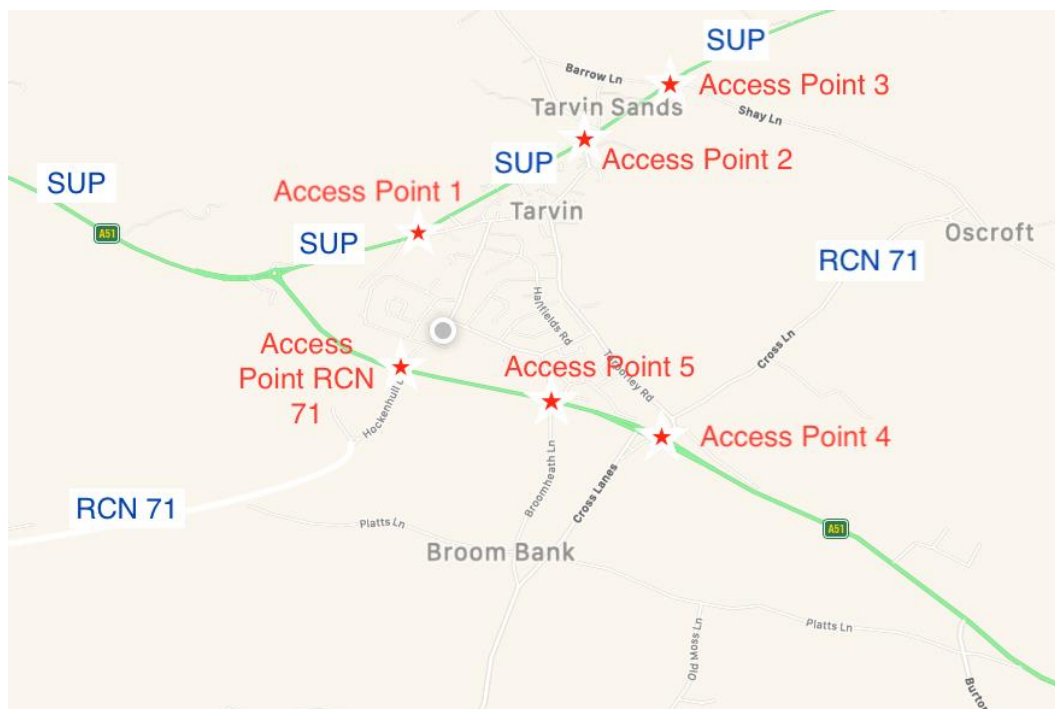


Tarvin Parish - Cycling

Tarvin Parish is ideally located only 6.2 miles East from Chester and its location offers the opportunity to travel to Chester by cycle for work or leisure. The population of the Parish is 2728 (2011 Census).

Tarvin is bounded by the A51 and A54. There is a Regional Cycle Route (No 71) which connects to Chester by crossing the A51 Tarvin By pass at Hockenhull Lane and proceeds to Christleton where cyclists can join the Canal towpath into Chester. A more direct route is provided by a Shared User Path (SUP) which runs from Ashton through Tarvin alongside the A54 and then alongside the A51 to Littleton and on to Chester. The



Greenway at Guilden Sutton can also be joined from this section of the SUP.

In most cases in order to access the cycle infrastructure it is necessary to cross the busy A51 and A54 at the marked access points on the map above.

At a relatively low cost extra short sections of Shared User Path and improved visibility would make it safer to leave Tarvin by cycle and would also be more inclusive. This could help to increase the number of people who would cycle to Chester instead of using a car or public transport especially during the easing of Covid-19 lockdown.

Access Point 1

Tarvin has a SUP running alongside the A54 Bye Pass Road and Holme Street. To access it almost all residents have to cross the A54 - there are two central refuges - one where Tarvin High Street joins the A54 and another on Holme Street. This means cycling on pavements which are not SUPs for short distances. For little cost a short section of

pavement on the opposite side to the SUP could also be made a SUP. The pavement also passes the entrance to the recreation ground King George V Playing Fields which has good provision for cycle parking.



ACCESS POINT 1

Access Point 2

Tarvin has a SUP running alongside the A54. Most residents have to cross the A54 to join



ACCESS POINT 2

the SUP. At the junction of High Street and the A54 at Tarvin Sands this means cycling to cross at a central refuge. The pavement leaving Tarvin High Street and going alongside the A54 before the crossing is not a SUP. For little cost this section of pavement could be made a SUP allowing cyclists to access the current SUP safely.

