space for those who need to make their journeys by car

2. Create safer junction crossings for people using bicycles

- Junctions should be well-designed for bicycles to safely enter and exit cycle lanes
- Safe bicycle crossings better connect our city's streets, creating a network of bicycle-friendly routes
- Good junction design allows cycling to feel safe, convenient and accessible to all

3. Create neighbourhoods that prioritise walking and cycling

- Some of the most vibrant areas of our city are pedestrianised and cycle friendly, with both residents and visitors able to enjoy the many shops, cafes and restaurants on offer
- By reducing through-traffic, walking and cycling is made more appealing in residential neighbourhoods
- Well designed neighbourhoods that promote walking and cycling reduce road collisions, improve air pollution and promote a healthier lifestyle

Planning for a Better Future

On Tenterhooks

The Council's bid for funds from the Government's Active Travel Fund Tranche 4 (ATF4), which is managed by Active Travel England (ATE) had to be submitted last week. This is money that largely pays for safer and better cycle lanes so it is very important.

Instead of having several months to prepare a bid for three years of funding, every English Council was given less than four weeks and could bid for only one year's worth of money.

By the time you read this, the ATF4 bid will already have been submitted and ATE will be making its decision any day now. It will divvy up by the end of March.

Next year ATE says councils will have several months to prepare bids for funding that would cover three years of projects. Council officers should then have the time to engage more fully with community groups like Bricycles.

Mini Holland



In January, Bricycles attended an event at the King Alfred Centre where interested groups and individuals met with councillors, council officers and the design consultants to discuss the proposals for the [Wish and Westbourne Mini-Holland](#) scheme.

The design is in its infancy, but we can expect car-free areas, filtered roads to reduce rat-running, improved cycle parking facilities and general public-realm improvements.

BHCC's proposal has already made it to the last 19 applications, nationally. Our input on how they would like the scheme to look will be part of the next proposal stage, to be submitted by the end of this month, at which point a handful of the 19 applications will be selected to proceed.

This would bring some exciting changes to this part of Hove, along with the two other projects that are already approved and funded.

Construction started last month on the first, the 'Kingsway to the Sea' linear park, which includes a pump track. The second is the A259 Kingsway cycle lane westward from Fourth Avenue to the lagoon, where construction is due to start shortly.

Photo: A Mini Holland in Walthamstow has helped to make streets people-friendly

Changing Behaviour

The Council uses its Government-granted Capability Fund to change people's travel behaviour. Projects include the [Better Points](#) app to reward people who travel car-free, subsidising small & medium businesses to use [e-cargo bikes](#), [School Streets](#), [adult cycle training](#) (which restarts next month) and a three month trial of e-bikes for council staff who commute.

Tell your friends, family, colleagues and local businesses about these projects. They could help them to cycle more, which, in turn, will help the city be much more cycle-friendly.

Better Access to the Downs

Brighton & Hove City Council wants to improve access to the Downs for people to get there under their own steam - which includes us. It has contracted the Jacobs consultancy to study the feasibility of some ideas, paid for with a ring-fenced grant from National Highways.

We were invited to share our thoughts with a Council officer so we met at Old Boat Corner, where Ditchling Road crosses the A27 by-pass and Coldean Lane, a horrible junction for people on bicycles.



On the way there, we bumped into the cycling group of [u3A Preston Park](#), on its weekly ride. They suggested the whole junction could be controlled by traffic lights or there could be a signal-controlled crossing at the central refuge.

Bricycles suggested lowering the speed limit to 30 mph for 200 metres on all the roads meeting at Old Boat Corner. We allied this to reducing the speed limit on the south section of Ditchling Road (from Woodbourne Avenue to Old Boat Corner) to 40 mph because of the high frequency of collisions, although this stretch falls outside the current study.

Going north towards the Beacon, the Council would like to put a hard surfaced shared use path to Upper Lodges and

beyond, outside the boundary of Stanmer Park. The surface would be in keeping with Stanmer as a heritage site.

