

# Walking & Cycling in St Ives

## Have your say



### Why walking and cycling?

St Ives is tackling climate change, traffic congestion, economic and social inequality and healthy recovery after the lockdowns. The Town Walking and Cycling Group is addressing the lack of connectivity and cycle infrastructure that will encourage safe and enjoyable walking and cycling, especially for those short trips we often do in the car.

#### Greener town

- good walking and cycling environments lower fossil fuel and carbon use and promote space for nature and plants. Our climate emergency puts our town at risk and warrants taking giant steps to change.

#### Cleaner town

- reducing congestion will make our air cleaner and our streets quieter and easier to navigate and enjoy.

#### Healthier town

- good walking environments help us to keep healthy, reduces obesity and improves physical and mental wellbeing

#### Thriving and equitable town

- going to town on foot and by cycle increases footfall, increases spend per trip and improves access to those without a car



Wharf Road is at times difficult to walk along due to kerb steps, vehicles, seats and bins. Cycles can only legally travel one way.

### Getting your view

These suggestions are a flavour of what we envisage the streets of St Ives could be like with better conditions and facilities for walking and cycling.

#### For us as well as them

The suggestions are not just for the town centre and tourist hot spots, but for the ordinary streets too, where all of us live and work, for all ages, for men and women and for all abilities.

### What we have been doing

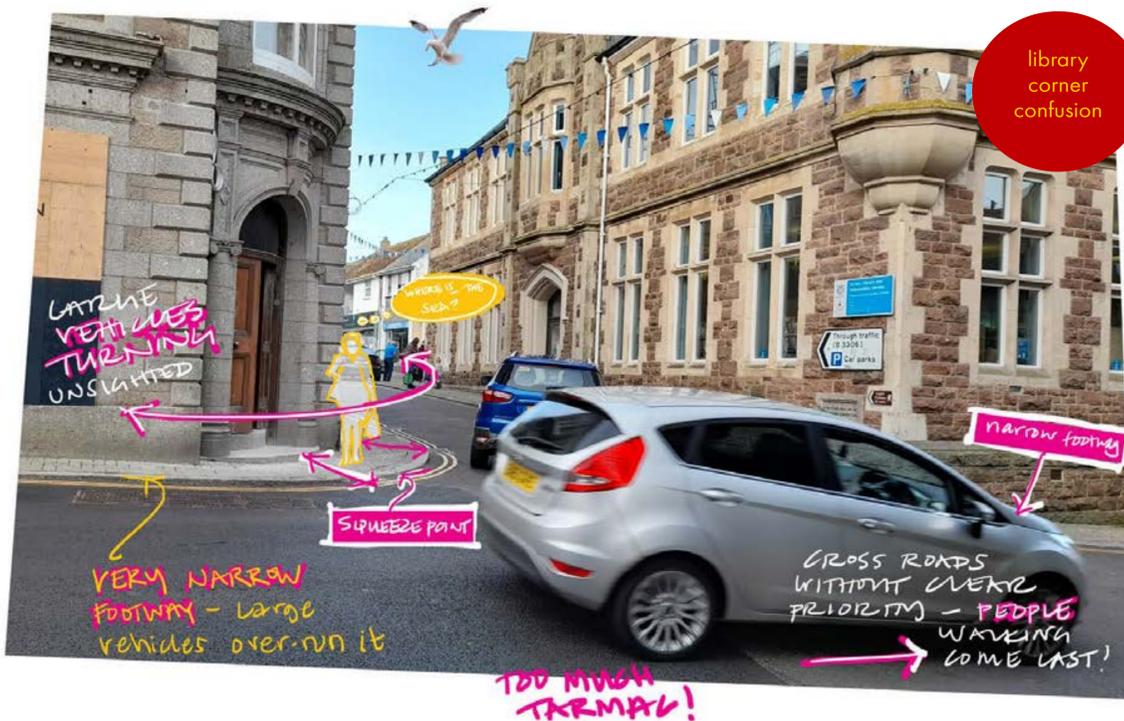
The group was set up in response to the Neighbourhood Plan where local residents and businesses expressed concern that walking and cycling requires attention in the town to improve the ability and comfort of these ways of getting around, to reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality and enjoyment of the small scale of our streets and neighbourhoods.

