

SAFER GREENER HEALTHIER

Summary of Clacton-Jaywick Sands consultation.

133 responses were received.

Responses were received from a spread of ages with the 55-74 category forming the highest response rate followed by the 35-54 category.

Age	Response
16-34	11%
35-54	37%
55-74	48%
Over 75	4%

When asked how they had heard about the consultation, social media was the biggest success followed by online. Note that some respondents may have chosen online even if they heard about the consultation on social channels.

Option	%
Social media	42%
Online	25%
Newspaper	7%
Word of mouth	12%
Other	19%
Not answered	3%

The first questions looked at how concerned respondents were about a series of societal issues. They were then asked the level to which they felt the council should act on those issues. Across all of the issues raised, respondents indicated a high-level of concern and desire for the council to take action. In particular, road safety and climate change were seen as being of high concern to respondents and issues they would like the council to address.

Traffic congestion concern	%	Should the council reduce traffic congestion?	%
Very concerned	47%	Strongly agree	54%
Fairly concerned	40%	Agree	39%
Not very concerned	7%	Disagree	2%
Not at all concerned	5%	Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	-	Don't know	2%
Not answered	1%	Not answered	1%

Air pollution concern	%	Should the council improve air pollution?	%
Very concerned	54%	Strongly agree	52%
Fairly concerned	32%	Agree	39%
Not very concerned	10%	Disagree	4%
Not at all concerned	3%	Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	-	Don't know	2%
Not answered	1%	Now answered	1%

Noise pollution concern	%	Should the council reduce noise pollution?	%
Very concerned	40%	Strongly agree	45%
Fairly concerned	39%	Agree	45%

Not very concerned	17%	Disagree	5%
Not at all concerned	3%	Strongly disagree	2%
Don't know	-	Don't know	2%
Not answered	1%	Not answered	1%

Road safety concern	%	Should the council improve road safety?	%
Very concerned	78%	Strongly agree	76%
Fairly concerned	18%	Agree	20%
Not very concerned	2%	Disagree	2%
Not at all concerned	2%	Strongly disagree	1%
Don't know	-	Don't know	1%
Not answered	1%	Not answered	-

Childhood and adult obesity concern	%	Should the council tackle childhood and adult obesity?	%
Very concerned	48%	Strongly agree	47%
Fairly concerned	40%	Agree	40%
Not very concerned	8%	Disagree	5%
Not at all concerned	3%	Strongly disagree	5%
Don't know	-	Don't know	2%
Not answered	1%	Not answered	1%

Climate change concern	%	Should the council tackle climate change?	%
Very concerned	55%	Strongly agree	60%

Fairly concerned	35%	Agree	30%
Not very concerned	5%	Disagree	3%
Not at all concerned	4%	Strongly disagree	3%
Don't know	-	Don't know	3%
Not answered	1%	Not answered	1%

The next question asked respondents to rank a number of initiatives in importance. Allocating more space and prioritising walking was supported the most followed by being able to travel easily without a car and less traffic overall.

Option	Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	Not answered
More space/priority for cycling	64%	22%	8%	5%	1%
More space/priority for walking	63%	29%	5%	2%	1%
Travel easily without a car	68%	21%	8%	2%	1%
Less traffic overall	58%	31%	7%	3%	1%
Everyone can drive where and when they want	22%	39%	27%	11%	1%

The next question asked to what extent respondents agreed or disagreed that the proposals would encourage and help additional cycling and walking along this section of NCR 150. A majority of respondents agreed that they would encourage more active travel along the route - 88%.

Option	%
Strongly agree	61%
Agree	26%
Neutral	4%
Disagree	1%
Strongly disagree	7%
Not answered	1%

Respondents were then asked if the proposals would persuade them to cycle or walk more along this route. Two thirds (66%) said that they would due to feeling safer with segregation and health benefits also being quoted. However, only 15 responses were submitted for the “yes” section and 8 for the “no” section.

Option	%
Yes - the improvements will make it safer	66%
Yes - there is more space devoted for cyclists and walkers	45%
Yes - it will be quicker than driving	17%
Yes - it will improve my health	36%
Not answered	19%
No - still feels unsafe	8%
No - lack of confidence/can't cycle	2%
No - I do not have access to a bike	7%
No - route not relevant to my journeys	8%
No - I would want complete segregation from traffic	5%
Not Answered	77%

Finally respondents were asked whether they felt the proposals would improve safety for cyclists/pedestrians travelling to and from Jaywick Sands to Clacton Pier and the train station.