Inside the park itself, one suggestion is that the bridleways will be surfaced with Fittleworth bound clay. It's been used before and withstands rain, boots, hooves and bicycle tyres for many years.

The Council officer also mentioned the junction where southern end of Coldean Lane meets the Lewes Road at the traffic lights. Currently it's a pig's ear for safe cycling so please [let us know](#) your ideas.

We will feed into the process again in two weeks when preliminary results of the study are presented. So do [tell us](#) what should be done to improve cycling to the Beacon and at the Coldean Lane/Lewes Road junction.

Email your ideas here

[A23 Preston Road](#)

Yesterday we met a Council officer to share our concerns about changes made to the plans for phase 1 of the improvements to the A23 Preston Road, from Argyle Road to South Road. Our biggest worry is that the cycle lanes on both sides have

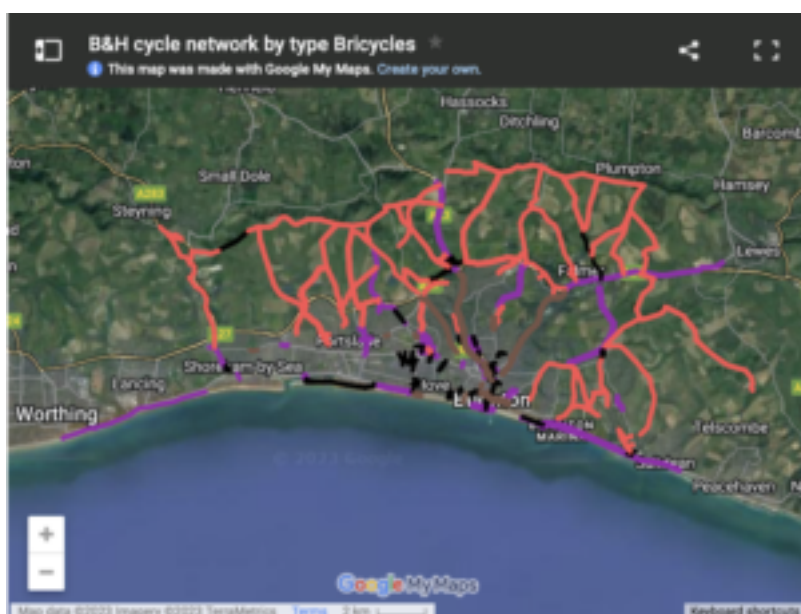


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been narrowed from 2m to 1.5m. We'd also have concerns with the detail of the junction designs. It was good to be heard and to be told Bricycles will be involved the next review stage. Construction is expected to begin the end of this summer.

News Round Up

Cycling Network Map Online



Have you seen the interactive map of cycling infrastructure across the city? Bricycles has mapped every bit of road, lane and path that has been modified in some way with the intention of helping cyclists. Some are great. Some aren't worth the paint that's been daubed on them. You can click to choose which kinds you want to see and we hope they'll help you to plot safe and easy routes across the city. The map also makes it utterly clear

how little cycling infrastructure there is for a city of 290,000 residents and the massive gaps in the network.

See the map in action

Walking the talk



'Walk your cycle'. These three words have been painted by Brighton & Hove City Council on the ground on George Street, a pedestrianised shopping Street in Hove. They may seem innocuous enough but, for many people including Bricycles' blogger Sarah, they are deeply problematic.

[Read](#) about her experience, the Council's reaction to her queries and how these little bits of paint can affect disabled people who would like to ride bicycles.

New Bike Hub opening

Brighton's community cycle workshop is expanding. [Brighton Bike Hub](#) is a volunteer-run project, giving people access to affordable cycling. It has long had hub off the Lewes Road but is about to open its second (sorry, we can't say where until 12th March!). It provides: Free access to tools and workshop space for DIY repairs (donations appreciated), affordable new and used parts, advice and support from its volunteer team and a choice of second-hand bikes at bargain prices.

They are always up for helping complete beginners learn how to fix their bikes.



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Budget Cuts



Funds to create a Liveable Neighbourhood in Hanover & Turner were withdrawn last week. Councillors met on Thursday to set the annual budget and voted not to spend £1.1 million on the project.