Access Point 3

The SUP through Tarvin is on the opposite side of the A54 to most of the village and the hamlet of Oscroft which is part of Tarvin Parish. At Tarvin Sands, in order to cycle safely from Oscroft to Tarvin via Shay Lane, Kelsall Road and High Street, the existing pavement

could be made into a SUP at little cost. This would mean that cycling between Oscroft and



LOOKING TOWARDS ACCESS POINT 3

Tarvin would not involve crossing the busy A54 twice. It would reduce the need for an extra crossing point at Shay Lane as cyclists could cross at existing crossing points to reach the SUP towards Chester and Ashton.

Access Point 4

In order to cross the A51 by cycle when leaving Tarvin at Austins Hill it is necessary to negotiate a difficult road junction. There is however a pavement close by which also crosses the A51 but using the central reservation as a refuge. It would be a low cost safety



ACCESS POINT 4

improvement to make this section of pavement a SUP. Consideration should be given as to where the SUP should safely be accessed on the Tarvin side. The pavement continues on towards the new Taylor Wimpey development in Tarvin (120 houses) and so the complete stretch of pavement could be made a SUP and is wide enough.

Access Point 5

This is one of the safest places to cross the A51 Tarvin By Pass. It is a straight section of road so visibility is good. Unfortunately though, several years ago, there was a pedestrian fatality here. Both sides of the access to the crossing are gated with catches able to be operated by horse riders and there are safety barriers on both sides of the road. As a cyclist however using this crossing does require the cyclist to dismount.



ACCESS POINT RCN 71

Access Point RCN 71

To access the countryside by public footpath and Regional Cycle Network Route 71 it is necessary to cross the busy A51 at Hockenhull Lane, Tarvin. Traffic is accelerating away from Tarvin roundabout on a sweeping bend in the direction of Tarporley, Nantwich and



OBSTRUCTED VIEW ON BEND IN A51 AS SEEN FROM CROSSING POINT

the M6. Because vegetation has been allowed to grow at the sweeping bend and obscure the sightline of walkers, cyclists and motorists this poses a danger to anyone crossing the A51 at this point. A sign on the A51 verge warning drivers of the danger rusted away several years ago and hasn't yet been replaced. For little cost this crossing of the A51 could be made safer for all.

Tarporley Road

When the Taylor Wimpey development was built a SUP was installed from the junction of Sanford Drive and Tarporley Road but no SUP signage has ever been installed so very few people know that it is there to be used as a SUP to access the new development. This is a 40 mph stretch of road so safety of cyclists is key.



CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE ON TARPORLEY ROAD STILL NOT SIGNED AS SUP

Bye Pass Road

This section of SUP on Bye Pass Road Tarvin is often made more difficult to use by the parking of residents cars outside their properties. There is space for both SUP and parking but it would be safer for cyclists and pedestrians if vehicles parked on the section of

pavement closest to the carriageway. Ideally, at low cost, SUP line markings could be put down on the pavement to achieve this along with more SUP signage. At the Tarvin Sands end of Bye Pass Road hedgerows and verges need trimming back.



OBSTRUCTION ON BYE PASS ROAD

Holme Street

Improvements needed to the SUP surface, particularly on the section approaching and passing Grosvenor Road, and domestic hedges need cutting back between Tarvin roundabout and crossing to Tarvin High Street on A54



SUP APPROACH TO TARVIN ROUNDABOUT



HEDGEROW AND GRASS VERGE ENCROACHMENT ON BYE PASS ROAD

Regional Cycle Network Route 71 to Packhorse bridges at Hockenhull Platts

A delightful off road section of Regional Cycle Network 71 runs down to the ancient bridges crossing of the Gowy at Hockenhull Platts. This section is poorly maintained however, after representations, it has recently been added to the List of Streets maintained at public expense. At this time of year vegetation and falling branches make the route more difficult to use and it is currently quite hard to maintain social distancing. When clear this is a good summer commuting route to Chester with a mountain bike. In winter the path is unlit, can be muddy and is less likely to be used as a regular commute instead of the A51 SUP.

