

DUDDINGSTON VILLAGE

Spokes has been contacted by Duddingston Village Conservation Society (DVCS).

DVCS point out that some cyclists use the Church Lane pavement through the village - and they understand why, given the nature of the road. Church Lane has badly laid cobbles, significant camber, and at times heavy traffic. The construction of the road can therefore be quite dangerous for the cyclist, particularly in wet weather, even if traffic is light.

However, using the pavement here is a particular danger to pedestrians, as many of the houses have a step down to the pavement with no visibility. This is not just a theoretical or legal point - two children and an elderly person have been hit in recent years, the latter needing hospital treatment. Remember that the cyclist, too, is often injured in serious collisions with pedestrians.

DVCS suggests that cyclists who want a quiet and/or safe alternative to the road through the village should use the route along the Vennel and the Causeway. The Causeway is named on the Spokes Edinburgh map and shown as 'quiet road' (orange colour). The Vennel is the marked cut-through from the Causeway back to the main road at the southwest end of the Village. If using this route, please note that it is fairly narrow, and should be used with full consideration for any pedestrians who are present.

*** Spokes urges all cyclists who wish to avoid the main road, Church Lane, to use the Causeway/Vennel alternative suggested by DVCS, and certainly not to use the pavement.

We would also like to see local signing advising cyclists of this alternative.

In the longer term Spokes would like to see consideration given to closing the main road to through motor traffic. DVCS has been campaigning for many years for traffic restrictions here, so that the road is no longer available as an arterial route into the city centre, although they do not want complete prohibition of through motor traffic.

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