

Appendix 4

Additional comments broadly opposing the proposal for cycling in Abbey Fields:

“The town has increased in size, people, and vehicle usage over the years and the roads and pavements everywhere are already saturated with usage and pavement furniture in the town that doesn't put disabled people first. To allow people to cycle in abbey fields which is supposed to be a safe and peaceful place for play and exercises means that everyone is at risk from collisions with bicycles going at all speeds. Please can we just have somewhere that isn't overtaken by vehicles like everywhere else is.”

“Look at almost every Cycle Lane/Path development. Cyclists are unable to share spaces safely with other users. There proposals will generate conflict and accidents, there really is no point putting up polite signs to request Cyclists behave because they will have no impact.”

“There are alternative routes for cyclists eg roads, pedestrians going to the Abbey Fields should be able to enjoy an hazard free experience not one having to dodge or give way to cyclists all the time. Cycling should be banned in the Abbey Fields”

“Once cycling is allowed it will be dangerous to have off lead dogs anywhere near the shared paths and cyclists may then spread onto the other paths which will put so much of the fields sadly out of bounds for the many of us who currently enjoy daily off lead exercise.”

“My main points that I believe need careful consideration and mitigation are as follows:

The risks that a shared cycle/pathway would present to parents with children and prams, joggers, dog walkers, the old and infirm.

The narrow bridge (which wont be widened) by the duck feeding platform is a junction where people come from five different directions and to share that junction with a combined cycle/pedestrian pathway (as is proposed I think) would be crazy.

The emergence of e-bikes and e-scooters and the potential for their misuse.

The temptation by some, to depart from a cycle path and ride across the Abbey Fields.

The population of Kenilworth is growing and Abbey Fields is and will continue to be used more and more by those groups in the first bullet above.

The proposed route and its relationship to the position of the children's playground when the playground is re-established after the new swimming pool is completed.

Signage is not a reliable method to enforce safety.

My points are based upon using Abbey Fields pretty much everyday, rain or shine for the past 20 years.”

“Unlimited scooters and egg electric bikes should be policed as these give other cyclists and careful electric users a bad name. Safety and consideration from everyone is vital.”

“Making the path shared with walkers and cyclists would be very dangerous for both party's and dogs. If the council care about there people they will not create a shared path, they will create two separate paths for the safety of people. “

“Cycling is not permitted in the Abbey fields. Mixing adult cyclists, who usually go far too fast, with toddlers running free, dogs on leads who often lunge at cyclists, and walkers is a very bad idea. Not to mention how awful the paths will look. This is a much loved park, NOT a cycle route.”

“I think this is a bad idea, it is very naive to believe that cyclists would dismount or even go more slowly around the swimming pool. It is a recipe for disaster as children will be playing or coming out of the swimming pool and people on a cycle will be mingling with them .”

Additional comments broadly supporting the proposal for cycling in Abbey Fields:

“This is vital to link parts of town to the leisure facilities in Kenilworth and reduce pressure on roads and car parking facilities. It will also create wider paths so different users can pass easily e.g. buggies and walkers”

“The paths around the WHOLE of the park, including from the north and the west sides of the park should allow cycling - same as nearly every other public park in the country. Making ONLY TWO PATHS suitable for cycling is NOT ENOUGH.”

“I am disappointed to read that the option of creating a cycle path that requires users to dismount for a stretch is even considered. As you mention in the consultation, this creates huge issues for people who have difficulty walking but are ok with cycling.

Moreover, it will discourage other cyclists too. Having to dismount on a path just doesn't make it sufficiently attractive for anybody who wants to get from A to B.”

“The key factor re whether this works is whether it joins to existing cycling paths on bridge street and the path parallel to Brookside to castle farm. It's not about cycling on abbey fields per se, rather it's a safe route from A to B taking the cyclist off the road. “

“The current lack of cycle path across Abbey Fields makes it very difficult and dangerous to cycle with child across Kenilworth. Adding in the cycle path will be a much welcome addition to all young families.”

“I do not feel that a 3m (at its widest) path with 2 way direction of travel is suitable for shared pedestrian/cyclist use. I do not object to a single use 2 way marked cycle path alongside the current footpath on Section A [Borrowell Lane].

Then a dismount at Section B to walk past the existing duck feeding area. Section C [Bridge St access road] should have a pedestrian pathway all the way to the swimming pool, not just at the junction. Cyclists could then share the roadway with the permitted vehicles.”

“Kenilworth roads are too dangerous for young cyclists this would open up the town to juniors and teens in a safe way ... I am an adult and I don't feel safe on the road”

“As a family we would like to be able to cycle to the swimming pool and lock up our bikes there. We live Castle side of town and it would be great if we could cycle through the AFs to get to town and school. At the moment we don't feel comfortable regarding our son's safety on the routes available to him to cycle. Please look at linking up with K School too. Proper cycle routes between all of the towns main facilities would be great.”

“I feel this is so imperative for Kenilworth not to be left behind. Other local places (St Nics Park Warwick) have integrated paths in their parks and it all works well. It also creates a culture where people can access traffic free routes to cycle and get confident using bicycles which will have a positive effect on physical/ mental health, climate change, road congestion and active travel. As more housing is built in Kenilworth and roads get more congested surely linking up to the greenway to provide safe travel to work and school is a no brainer”