

MAC



Midhurst Area Cycling

MAC rolling along for 14 years

INAUGURAL MEETING 6 MARCH 2003

Promoted, formed and financed by our Parish Councils:

Bepton; Cocking; Easebourne; Elsted and Treyford cum Didling; Heyshott; Milland; Stedham with Iping; Trotton with Chithurst; Woolbeding with Redford; Midhurst Town Council

Supported by:

West Sussex County Council; Chichester District Council; South Downs Conservation Board Under the chairmanship of: Elizabeth Hamilton, ably assisted by many local supporters. Now,

Nobby Stiles of Trotton PC

MAC's original intentions

Work alongside WSCC's "Pedalling Ahead 2000" cycling strategy for West Sussex.

Improve conditions for cycling in and around Midhurst.

Create a cycling hub in Midhurst with spurs to all its outlying villages, and

Links to Chichester, Petersfield, Pulborough.

- Better health and a cleaner, quieter environment
- Encouraging safe cycling for young people in particular to enjoy:
 - being a practical way of moving in and around and out of town
 - providing excellent physical and mental health benefits
 - making our countryside more accessible
 - offering an economical and viable alternative to petrol and diesel
 - being the very best Green option for travelling almost anywhere in the world

AND FOR BEING FUN!



MAC's objectives

MAC persuaded SDCB, WSCC, CDC and PCs to fund the 2005 Sustrans report on Midhurst's cycling strategy.

Recommendations included:

- Proposals for making Midhurst a more cycle-friendly town
- Midhurst's 20 is plenty campaign
- Safe cycling route through Bepton
- Link through the Downs to West Dean and on to Centurion Way
- Midhurst Stedham dual walking/cycling route: finished 2015



MAC's achievements

We work closely with SDNPA and WSCC

- Upgrading Stedham/Midhurst dual use path crossing near Half Moon
- Supporting Cocking to make A286 path to Midhurst dual purpose
- Renovation of Jubilee path south, out to Holmbush industrial estate
- New crossing between fire station and Jubilee path north
- Expressed desire to WSCC for dual-use on the path from South Pond via Wharf to Ruins (for later extensions to Causeway and Easebourne)
- MTC has begun to install some cycle stands around the town
- Re-opening the old railway line route between Petersfield and Pulborough – the Rother Valley Greenway - by SDNPA

MAC's current projects



SO, IS THERE PROGRESS?

UPSIDE:

- Whip Hill path from June Lane to Rother College closed off
- WSCC has turned down funding for the Jubilee path south renovation
- **DOWNSIDE:** SDNPA has no funding identified for Rother Valley Greenway project

- MAC is now a member of West Sussex Cycling Forum which has regular meetings with WSCC
- Walking and Cycling Strategy 2016-2026 adopted by WSCC
- SDNPA Walking/Cycling strategy will concentrate on leisure routes

- We know what needs to be done; we just need the political will and the funding to get it done. *Will you please help?*
- The money spent on cycling will give real returns to the community generally, and to our young people in particular.
- Would every Parish please consider sending a representative to our meetings so we can plan and co-ordinate joint lobbying of both WSCC and SDNPA? Meeting at Grange 11 October 7 pm

IF WE ALL PULL TOGETHER TO SUPPORT MAC'S AIMS, WE CAN ACHIEVE MUCH, MUCH MORE.



How you can help