Norwich Cycling Campaign Newsletter

October 2019

Annual General meeting

Wednesday 20th November starting
7.30pm
St Augustine's Hall, The Gildencroft, Norwich NR3 1DS.

7.30pm Cycling hubs and community groups - Andrea Auburn, Cycling Development Officer - Norwich, Cycling UK

7.55pm Norwich Bike Share - Sarah Barnes, Beryl

8.20pm Refreshments and networking

8.35pm Chair's review

8.40pm What should we be campaigning on?

8.50pm Election of officers and committee

St Augustin’s Hall is located behind the church, which is opposite the PMT music store on St Augustin’s

Everybody welcome

Prince of Wales Road

You may have seen some recent press coverage of the new cycle track being built along Prince of Wales road by Transport for Norwich (TfN) with trees encroaching onto the cycle track. Some people have been uneasy about our criticisms.

The campaign was invited by TfN to comment on the plans last year during the consultation phase and we did so in good faith. Unfortunately our suggestions were almost completely ignored and worse, what is being built is a totally different design to the design we commented on.

The campaign has always believed and still believes that being positive about proposals and having a role in developing them is the desirable way forward. However, with the Prince of Wales Road scheme not only were our suggestions mostly ignored but what is being built is incredibly bad, is simply not fit for purpose and is actually dangerous in places..

The one suggestion the campaign made which was included in the scheme was a route across the triangular island between Prince of Wales road and Rose lane. However, the way TfN has designed it

means cyclists have to cross the flow of traffic on Rose lane and cut across traffic joining from Prince of Wales road.



The dangerous entry to the cycle route – turn right just in front of that car

There are several points along the route seemingly deliberately designed to produce conflict between cyclists and pedestrians, where the track simply stops leaving cyclists to make their way through the crowds.



The cycle track just stops at areas of pedestrian conflict like this crossing zone

At two laybys it looks as if the track will run right next to the parked cars with no “door kill” safety zone.



The cycle track running next to a lay-by in the car door “kill zone”

What is being built here is likely to be a very popular route for commuters on bikes, providing as it does a direct route from the station to the city centre and routes to the south, west and north of the city.

Prince of Wales road is one-way downhill, so this is the first time this route has been available for many years, it’s a true missing link. Because it is likely to appeal to commuters, it will be heavily used at the times the pavement is busiest which in winter means after dark

What is being built on this important route isn’t a dedicated cycle track, but is in fact just a shared use pavement with a largely meaningless tarmac strip laid along it. The whole thing seems designed to produce conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians and a dangerous conflict with traffic.

At the AGM the question we will be discussing is how the campaign should react to this inept design? Please let us know what you think.

For more information about the campaign, please visit our website
https://www.norwichcyclingcampaign.org/

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