**COWLEY AREA TRANSPORT GROUP**

Our basic principles:

1. The Climate Emergency threatens the future of all species on the Planet. Transport, including aviation and shipping, is a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution. This situation requires rapid reductions in transport emissions. We must provide for the future of our communities by achieving a carbon neutral Oxford, in all respects, no later than 2030;
2. We need to take back communities, and roads, from vehicles and air pollution by far more pedestrianisation, low traffic neighbourhoods and designating new homes in Oxford as ‘car free’. This applies to all parts of Oxford to encourage much more active travel;
3. Oxford needs continuous and safe cycling and walking networks between rural areas and the City;
4. We need to re-open all disused rail lines and fully electrify our railways to provide people with more alternatives to the car for their journeys;
5. We recognise that some increased warming of the Planet is already built-in. Emissions already made will gradually have more influence on temperatures and the Climate. This means adaptation of settlements to cope with rising heat is essential. Consequently, existing urban centre roads must be converted to pedestrianised areas with fountains and trees to keep temperatures down, and with good connections as part of new walking and cycling networks;
6. An enlarged City Centre could be far better for walkers and cyclists with less traffic. This means creating bus and taxi ‘turning and pick-up points’ to reduce number of buses and taxis, following models already adopted in Canterbury, Norwich and York for example. Cycling networks must include convenient routes through the centre East-West as well as North South;
7. Car ownership should be discouraged in favour of hiring electric vehicles when needed. The objective of this is to achieve actual reductions in road traffic. Local councils can play a large part in encouraging this;
8. Car parks, private and public, should be designated for being built over, or built around or built above, to make better use of urban space in Oxford. We want to reduce parking spaces in the urban centre to reduce vehicle movements at the periphery of an enlarged City Centre.

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