

Great Western Society Limited

Didcot Railway Centre

Cycling Policy – Issue 4, April 2010

A site Cycling Policy was introduced in 2001 in response to uncontrolled cycling by some volunteers and staff. The Cycling Policy (Issue 1) was discussed by Didcot Management Group on Tuesday 12th December 2000 and agreed by Council on 6th February 2001. Council reviewed and approved Issue 2 in March 2004, Issue 3 in March 2007 and Issue 4 in April 2010.

The Great Western Society's Vision is to recreate the golden age of the Great Western Railway (GWR) at Didcot Railway Centre. To this end, the Great Western Society does all it can to retain the image and atmosphere of a GWR locomotive depot.

Cycling by members of the public, i.e. paying visitors, is not permitted at any time. If visitors bring cycles to the site entrance, the Ticket Office staff should advise them to secure their cycles at the entrance. (Note – until such time as specific cycle policy arrangements are made in conjunction with development of a permanent Visitor Entrance Building, it will be acceptable to secure bicycles to the spear railings adjacent to the Ticket Office (Yard Ground Frame).)

Cycling is not permitted in Didcot Railway Centre when the Centre is open nor on any day when rail movements take place (i.e. during public opening hours and when shunting movements are taking place). Cycling is permitted when the Centre is closed to the public and no rail movements are taking place but cyclists must always dismount and give way to pedestrians, i.e. dismount and walk past them. All bicycles must be fitted with an audible device, ideally a bell, to warn of their presence. Cyclists must also be aware of the hazards in the railway environment and take care to ensure they ride safely at all times. Staff and volunteers seen not riding safely may be banned from bringing bicycles on site.

In order to maintain a steam era atmosphere across the Centre, cycles other than those of the pre diesel era (1960s) should be concealed from public view whenever possible and particular care taken not to spoil photographic views.

This policy applies to all staff and volunteers working at Didcot Railway Centre.

The Cycling Policy is to be reviewed every five years.

Ann Middleton
April 2010