#### Auditing our streets

The group have reviewed the town's streets, lanes and opes, looking at how easy and enjoyable it is to get around the town on foot or on cycle. We have considered the needs of the elderly, those using pushchairs and walking with young children, as well as the needs of those with mobility or visual impairment.

#### Profiling

We have considered how our town has a low car ownership and high child poverty compared to many towns in Cornwall, yet we have large numbers being driven to school and seasonally used car parks taking up a large land area in the town.



our tight streets and junctions like Library corner are crowded with vehicles turning and people walking in the tight leftover spaces

### Town walking and cycling group members

- |  |   |   |  |  |   |  |
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| Tamsyn Williams<br>Resident<br>tamwill@hotmail.co.uk | Johnnie Wells<br>Councillor<br>Johnnie.Wells@stives-tc.gov.uk | Andy Dale<br>Councillor<br>Andy.Dale@stives-tc.gov.uk | Ben Colclough<br>St Ives Ebikes/<br>Resident<br>info@stivesbikes.co.uk | Beth Scott<br>Resident<br>bethscott@live.co.uk | David Orr<br>urban designer<br>david@davidorrconsulting.net | Andy Golay<br>Project manager<br>andy.golay@stives-tc.gov.uk |
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# Walking & Cycling in St Ives

## How can we improve?



### Transforming our streets

St Ives has some very old and narrow streets and many newer ones designed around the car away from the old town centre. Even here in Carbis Bay and Lelant, the streets have been largely given over to vehicle convenience at the expense of walking and cycling. Transforming these may take some adjustment to how we have seen and used these routes over recent years.

### Comfortable and friendly

We want our streets to be comfortable, well connected, and enjoyable to use.

#### connected and direct streets

St Ives narrow streets in the town centre and Down'Long are part of its rich heritage. The opes and lanes make it a highly walkable area. The upper town though has largely been built in the car era and large blocks of houses often require long detours to walk around.

The hilly topography also means lots of the connecting routes are stepped. This makes it difficult to access for people with mobility difficulties or wheeling a pushchair or shopping trolley.

#### attractive

Everyone enjoys a good view and St Ives has some of the best. But every street should be enjoyable in some way. Tree planting and rain gardens are one way of making our streets not just attractive, but useful for tackling climate change and improving biodiversity too.

#### comfortable

Making space for walking and cycling will increase comfort for everyone. Adding drop kerbs, building pavements into wide tarmac areas that aren't used so much, will all aid walking and cycling.

