

Bingley Town Council
Cullingworth Village Council

Denholme Town Council
Harden Village Council

Wilsden Parish Council

This statement sets out shared views, opportunities and needs on transport, travel and traffic across the ‘Bingley Rural’ area, and makes clear our determination to bring about safe, sustainable and inclusive mobility. While there are some priorities and concerns specific to our different areas, we recognise the benefits of a joined-up approach.

Our shared vision and goals

- > We want our streets, village centres, and green spaces, to be safe, pleasant, healthy and sustainable, so local people, and our many visitors, can access, use and enjoy them confidently, without fear.
- > We want to reduce vehicle speeds and traffic, and associated danger, pollution, noise and disturbance.
- > We want to make walking, cycling, public and community transport pleasant, convenient, and well-connected, to provide great alternatives to driving, and help everyone get around through healthy, climate-safe, inclusive means.

Opportunities for action

There are four inter-related areas of action we intend to work together to progress, informed by local evidence and views, while drawing on wider expertise, guidance and good practice:

Tackling speeding – we need to address the prevalent speeding issues that endanger lives and make walking and cycling unpleasant and unsafe	Lower limits & people-friendly streets – we want to progress opportunities for lower speed limits and to make clear that our streets are for people
Great walking and cycling routes – we aspire to our villages, towns and green spaces being well-connected by safe, enjoyable walking and cycling routes, linking to strategic networks, towns and transport	Quality, coherent public transport – bus services need to be well-coordinated and connected (with one another, rail, community transport and active travel) to provide a quality, coherent offer

These areas of work are mutually-supportive, helping to create a positive feedback loop, with the benefits below.

The benefits of acting together, now

Achieving our aspirations above can help our communities and Bradford to:

- **recover and build back better, greener and fairer from Covid-19**, ensuring local transport and travel works for local communities and our environment;
- **benefit health and wellbeing for people across our villages, Bradford and beyond**, by encouraging active travel and enabling wider access to healthy outdoor exercise opportunities;
- **promote more inclusive access to local services, work and leisure opportunities**, including for the one in three people without car access, and supporting local economies;
- **respond to the climate emergency**, and help to ‘decarbonise transport’, now the biggest contributor of greenhouse gases, by improving access to and the appeal of sustainable modes, encouraging modal shift.

Opportunities are arising, as we emerge from Covid-19, which we want to seize, with increased walking and cycling, heightened appreciation of local spaces, and development of active travel networks. We have also glimpsed how our villages can be more peaceful and less polluted, but are now seeing traffic and speeds increase again.

Our offer of collaboration

- > We are enthusiastic about working with together, and with our communities, Bradford Council, WYCA, West Yorkshire Police, and partners such as Sustrans and local transport operators, to bring this about, and connect local improvements with strategic developments and networks.
- > We bring a wealth of knowledge on and experience in our localities, and a broad evidence and consultation base, to help identify exactly what’s needed, and develop solutions that work well for local people.
- > We recognise that by working together, we can create something of great benefit to local people and Bradford as a whole, while showing leadership on how rural areas can be effectively, sustainably connected for the sake of our communities, climate, health, inclusion and wellbeing.

We welcome discussion on achieving our aims: please contact clerk@hardenvillagecouncil.gov.uk