

## **HUNTINGTON PARISH CYCLING PLAN.**

### **Introduction.**

This plan shall be read in conjunction with the plans of neighbouring parishes Christleton and Great Boughton as the identified Desire Lines that connect centres of population with places of education, workplaces, commerce, recreation and worship occasionally cross parish boundaries. The combined report will contain recommendations for the whole area with a map showing the locations of suggested improvements.

### **Existing Routes.**

There are existing Shared User Paths (SUP) on the East Side of Dee Banks/Chester Road as far as the Saughton Camp estate and the East side of Gorse Way and Caldly Valley Road into Great Boughton. Chester's BLACK cycling route crosses Huntington. These are the most important, existing Desire Lines.

### **Condition of Cycle Routes.**

The SUP on Dee Banks and Chester Road is narrow for its intended purpose of 2-way cycle and pedestrian traffic. This situation is made worse by vegetation being allowed to grow excessively and interfering with the path on Dee Banks and at the corner of Gorse Way and Chester Road, most noticeably.

The SUP on Gorse Way and Caldly Valley Road is also partially blocked by overgrown vegetation in places. It could be further improved by increasing its width by sacrificing some of the verge to give greater scope for cycling and walking whilst enhancing social distancing.

I understand that the situation in the Saughton Camp housing development and the approach roads to the primary school have been discussed very actively with the parish council, so I have not documented them again here.

### **Cycle Parking Provision.**

There is cycle parking at St.Luke's Church (4x), near the light-controlled crossing of Chester Road on the Black Route (6x) and at the primary school (numerous bike stands). It is suggested that provision be made at the village green shops, the Huntington Village Hall, Caldly Valley Nature Park car park, Walker's Nursery and the Jubilee Fields. At time of writing (1<sup>st</sup> August '20) there is no cycle-parking provision at the new Co-op store at the Saughton Camp development but I was assured by a staff member that 'they are on order' and 'have been promised by the developer'.

### **Desire Lines.**

The major desire lines should connect Huntington residents to Huntington Primary School, Bishops Bluecoat High School, Great Boughton shopping area at Sainsbury's, down Sandy Lane towards the city and from the Saughton Camp estate area to Christleton High School.

**Suggested Improvements to Active Travel Routes.**

1. Improve the existing BLACK ROUTE that connects Huntington Village Centre to Bishops Blue Coat School and onwards to the canal by installing a raised crossing of Caldly Valley Road to slow vehicular traffic on this popular cut-through.  
Consider imposing 20mph limit on the section of Caldly Valley Road that connects from the junction with Gorse Way to Chester Road. Slowing traffic here should further increase the popularity of the BLACK ROUTE.  
Maintain the path to remove slippery leaf mould and cutback vegetation, which will increase capacity and improve safety.
2. Raise parapets on the bridge crossing the A55 to meet modern standards.
3. Upgrade existing Huntington FP7 connecting to Christleton FP20 to a Shared User Path to promote active use by current and future students at Christleton High School.
4. Widen the existing SUP on the East of Dee Banks and Chester Road by a combination of cutting back overgrowing vegetation and widening pathway where feasible.
5. Consider adding an SUP on the West side of Chester Road (A55 bridge) to Dee Banks, linking with the proposed safer-cycling proposals for Sandy Lane, as documented in the Great Boughton plan. If there is to be no change to the Sandy Lane situation then this new SUP could terminate where the housing ends e.g. at the junction of Caldly Valley Road and Chester Roa. This path would still facilitate active travel between the Huntington shops, the primary school and (via SUP on Gorse Way and Caldly Valley Road) to the Sainsbury's complex.
6. Longer Term: Add a new SUP on the West side of Gorse Way and Caldly Valley Road to improve access for those living on West side of Caldly Valley Road. This SUP would be at the expense of some verge area to provide necessary width.

No.	LOCATION	PROPOSED ACTION	REASON
1	Huntington Village Hall	Install bike parking.	
2	Jubilee Fields	Install bike parking.	
3	Village green shops	Install bike parking	
4	New Co-op at Saighton Camp	Install bike parking	Bike parking facilities are 'promised by the developer' and said to be 'currently on order'.
5	Caldy Valley Park	Install bike parking at car park area.	
6	SUP on East side of Gorse Way and Caldly Valley Road.	Widen SUP by sacrificing verge and cutting back vegetation.	Increase capacity and enhance social-distancing.
7	Chester Road/Gorse Way intersection	Widen SUP by cutting back vegetation.	
8	Existing SUP on Dee Bank	Widen SUP by cutting back vegetation.	
9	Existing SUP on Dee Bank	Widen the SUP by taking some of the verge.	The SUP is intended for 2-way use by both pedestrians and cyclists and is too narrow to serve this purpose.
10	West side of Chester Rd.	Create an additional SUP (or cycle path) to Dee Banks and link to Sandy Lane cycling infrastructure.	By creating extra space less-confident cyclists will be encouraged to adopt active travel.
10	West side of Gorse Way and Caldly Valley Rd. (CVR)	Consider creating an additional SUP (or cycle path) to Caldly Valley Park area.	Removes the need for those on West side of CVR to cross that road.
<u>11</u>	<u>BLACK ROUTE crossing Caldly Valley Road</u>	<u>Install raised crossing as traffic-calming measure</u>	<u>Traffic-calming, active travel enhancing. Consider imposing 20mph speed limit on that stretch of road.</u>
12	Huntington FP7 leading to Christleton FP20	Upgrade the path. Consider making it an SUP, suitable for cyclists too.	To promote its use by current & future pupils of Christleton High.
<u>13</u>	<u>B5130 crossing A55</u>	<u>Raise bridge parapets to meet modern standards.</u>	<u>Enhanced safety for cyclists and pedestrians crossing the bridge.</u>

Location	Status	Action
Pedestrian crossing on Chester Rd. near dental surgery.	Bike parking available.	None
St. Luke's Church	Bike parking available for 4 bikes.	None
Huntington Primary School	Plentiful bike parking available.	None