#### safe

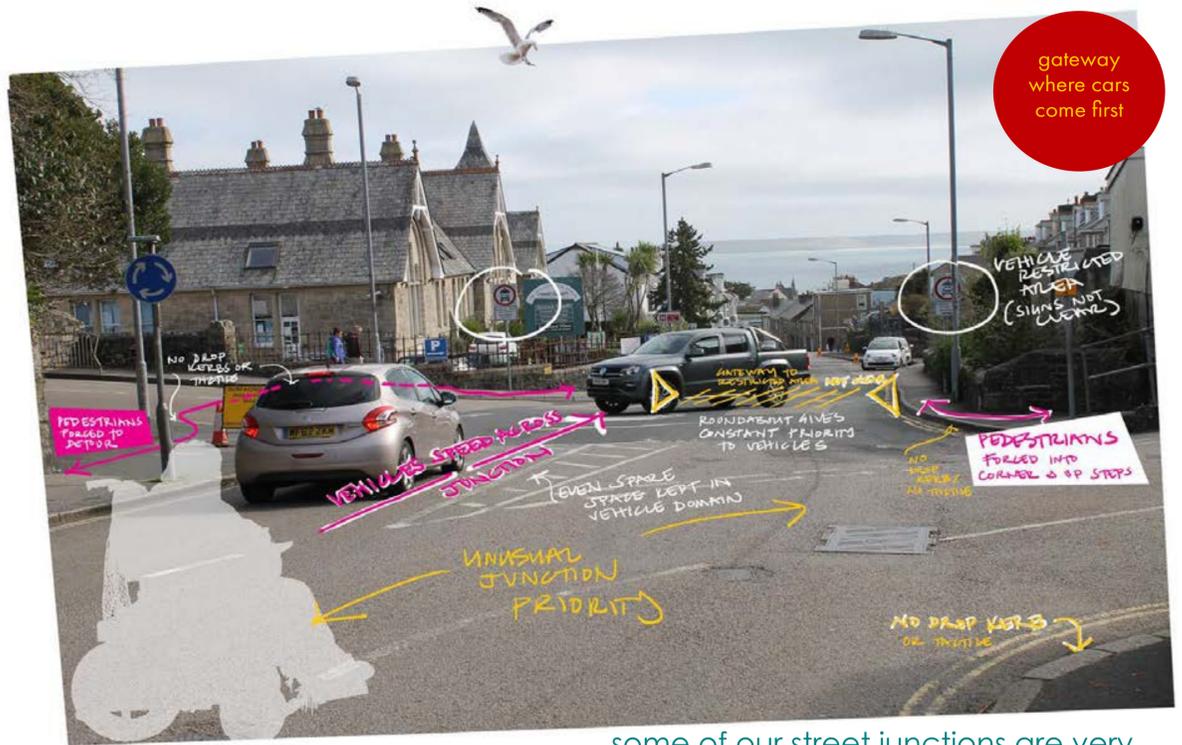
Many of our streets have a legacy of not having footways making them difficult to walk on safely by all but by the elderly and very young and less mobile in particular. Adding back space will help everyone.

### What about the Town Deal?

The Town Deal board is also proposing some key improvements to the town:

- pedestrianisation of Fore Street and Wharf Road
- a multi-use trail St Erth to St Ives
- a low carbon transport hub at the Station

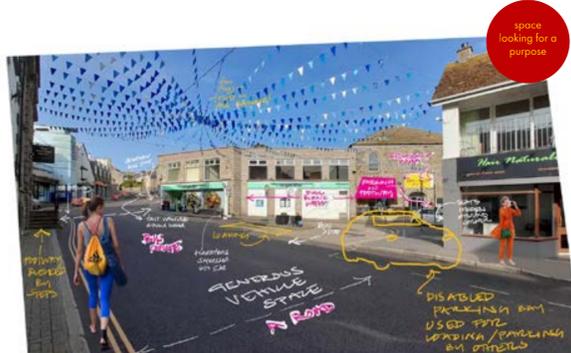
The walking and cycling strategy will be addressing the other streets and places in the town, ones that matter for everyday small trips to school, to the shops, to work or to socialise. Together these projects will make St Ives ready for the future.



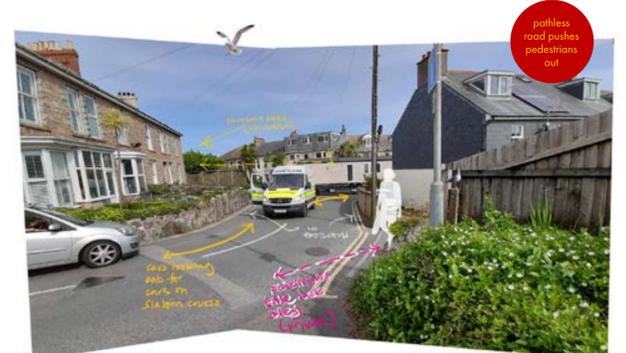
some of our street junctions are very awkward to cross on foot and cycle, and discriminate against those with mobility difficulties - nor do they slow traffic as they might



our school entrances are difficult to use on foot and cycle as we have given over all our space to a few vehicles



even some of our best public spaces are awkward to walk through as we have given them over to vehicle use and footways are awkward or blocked



some of our streets have no footways and are difficult to walk along for those who are less mobile, including the elderly and very young



Our online survey link:  
<https://bit.ly/3gzwHBS>