



Malvern Pump Track Project

Setting the wheels of change in motion



Introduction



With the global climate crisis and Covid-19 there has never been a greater need to increase cycling participation in all age-groups. Getting children cycling from an early age is the best way to create a life-long habit and to do that we need off-road facilities where they can have fun as well as develop cycling and life-skills, such as an open-air, free-to-use Pump Track.

This campaign aims to build awareness and evidence the demand for a Pump Track in the Malvern area. With the backing of the community, we can engage with councils and landowners to find a suitable venue; and speak to sponsors and grant-giving bodies to turn the idea into reality.

Please share, like, tweet and lobby so that our voice is heard.

Thank you,

The Malvern Cyclesport team

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Background



- Pump tracks are non-racing cycle tracks that are designed and built on small areas or for those on a tight budget. They are typically shorter and narrower than standard BMX race tracks with a circuit of rollers, berms and jumps that usually loops back on itself so that riders can keep on going.
- Pump tracks are typically one to two metres wide and will include a variety of hills and jumps. The track is often contoured to fit the lie of the land and can blend in with the landscape to look aesthetically pleasing.
- They can be ridden by people of all ages and skill levels and can be used by any type of bicycle, scooter or skateboard.
- Modern tracks are built using a tarmac finish which reduces maintenance, improves life-time and allows all-weather use. The smooth tarmac finish extends their use to scooters and skateboards in addition to bikes.



Benefits and impact on community



Individual

- It is FUN
- Promotes physical exercise
- Opportunity to work on skills and feel progression
- An alternative sport to traditional team games
- A place to socialise and make friends
- Can lead to wider interest in cycling as a means of sustainable transport or even competition

Community:

- Provides older children with healthy and age-appropriate leisure facilities
- Can be enjoyed by variety of age groups and abilities
- Non-competitive so users tend to encourage each other and build better friendships
- Reduces anti-social behaviour at other sites
- May reduce the building of “unofficial” bike tracks/jumps
- Safe environment to practice “stunt” cycling



See the following link for a project in Glasgow which had an amazing impact on one young man and his community

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x2HACiTNuPA&list=ULvVMUIJ6Uh4A&index=38>

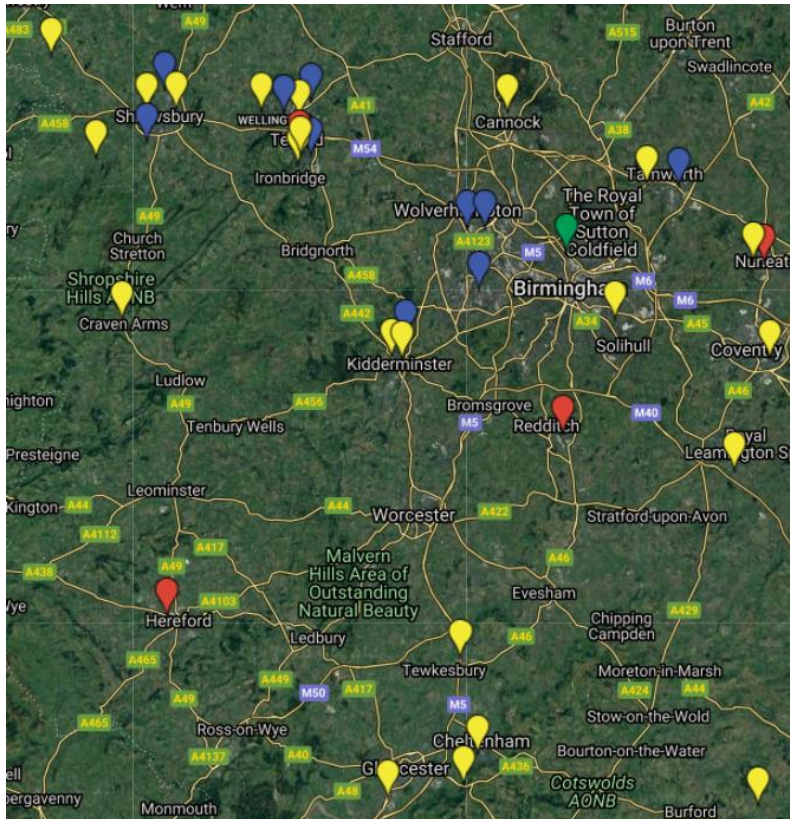
Popularity and history of cycling in Malvern



- Malvern is a great location to get into on and off-road cycling with lots of quiet country lanes to explore as well as the network of bridleways for mountain biking on the Malvern Hills.
- Malvern had a large BMX track that was closed in the early 90's despite being used regularly. No alternative facility was provided at the time or since and attempts to get this decision reversed were unsuccessful.
- The road cycling tour of Britain has passed through on many occasions, always drawing huge crowds.
- Malvern has produced a number of "home-grown" cycling superstars including names like [Tracy Moseley](#), [Liam Killeen](#), [Evie Richards](#) and [Hattie Harnden](#). Between them they have won numerous world, commonwealth and national titles in the disciplines of mountain biking and cyclocross.
- There is a healthy grass-roots club scene with two local clubs; Malvern Sevale and Malvern Cyclesport. Both offer pathways for members who want to develop their cycling or compete.
- Malvern Cyclesport's junior coaching division currently has 10 qualified coaches/ ride-leaders and provides weekly sessions for young riders in the summer months.



Locations of existing tracks



- The closest existing track is located over 20 miles from Malvern
- Regular travel to these alternative tracks (see map) has a detrimental impact on the environment
- There is also an impact on those tracks of catering to a population size they were not designed for

Conclusion and contact



- The Malvern Hills District Sport and Leisure Strategy 2014-2024 states that “the council must develop a fresh approach to the delivery of highly valued sport and leisure provision” and “seek to find innovative ways to maximise the opportunities for Malvern Hills district residents to improve their health and pursue more active lifestyles.”
- The interests of the popular and growing cycling community is currently not well served by existing leisure facilities in the Malvern Hills district area
- We feel that a pump track will enhance the provision for existing cyclists in the area, as well as encouraging a new generation of riders into the sport and providing additional community benefits.

For more information or to get involved, please contact:

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