



Active Travel Quick Wins

Submission from Abergavenny Cycle Group, August 2022

This note describes a handful of small but significant impediments to cycling (and walking and wheeling) in Abergavenny that could be solved with simple measures such as barrier removal, dropped kerbs and bollards.

It is not a comprehensive wish list for active travel improvements in the town, rather a list of things that could be done cheaply and easily.

These are presented in order of priority, but we would be happy to discuss this further if choices have to be made about how to allocate limited funds.

This submission consciously excludes several potential quick wins within the remit of the ongoing Castle Meadows and Llanfoist Links schemes.

Founded in 1995, Abergavenny Cycle Group is a group of local volunteers working for to improve cycling conditions in the Abergavenny area. Registered Charity, No. 1070816.

abergavennycyclegroup.org.uk

Where?

Cross Street / A40

Grid reference: SO299141

Active travel route: A21A

What's the problem?

Gates prevent cycle access 10am-4pm Mon-Sat

What's the solution?

Install demountable bollards and leave gate open

Who will benefit?

People on bikes, pedestrians (due to reduced conflict with cycles on footways)



Where?

Croesonen Road, just north of the junction with Hereford Road

Grid reference: SO304151

Active travel route: A14B

What's the problem?

A modal filter has a kerb upstand and is frequently blocked by parked cars. Kerb upstands require cyclists either to dismount and lift the cycle or hop the kerb. They also impede other wheeled users and are particularly difficult to negotiate for physically impaired users and those with non-standard cycles and trailers.

What's the solution?

Remove kerb upstand, install staggered / set back bollard to prevent blockage by parked cars. Consider placing bollards to ensure compliance with Active Travel Act Design Guidance.

Who will benefit?

People on bikes and other wheeled users.



Where?

Path between Highfield Crescent and Park Crescent

Grid reference: SO301150

Active travel route: A19B

What's the problem?

Metal barriers and overgrown hedge. The metal barriers are narrow and impede all users, but especially those with non-standard cycles or trailers. The overgrown hedges bring users into conflict on this shared use path.

What's the solution?

Remove barriers, trim hedge

Who will benefit?

Users of longer non-standard cycles or cycle trailers, mobility scooter users, less able bodied cyclists.



Where?

Path between Dan-y-Deri and Gwent Road

Grid reference: SO304158

Active travel route: Not a designated route, but a key AT link between the Mardy and Llantilio Pertholey School, with no alternative route.

What's the problem?

Barriers that are inaccessible by larger and non-standard cycles.

What's the solution?

Remove barriers.

Who will benefit?

Pedestrians, people on bikes and other wheeled users. Local residents carrying refuse to kerb collection point would also benefit (we have discussed the idea them).



Where?

Llwynu Lane by Deri View Primary School

Grid reference: SO302156

Active travel route: A14A

What's the problem?

Pavement parking is habitual at school drop off and pick up times. Footways are completely blocked on an important walking route to school. Car door opening and vehicles movements onto and off the pavement endangers cyclists in road. (NB the photo below were taken during school holidays, it is recommend to visit during drop-off and pick-up times to witness the extent of the problem)

What's the solution?

Replace damaged bollards and/or wands and install new ones to deter pavement parking (there is plentiful free parking in the school car park a few metres away). Enforcement by police.

Who will benefit?

Pedestrians, people on bikes and other wheeled users. Especially children walking and wheeling to school.



Where?

Shared use path between St David's Road and Gwent Road

Grid reference: SO306158 and SO306156

Active travel route: Not a designated active travel route but a key route to school for Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni and Llantilio Pertholey.

What's the problem?

Barriers at each end.

What's the solution?

Remove barriers

Who will benefit?

People on bikes and other wheeled users, school children



Where?

Lower Monk Street entry into Swan Meadows

Grid reference: SO302141

Active travel route: A06B

What's the problem?

Lack of a dropped kerb to enable cycles to proceed from the road to the park and vice versa.

What's the solution?

Install a drop kerb by entrance to the park

Who will benefit?

People on bikes.



Where?

Ross Road entry to Gavenny path & footbridge

Grid reference: SO303144

Active travel route: not a designated AT route, but a useful and used AT short cut

What's the problem?

Lack of dropped kerb between road and shared use path

What's the solution?

Install a drop kerb by the entrance to the path

Who will benefit?

People on bikes and other wheeled users.



Where?

Cross Street / A40

Grid reference: SO299141

Active travel route: A21A

What's the problem?

Left-turning motor vehicles routinely encroach onto the footway, endangering pedestrians.

What's the solution?

Install one or more heavy duty bell bollards to protect pedestrians waiting to cross.

Who will benefit?

Pedestrians, especially the elderly, disabled and with visual impairment



Example of bell bollards

Where?

Shared use path between Park Crescent and Old Hereford Road

Grid reference: SO297147

Active travel route: A23A. Also National Cycle Route 42.

What's the problem?

Poor surface

What's the solution?

Resurface

Who will benefit?

People on bikes, other wheeled users (esp, those with mobility scooters, wheelchairs and child buggies) and pedestrians



Where?

Pen-y-fal Road

Grid reference: SO298145

Active travel route: Not a designated AT route but a potentially useful low traffic route to avoid Pen-y-Pound

What's the problem?

Modal filter is routinely blocked by lorries and other commercial vehicles from the nearby garage parked on the footway.

What's the solution?

Install bollards / wands to prevent pavement parking, dropped kerbs to enable use by wheeled users.

Who will benefit?

Pedestrians, people on bikes and other wheeled users



Where?

Tudor Street and Castle Street

Grid reference: SO298145 to SO298140

Active travel route: A04A

What's the problem?

Legal parking on double yellow lines by disabled drivers. Forces cyclists into the middle of the road, creates hazards for all road users.

What's the solution?

Introduce a parking exclusion area. There is plenty of parking on the other side of the road in the car parks.

Who will benefit?

Drivers and people on bikes



Where?

Belli Priory path, by Abergavenny Bus Station & car park

Grid reference: SO301140

Active travel route: A29A. Not an AT cycling route but a useful way of avoiding the A40.

What's the problem?

Narrow metal barriers

What's the solution?

Remove barriers, consider replacing with a bollard, staggered with the two that are already there to enable cycles and other wheeled users but prevent use by motor vehicles.

Who will benefit?

People on bikes and other wheeled users.



Where?

Cross Street

Grid reference: SO299141

Active travel route: A14A

What's the problem?

Cycle parking stand is too close to kerb, so it's not possible to place a cycle in the stand without the rear wheel being up on the kerb and encroaching onto the footway

What's the solution?

Shift the cycle parking stand into the road by 30cm-40cm so it is flush with the painted lines of the parking bay.

Who will benefit?

People on bikes and pedestrians