Clean sweep



City Clean has been doing a great job removing graffiti from bike hangars - often cleaning it off within 48 hours of being alerted. When you see a hangar with graffiti, [email the cycle hangars team](#), which will pass it on.

BtnBikeshare Scheme

We're looking forward to the new BTN BikeShare scheme starting this Spring. Making journeys by bicycle will become easier for a lot of people and it'll boost the visibility of cycling across the city. The old scheme closed at the end of last year and the contract has been won by Beryl Bikes, which already runs schemes in many towns and cities. The new one here will have many more hubs than before and include, for the first time, e-bikes. We spotted some last month just along the coast in Portsmouth.



Proactive Safety Planning

The City Council is changing the way that it decides to make changes for the sake of better road safety.

Until now, funding for tackling speeding, rat running, cycle safety or perceived collision blackspots has been limited to those areas where most collisions occur. It has been a reactive approach that sometimes starts only after the worst has happened.

But now it's going to be proactive, giving council officers a better way of assessing and prioritising road safety improvements in the city.

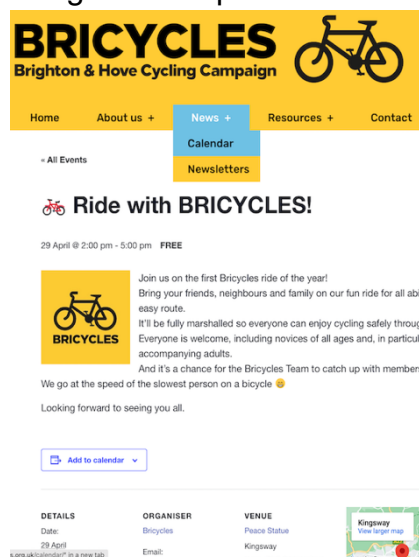
This new framework will also take into account a range of other social factors, such as the perceived risk to pedestrians and cyclists, concerns about speeding or traffic volume, local walking and cycling priority areas, air quality and ways to encourage more active and sustainable travel.

Ride with Bricycles

The first [Bricycles ride](#) of the year will be on Saturday 29th April. It'll start at 2pm by the Peace Statue and you're all invited. Not only you but your friends, neighbours and family will be very welcome.

It will be a fun ride for all abilities and ages, along a fine and easy route.

It'll be fully marshalled so everyone can enjoy cycling safely through our city and We go at the speed of the slowest person on a bicycle - and it's free!



The screenshot shows the Bricycles website with a yellow header. The main content area features a large orange box with a bicycle icon and the text 'BRICYCLES Brighton & Hove Cycling Campaign'. Below this, there's a navigation bar with links: Home, About us, News, Resources, and Contact. The 'News' link is highlighted. Under 'News', there are links for 'Calendar' and 'Newsletters'. The main event is titled 'Ride with BRICYCLES!' and is scheduled for '29 April @ 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm FREE'. The event description includes: 'Join us on the first Bricycles ride of the year! Bring your friends, neighbours and family on our fun ride for all abilities along a fine and easy route. It'll be fully marshalled so everyone can enjoy cycling safely through our city and We go at the speed of the slowest person on a bicycle - and it's free! And it's a chance for the Bricycles Team to catch up with all members - in real life! Looking forward to seeing you all.' There is an 'Add to calendar' button. At the bottom, there's a table with details: Date (29 April), Organiser (Bricycles), and Venue (Peace Statue, Kingsway, Hove, BN1 2BN). A small map shows the route starting from the Peace Statue.

We like as many people as possible to enjoy riding together in a friendly group because it's what Bricycles is about - making cycling easier and better in Brighton & Hove. Everyone is welcome, including novices of all ages and, in particular, youngsters who are accompanying adults. And it's a chance for the Bricycles Team to catch up with all members - in real life!

Looking forward to seeing you all.

PS Have you seen the new [Bricycles online Calendar](#)? It's the most comprehensive listing of rides, events and cycling-related meetings for Brighton & Hove.

