

Volunteers invited to join group to discuss improvements

How do we make streets more friendly to cyclists?

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A special meeting being held to discuss how to make Tenterden more cycling-friendly is asking for volunteers to join a group to discuss the improvements needed.

Tenterden Town Council is holding an inaugural meeting of what aims to become a steering group to promote cycling.

Topics could include improving cycle paths, providing designated lanes, or adding more safety measures to protect cyclists.

It comes as a feasibility study, published in 2008 on creating a cycle path from Tenterden to Headcorn, was unearthed by solicitor Justin Nelson of Nelson's Legal Practice in Bells Lane.

Sustainable transport charity Sustrans was commissioned by Kent County Council to investigate possible routes for pedestrians and cyclists along the former railway line from Tenterden to Headcorn.

The report looked at issues



Sue Ferguson has called for action over the report into cycling in Tenterden

such as a safe means of crossing the A274 and A262; whether any bridges might be needed and if better cycling routes to school could be created.

It went into great detail considering path furniture, such as occasional benches, signposts – which were to be low level timber posts – and information boards. Pathways were to be developed to create points of interest for walkers and cyclists, with art-



work or rest areas interspersed along the way.

Tenterden town councillor Sue Ferguson said of the comprehensive 24-page document: "I wonder where this report has been, perhaps stuffed into a filing cabinet. "Why spend so much money on a survey and then nothing happens?"

"It's an incredible shame not to have acted on the report and implemented it.

"Safe cycling and exercise and getting families out into the countryside is a wonderful idea."

The inaugural cycling meeting will be held next Monday at the town hall in High Street, Tenterden and starts at 6pm.

Those who wish to receive the agenda and future agendas and minutes are asked to notify the town clerk by emailing TownClerk@TenterdenTownCouncil.gov.uk