

Helsby Cycle Forum

Helsby Cycle Forum is open to all and will work with all interested groups to promote cycling in Helsby.

We will aim to facilitate the provision of new cycle routes and upgrading and extensions to existing routes. Our long term aim is for Helsby to be accessible by cycle route from all neighbouring communities. This will provide sustainable transport options for people travelling from homes to and from schools, places of work, retail and leisure facilities.

Short term objectives.

- 1) Provide a continuous link between Helsby and Frodsham .

Why? To provide a safe route for students attending the Helsby High school

To encourage residents, commuters to work, shoppers and leisure users.

- 2) Ensure that new developments within Helsby incorporate adequate provision for cycle routes.

Why? To ensure that opportunities for cycling are promoted

To ensure opportunities to build a “joined up” network are not lost.

Medium Term Objectives.

- 1) Provide a continuous link between Helsby, Hapsford, Elton and Thornton.

Why? To upgrade the existing path that is already used by cyclists and pedestrians.

Helsby is a growing residential area. Elton and Chester University Thornton Science Park providing additional employment opportunities.

To connect with the proposed improved cycleway along the A5117 to Cheshire Oaks, and the canal side cycleway that links into Chester and connecting long distance cycle routes.

Long Term Objectives.

- 1) Reopen the Helsby to Mouldsworth railway line as a mixed use route.

Why? Promote additional recreational routes and links to other communities.

- 2) Develop a route through Helsby to link the routes to Frodsham, Elton and Mouldsworth with direct access to Helsby Railway Station.

Why? To allow cyclists to pass through Helsby without having to mix with the traffic at the pinchpoints caused by existing developments. (e.g. St Pauls Church, The Avenue, Children’s Park or along Old Chester Road on National Cycle route 5)

Next Steps.

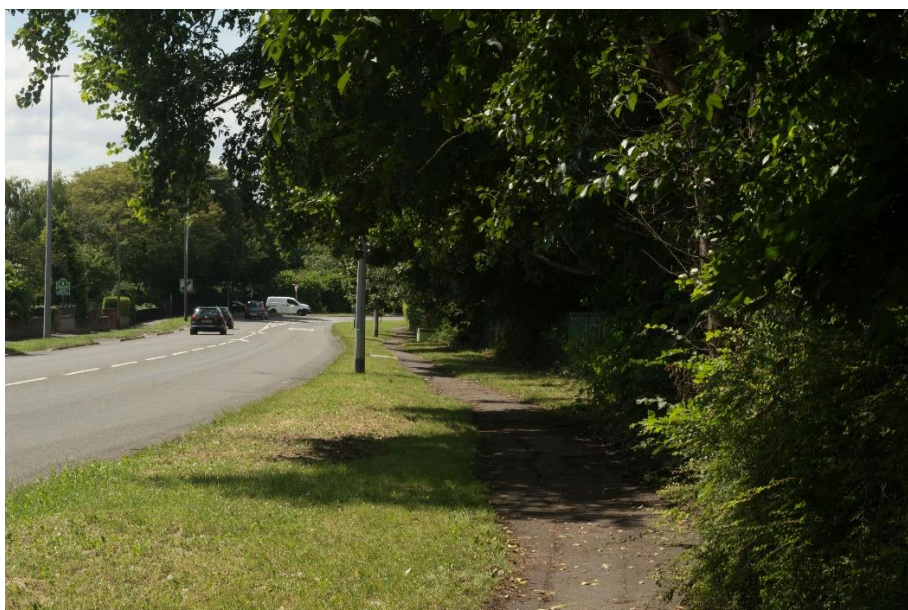
Talk with Sports and Social club representatives about how can incorporate cycle routes into their parts of the New Helsby Sports and Social Club masterplan.

Talk with Brookhouse and Honeywell about how can incorporate cycle routes into their part of the New Helsby Sports and Social Club masterplan.



Above view looking towards Helsby with HCSC on the left of the A56.

Below view looking towards Elton with HCSC on the right of the A56.



Section 1: Routes Through Helsby

Schools

Helsby High School to the Netherton Hall:

(Copied from Frodsham Cycle Strategy)

The current cycle route along the A56 is subject to a separate report by Sustrans detailing suggested upgrades to the existing cycle lanes. The nature of the route discourages school children from cycling on the road and there is no obvious route promulgated into Frodsham. For details of potential reclamation of the existing footway and upgrade to 'share with care' status see the separate report published by the WaSCF (2014).

Adequate shoulder exists on both sides of the A56 to enable a segregated cycle / pedestrian path to be constructed that could connect the Netherton Hall with Helsby High School and Helsby. A Segregated path with sufficient width to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians on a separate basis is seen as the preferred long term solution.

