

Item 20 - Full Council Meeting – August 6, 2019

World Car Free Day is an event that is held on 22nd of September each year in towns and cities all over the world. This day encourages people to spend a day without driving their cars for the sake of the environment. As we all know, cars produce compounds that harm our environment and so, we can make a contribution to reducing their impact if we all spend even just one day without using our cars. Various events are organized in different countries in light of the celebration of this event.

More information here: <https://dayfinders.com/car-free-day/>

Realising that, as September 22 falls on a Sunday this year, the original idea was to close the town centre to vehicles and encourage local people - and visitors to come together - walking and cycling to the town, and join in fun activities like ball games, kids' races, story-telling, roaming performers etc, and a picnic area with artificial grass. However, realising that this is the day that the fair will be leaving town, and that a 3-day road closure would already have been in place, the extra work for the town council, and the time-scale involved in getting a suitable road closure, meant this would be impractical for this year.

So, the current proposal is that we hold a decorated bicycle ride from Montesson Square to the Southern Road Rec. culminating there in judging (by the Mayor or our famous cycling champion in Moreton, if Helena wouldn't mind knocking on her door :) the best decorated bike, and a 'Pedaling Picnic' on the Rec. with everyone bringing their own food. People could bring cricket bats, tennis rackets, rounders balls etc if they wanted to play games.

I am advised that no road closure would be necessary.

The practicalities would involve:

- * Us checking with our insurers that such an event would be covered
- * Me gathering a group of marshalls to see the cyclists out safely from the bottom of the upper High Street Car park & another at the Rising Sun roundabout
- * Two rows of car parking spaces behind the CAB being coned off for a short while
- * Asking Scouts if we can use their toilets (hiring toilets if numbers look like they are going to be considerable)
- * Producing a Risk Assessment (me with Cassie's advise)
- * A registration system publicised to get some idea of numbers
- * A social media campaign
- * Use of the Rec. car park for disabled cars etc. (make it clear that there will be no parking available for anyone else as this is 'Car Free Day')

Anyone coming from further afield can use the usual car parks in town and walk to the Rec.

- * Depending on numbers, a First Aider employed or a volunteer

cont/.....

Item 20 - Full Council Meeting – August 6, 2019

Budget

Costings for such an event would be:

- * some officer time giving guidance with Risk Assessment, Safety etc
- * Payment to a First Aider if a volunteer could not be found - around £75
- * Hire of toilet/s possible

Exact costings will be explored if the council agrees in principle to support this event.

Cones - myself or volunteers happy to do this as the maintenance men would have been busy since early morning clearing up after the fair.

END