There are entries for almost every week of the year so it will help you find group rides of all levels to join and political meetings to observe.

You can view it by a day, a week or a month at a time and it's fully searchable. If you don't want to miss out on anything, you can subscribe.

If you know of a ride, an event or a meeting you'd like added to the Calendar, do [send us an email](#).

Kidical Mass



[Kidical Mass](#) is a worldwide phenomenon, where children get together and take to their bikes. Adults are allowed along, too, mostly to keep an eye on things and make sure it all goes as smoothly as a freely spinning wheel.

This year Bricycles is making sure it's coming to Brighton & Hove.

Elsewhere it usually happens in May but that would clash with the Festival, the Children's Parade and the Royal coronation celebrations.

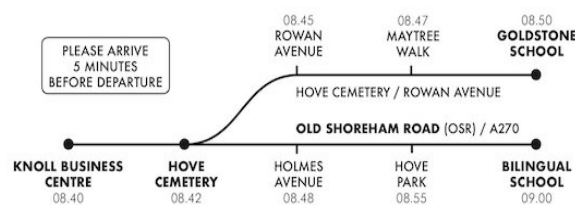
So this is a heads up to put it in your diary for [Saturday 23rd September](#). And tell all the kids you know, too!



OSR Bike Train



/ KIDS CYCLE TO SCHOOL
/ RIDES EVERY FRIDAY MORNING
/ STRENGTH IN NUMBERS



✉ OSRBikeTrain@gmail.com ☎ 07812 036415
f [Bike Train \(group\)](#) i [OSRBikeTrain](#)

We're thrilled that the Old Shoreham Road Bike Train has a new timetable and has grown an extra branch line.

It's a great way for children to get exercise on their way to a couple of Hove schools. It emulates the bike train that used to go to the universities at Falmer and which led to cycle lanes being introduced on the Lewes Road.

It's fully marshalled and, unlike packed commuter trains, there's always room for more! To get more information you can always ask a question from the engine driver himself by sending him a quick [email](#). All aboard!

Help Bricycles to Help Others

Bricycles has a core team of a dozen, each of whom plays a small but important role in running Bricycles, and we always like members and supporters to get more involved. Our small team covers a lot of bases already but if you have a particular skill, talent or just bags of enthusiasm, you will be welcomed with open arms.

1. Volunteer to be a Marshall.

We will be leading several rides for all ages and abilities this year and each one needs marshalls. It's an easy role and very rewarding because you help others to ride safely through the town, including your own friends and family. There's some short, simple training, online and in person, and its experience that will last for as long as you can ride a bicycle. [Send us an email](#) with "Marshall volunteer" in the subject - and thank you in advance.

2. TikTok Techie

The Bricycles Team covers many bases, including the social media platforms of Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Now we need someone who is familiar with using TikTok. It could be you, your teenage children or your grandparents. [Send us an email](#) with "TikTok Techie" in the subject - and thank you in advance.

3. Grow Bricycles.

You can also help spread the Bricycles word further and wider. If you'd like to leave some Bricycles membership recruitment flyers at your place of work, club or community group then [let us know](#) and we'll get them to you. If you want thousands we might need an e-cargo bike...

4. Communicating

We particularly need people who enjoy writing articles for the press and for our blog. We also need people who can give interviews and statements to press, radio and TV. We'd particularly encourage women to get involved as, although we already have a 50:50 gender split, we are always looking to broaden our team to better represent the diversity of our city. You'll get loads of support and encouragement from the rest of the team. [Email us](#) with the word "Writer" or "Media" as the subject.

There, four opportunities to do a little bit to help Bricycles do a lot more. One of them fits you like a glove, doesn't it. You know you're exactly the right person and will enjoy it as much as you enjoy cycling!

See you at the Transport & Travel Hustings on Thursday evening, 30th March (don't forget to book your free tickets above) and on our first ride of the year on Saturday afternoon, 29th April.

Until then, [let us know](#) what else Bricycles could be doing to help make Brighton & Hove a better place for everyone who would like to ride bicycles.

Happy Cycling,

The Bricycles Team

