

3. Bilton to Ripley Cycleway

This Council notes that

1. Under the Harrogate and District Plan the disused railway line between the Bilton Railway Line and Ripley was protected for use as a cycleway. Also the provision of a cycleway on the line is included in the Harrogate and Knaresborough Cycling Implementation Plan that was produced in conjunction with the North Yorkshire County Council in July 2000.
2. Harrogate Borough Council reaffirmed its commitment to the cycleway when an owner of part of the line removed a section of the viaduct and planning enforcement proceedings were taken to insist on its reinstatement. This was supported on appeal.
3. Unfortunately the route cannot be completed due to the inability of North Yorkshire County Council to persuade the owners on the line to voluntarily sell or lease the land.
4. The wide support from various sections of the community within the District.

This Council therefore calls upon North Yorkshire County Council to:-

1. Invoke its powers to compulsorily purchase the land on which the cycleway will run or
2. Use its powers to create a bridleway over the route of the railway.

Proposed: Councillor de Courcey-Bayley
For Councillor Bill Hoult

Seconded: Councillor Michael
Newby

The Mayor ruled that, in accordance with Standing Order 10(6)(a) this Motion stood referred to the Cabinet Member for Planning and Transport.