



Joint Western Arun Area County Local Committee Community Initiative Fund application



CLC Reference: 286/JWAAC

Local Councillor: Francis Oppler

Status: Fundraising Stage

Project Cost: £4,452.00 (as found under crowdfunding goal total)

Project Title: Bognor Bike Recycling

About:

To recycle unused bikes and help people learn skills to help maintain bikes, which would then be provided at low cost to those in need of cheap transport.

This project aims to be a low cost source of sustainable transport, by recycling donated or unused bikes which might otherwise end up going to landfill. In addition, we'll act as a hub for people to either act as a volunteer to help work on the bikes or simply learn valuable skills to help them maintain their own bikes. Longer term we also want to provide training to teach people how to ride a bike on the road in a confident way. The money raised will be used to buy the most commonly needed bike parts such as brake & gear cables, brake pads, inner tubes and tyres, as well as additional tools. In addition, it would also cover public liability insurance in respect of volunteers and the training provided to the public.

Project Delivery Manager: Bognor Bike Community C.I.C.

About me:

Bognor Bike Community CIC is a Community Interest Company formed by Adam Bell, his wife Rebecca Olds and Dave Barton who is a director of a local green energy project, who are all long term cyclists and have always been interested in promoting cycling as a sustainable form of transport, along with Danny Dawes from Grandad's Front Room CIC. Adam, having taken early retirement and retraining as a bike mechanic and Bikeability cycle trainer and moving to Bognor Regis, had wanted to expand on a small-scale bike recycling project he had previously run in conjunction with Sustrans in the Luton area. All 4 directors of Bognor Bike Community CIC share a common belief in wanting to improve the local environment and enable residents to take positive steps to improve their health.

Why we're pitching for a pledge:

This project will empower residents to be more active by cycling, as well as learning new skills to look after their bikes.

What we'll deliver:

- Provide low cost transport to those in need
- Provide the local community with a vibrant hub offering low cost workshops
- Protect the environment by saving items from landfill
- Improve mental & physical health by getting more people cycling
- Teach valuable mechanical skills

Why it's a great idea:

In Bognor Regis, 34% of households don't have access to a car, compared with the national average of 25%. Over 60% of adults are overweight, with around half doing no exercise. Nationally 3 million bikes are sold each year and yet only 2% of all journeys are by bike. It's estimated that 150,000 bikes are thrown away each year. This project will aim to recycle and rebuild unused bikes and increase the numbers of people cycling as well as providing them with the skills to help look after a bike. In addition to improving the mental and physical health of those benefiting, the project would also have the advantage of reducing the burden on local health resources. This is due to the fact that cycling regularly, either to work or for leisure, has proven benefits resulting in increased longevity and reduced incidences of ill health.

Steps to get it done:

- Buying additional tools and equipment to start project
- Achieve initial target of 150 bikes being recycled within the first year
- Ensure at least 50 people have learnt simple bike maintenance skills

Initially the project will operate out of premises provided by Grandad's Front Room CIC, but longer term, as more people become involved, the project will look for its own

premises and seek to provide other services of benefit to the community, to act as a central hub for cycling related activities and possibly provide a café.