

Town Council / Committee Paper

Meeting:	Skipton Town Council				Date:	18 September 2025
Paper Title:	Active Travel Working Group				Agenda Item:	9
Author of Paper:	Cllr Stephen Morton					
Purpose of Paper:	Information to note		Draft policy for feedback		Motion for Decision	X

If For Decision then give the Proposer and Seconder and the wording of the Substantive Motion that is to be considered:	<i>Proposer: Cllr Stephen Morton</i> <i>Seconder: Cllr Matt Pickard</i> <i>Motion wording for the agenda:</i> To support the recommended options from the Skipton Town Council Active Travel Working Group and authorise the Town Clerk to approach the potential partners with requests to help to implement these options. <i>If a decision is to be made then only motions on the agenda can be considered (Standing Order 1a) and the motion must be proposed and seconded before debate can begin (Standing Order 1b)</i>
Implications: (if needed)	<i>Financial: The Town Council may be able to bid for funding for schemes to support active travel within Skipton Town Centre. Some small schemes may require Town Council funding e.g. from the Road Safety Budget.</i> <i>Staffing: Staff time to engage with partners identified in the paper</i> <i>Stakeholders & Reputation: Having secure funding to organise a workshop on Active Travel and then setting up this working group, the Town Council has raised expectations that we will try and secure a step change in promoting active travel in a safe and secure environment within the Town Centre.</i>

Executive Summary: Why is this coming to the Council or Committee? - Context - Timing (why now?)	<i>Summary: 3- 4 sentences</i> This work builds on several of Skipton Town Council's strategic priorities for 2024-2028 and is central to our vision: <i>Revitalising the High Street</i> <i>Protecting the environment and ensuring sustainability</i> <i>Working with others to tackle big challenges on Transport, Housing and Community Safety</i> We secured funding, through North Yorkshire Council, from the UK Prosperity Fund to organise an Active Travel Workshop (held on 10 October 2024) which was very well attended by local partners. Following further work from the workshop, we brought a paper to Full Council on 16 January recommending that Skipton Council establish an Active Travel Working Group with key local partners. This group has met several times and also undertook an Active Travel consultation, which was promoted at the Skipton Rotary Eco Day.
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	The Active Travel Working Group have produced a number of prioritised options to enhance Active Travel within Skipton and especially within the Town Centre.
Key points: To include - Options - Challenges (including risks and threats) - Opportunities (including income, reputation, strategic intent and wider benefits e.g. local community or environment)	<i>The main paper: 1 side of A4 max</i> <i>The main options proposed with a summary of the potential roles for Skipton Town Council and the suggested key partners are listed below:</i> 1. Improve bicycle storage The Town Council's role would be to engage / lobby partners who could provide bicycle storage facilities. We could also coordinate a bid for active travel funding, possibly from as early as Autumn 2025 (via the YNY Mayor's Active Travel Fund). Partners needed for this are likely to include the owners of the sites listed above, presumably British Rail for the railway station, possibly Transdev for the bus station (or NY Council if we used the adjacent car park), Skipton Building Society for their main office, and NY Council for the High Street car park. 2. Develop local walking and cycle routes The role of the Town Council is to advocate for improved walking and cycling routes and to try to improve both road safety (see below) and personal security for pedestrians and cyclists and to prompt North Yorkshire Council to consider these schemes should future funding opportunities become available. The main partners needed for developing town centre walking and cycling routes are the LCWIP owners - NY Council and the possibly North Yorkshire and York Combined Authority. The Canal and River Trust may be needed if there is any scope to further develop towpath routes. 3. Widespread 20 MPH restrictions. The Town Council role is to request North Yorkshire Council and North Yorkshire Police to action 20 MPH limits throughout Skipton Town Centre, given the difficulties in promoting walking and cycling routes with the current high levels of road danger. The main partners needed are NY Council, NY Police and the YNY combined authority. 4. Comprehensive one-way system, wider pavements, more pedestrian crossing points, more pedestrian refuges and traffic calming measures. At this stage Skipton Town Council should ask NY Council to

	explore options for funding of a feasibility study into developing a pedestrian and cycle friendly town centre to include a comprehensive one-way system in Skipton, pedestrianised streets, wider pavements, dedicated cycle routes (or bus/cycle lanes), regular pedestrian crossing points, more pedestrian refuges, and other traffic calming measures. The main partners for these measures would be NY Council and possibly the combined authority. 5. Promoting safe active travel to school The Town Council's role is mainly to advocate for safe active travel to school and potentially to coordinate bids for Active Travel funding that could help take this forward. The key partners for this are schools, parents associations and NY Council. 6. Car sharing scheme for Skipton Partners require to explore this further would be a lead organisation (which might be the Town Council) and a potential car share developer/operator. The Active Travel Working Group suggested that, in the first instance, we engage with CoMoUK which is a national charity that supports vehicle sharing schemes. 7. Bike sharing scheme The only partners proposed were potential bike hire companies (not clear if this was local or national). However, CoMoUK will also support bike and scooter sharing schemes. 8. Park and Ride schemes for Skipton As well as the potential site owners, we would need partnership from a bus company and probably investment from either NY Council or the NYY Combined Authority.
Recommendation:	<i>Specify what outcome or response is needed from the Council/Committee to this paper or motion.</i> The Council is recommended to: - Approve this motion at Full Council - Consider whether to establish an implementation group (after reviewing the membership and roles of the Active Travel Working Group) to help in taking these priorities forward.
Appendices:	<i>Membership of the Active Travel Working Group (Appendix I)</i> <i>Submission to North Yorkshire Council on the Cycle Development Network consultation (Appendix II)</i>