Option	%
Yes	80%
No	17%
Not answered	3%

Qualitative overview:

Two questions were asked and respondents encouraged to give their views in a free text box.

The first asked whether there was anything in addition to the proposed enhancements to the Jaywick - Clacton Pier element of the scheme that they would like to be considered to improve cycling and walking along the route.

65 responses were received and support expressed:

This is a fantastic plan. I enjoy going out seeing what's out there but I'm scared to use roundabouts because it feels cars do not give us a chance and are so fast and dangerous. We also need to encourage more healthy lives.it would be nice if you could connect all towns around Essex with bike lanes so we can go to them towns without having to use the roads.

It would therefore be a tremendous asset if this could be improved.

I fully support these proposed improvements for a number of reasons, including the importance of connecting residents of Jaywick and Clacton to employment and education opportunities; increasing awareness of more regular activity and the benefits to physical and mental health; giving people viable alternatives to the car for shorter journeys; making the environment cleaner and greener; creating more connected communities that enjoy the assets on their doorstep; demonstrating confidence in the area by investing in it.

Big improvements needed to the surface of the cycle path from Jaywick to Martello Bay as it is in appealing condition after years of neglect by the council, the lower path should also be made SOLELY for cyclists as it is often used by pedestrians who should use the top path.

I would love for the council to make it easier for me to cycle.

Wider cycle paths You should do everything you can to encourage cyclists.

When opportunities to create cycle paths and safer cycling routes, they must be taken.

Safety/signage/lighting:

Good lighting in the evening.

More signs so pedestrians are aware they are on a joint cycle path.

More street lights on late for cycling home after the last train.

There is already room for both cyclists and pedestrians - it just needs better signage.

Impact of location on the route:

The seafront stretch of NCR 150 is often impassable to cycles (and mobility scooters/wheelchairs) due to the way the wind sweeps the sand over the wall across the paths; as soon as the sand is clearer, a bit of wind and its 4 inches deep again. This route will only be made better by tackling this issue - increasing the height of the seawall using clear panels (like the windbreaks).

Keeping sand off the paths as much as possible as sand makes the paths slippery on a bike.

Maintenance:

More bins.

The proposed scheme from Jaywick to Clacton will only be useful in promoting cycling if it is part of a larger, planned network, and if it has a decent maintenance budget. And along the coast, maintenance will include frequent clearing of sand.

Finally, inclusivity was a theme that ran throughout the comments, with a number of respondents concerned about the safety of the ramps accessing the NCR.

Respondents were then also asked whether they would like to make any comments on the Clacton Pier, Carnavon Road to Clacton station element of the proposal.

68 responses were submitted and the overall sentiment expressed was positive:

Hurry up!

I feel this will be beneficial to the community - I love to bike but do not feel it's safe to do so.

I'd like this to be done and not left.

Great idea, and at the cost of very little parking.

Long overdue.

I totally agree with this. It is a very dangerous situation for cyclists and pedestrians.

The reallocation to allow for the installation of a new cycleway without affecting traffic flow would be a bonus for all concerned and is to be applauded.

My comment is that we need this and need to encourage more riding at the moment.

You should do everything you can to encourage cyclists.

Parking bays:

Views expressed on the removal of the parking bays were mixed with some respondents expressing concern:

I think removing the parking bays is a ridiculous proposal, which will remove much needed parking from two churches. The shared foot way may not be a bad idea.

As a disabled person, I would like to see the parking bays kept as I regularly access the promenade and Rosemary Road from these.

Taking away parking will only upset others and put them against cycling but the path used for both should be ok.

We don't have enough parking as it is. Can't afford to lose the spaces.

Keep parking bays.

The area still requires good parking for visitors.

There was however support for the removal of the parking bays:

There is currently plenty of parking in and around Clacton that is under utilised so the removal of these spaces will not create a detrimental impact as there are many other places people can park. Parking provision is not the answer to a thriving, 21st century town centre - Far better to remove these spaces in order to be able to put in the cycle lane.

I would prefer removing the parking bays.

Remove the parking and provide a quality segregated route.

Remove the parking bays and create a direct cycle route.

I am sure that the loss of 12 vehicle slots on Carnarvon Road would not be too onerous to the town and would enhance the safety of cyclists on what is a very busy road leading to the station.

Crossings:

Concern was expressed about the safety of the proposed crossings:

The zebra crossing mentioned is quite dangerous - the sea side is obscured by parked cars and people often just walk out or drive too fast. Relocating to a clearer location and having a traffic light controlled crossing would be a safer, preferred option.