

## Pedal Peak II – Moving up a Gear White Peak Loop Newsletter May 2016

The Pedal Peak II Project, set up in response to receipt of grant aid from the Department for Transport, officially finished at the end of March 2016. A Pedal Peak Project newsletter summarising the achievements and end of project report will be published later. In the meantime this newsletter provides a summary of the continued progress in relation to the White Peak Loop works managed and funded by Derbyshire County Council



### White Peak Loop East – Matlock area

#### Matlock to Rowsley:

The 8km route between Matlock and Rowsley has been split into four phases and our own work teams (AllRoads) are now on site on each of the four phases building the route. Work should be completed on the ground by the end of summer 2016:

**Phase 1: Matlock (opposite the Arc) to Old Road, Darley Dale** – work has started on site from the southern end but there is still a lot of work required to reinforce the retaining wall on the railway embankment near Red House and to build the route across farmland to provide the link to Old Road. **This work will not be completed until the end of the summer and in the meantime is not available as a through route for cyclists.** In particular please respect that the route will be crossing privately owned farmland and do not go on this land either on foot or by bicycle until the route has been finished.



**Phase 2: Station Road, Darley Dale through Whitworth Park to Church Road, Churchtown** – work started during the middle of May and should take 3 months to complete. There will be path closures in operation both through the Park and along the public footpath in the interest of public safety. We would like to apologise for any inconvenience this causes and every effort will be made to open the paths affected outside of working hours (Monday-Friday daytime and Saturday mornings). **The route will not be available at all to cyclists during the build.**



**Phase 3: Church Road, Churchtown to Harrison Way, Northwood** – the surfacing work is complete and the accompanying fencing work will be carried out during May and June.



**Phase 4: Harrison Way, Northwood to Old Station Close, Rowsley** – some of the surfacing work has been completed and a 2.7m wide plastic boardwalk will be built over the central wetland section starting at the end of May with is estimated to be completed by July.



## Rowsley to Bakewell:

Work is also progressing on the remaining 4km section between Rowsley and Bakewell. Negotiations are ongoing with Peak Rail over the A6 road crossing and a number of bat surveys have been carried out over the past year in the Haddon Tunnel. The next stage is to liaise with landowners and relevant groups and organisations and work up more detailed designs. As reported before, these issues will mean that this section will not be completed during the current project.

There is a way of using existing public rights of way to get from Rowsley to Bakewell without going on the A6 via a public bridleway and non-classified highway. We are currently looking at the feasibility of formally promoting and signing these as a temporary off road alternative until the main onward route along the railway is completed.

## White Peak Loop West – Buxton area:

### High Peak Trail into Buxton:

The 3km off road section linking Dale Head Road, over Staker Hill, around the line of the former railway and down to the Parks Inn pub in the centre of Harpur Hill is largely complete on the ground apart from the fact that we have had to temporarily stop the trail 150m short of the pub at the top of Fiddle Street while we carry out some final negotiations and design work. **As a result the route is only available to pedestrians at the moment and will not be available to cyclists until there is a completed link to join the highway.** More information will be provided on the website as soon as this is resolved.



A signing scheme on minor roads through Earl Sterndale promoting the 6km White Peak Loop link connection between this new section and the top of the High Peak Trail is now in place. Follow blue 'WPL' highway signs.

Further negotiations and designs are needed to look at the continuation route beyond Harpur Hill to provide the connection to Grin Low, Buxton Country Park and the centre of Buxton. In the meantime the onward connection into Buxton from Harpur Hill will be via the Sustrans signed National Cycle Network 68 route which is part of the Pennine Cycleway.

### Buxton out to the Monsal Trail:

The safety improvement works on the **Wyedale section of the Monsal Trail** between Topley Pike and the western end of the trail are complete and the route has been reopened.

### Responsible use messages:

When using the trails please respect other users and follow the messages developed as part of the Pedal Peak Project and “**Share with Care**” :



### Keep in touch

You can register to receive further newsletter updates by visiting [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/pedalpeak](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/pedalpeak) and click on the relevant link.