Quick Wins:

- Reclamation of existing footway and re-designation as 'share with care'.
- Buffer painting the existing cycle lanes IAW Sustrans recommendations.

Longer Term:

- Construction of a segregated asphalt path compliant to DfT guidelines to connect the Netherton Hall with Helsby.

Work and Industry

Helsby to Hapsford and Elton:

Adequate shoulder exists along the North/East side of the A5117 and A56 to enable a segregated cycle / pedestrian path to be constructed that could connect the existing cycle tracks on Ince Lane in Elton with the Robin Hood Lane portion of National cycle Route 5. Much of the existing footpath is obstructed by hedges and trees and is in poor repair.



View towards Helsby from
junction of the A56 and A5117



View towards Elton from junction of
the A56 and A5117

Quick Wins:

- Reclamation of existing footway and re-designation as 'share with care'.
- Drop kerbs along the route (8-10 off).
- Appropriate signage for route.

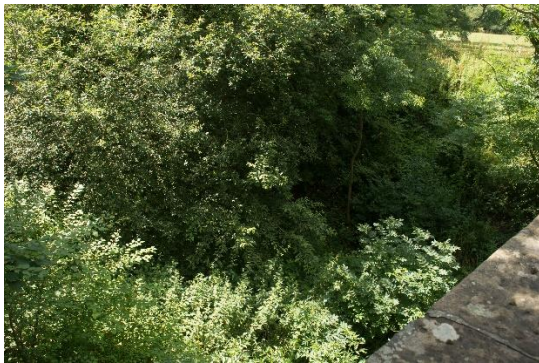
Longer Term:

- Construction of a segregated asphalt path compliant to DfT guidelines to connect the existing cycle tracks on Ince Lane in Elton with the Robin Hood Lane portion of National cycle Route 5.

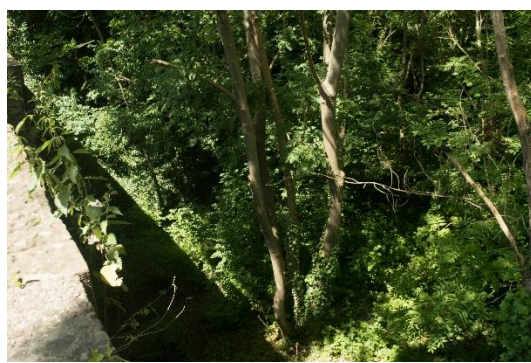
Leisure

Helsby to Mouldsworth Railway Line:

The Helsby to Mouldsworth line connects several existing footpaths and smaller communities. The route is overgrown along most of the length.



View of Helsby-Mouldsworth disused rail link from Primrose Lane looking towards Mouldsworth.



View of Helsby-Mouldsworth disused rail link from Primrose Lane looking towards Helsby.

Quick Wins:

- Clearing of the track bed to provide a cross country footpath along the route and opening access to the route at road crossings.

Longer Term:

- Construction of a segregated asphalt path compliant to DfT guidelines from existing Helsby to Chester Railway line through to Mouldsworth station.

Section 2: Within and through Helsby.

There is no obvious and safe route through the middle of Helsby. National Cycle Route 5, from Maltby triangle to the Cemetery, is narrow, steep and bypasses most of the shops and housing areas in the village. The main A56 has three pinch points (Maltby Triangle to Tesco Lights (The Avenue), Loxley Hall to the park, and Bank House Lane, past St Pauls Church to Grove Terrace), with no obvious ways to provide cycle friendly routes.

Quick Wins:

- *Creation of a route through from the Sports and Social Club entrance (or end of The Avenue) to Cable Drive,*
- *Appropriate signage for route.*

Area of land that could be used as cycle access from Maltby Triangle to entrance of Cable Drive.



Access from HCSC grounds to Cable Drive.



Cable Drive



Cable Drive from Tesco Supermarket

Access to HCSC Rugby Pitch

Longer Term:

- *Construction of a segregated asphalt path compliant to DfT guidelines from Crossland Drive to Freshmeadow Lane*
- *Construction of a segregated asphalt path compliant to DfT guidelines from Freshmeadow Lane, to the North side of the Helsby Chester Railway line, through to Helsby Station.*
- *Construction of a segregated asphalt path compliant to DfT guidelines from Lower Rake Lane, to Godscroft Lane, with spur to Helsby High School.*
- *Construction of a bridge between Helsby Station and lower Rake Lane.*
- *Appropriate signage for routes.*

