

GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL
POLICY ON CYCLING IN GODSHILL
ADOPTED APRIL 2013

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The Parish Council devised a policy for Cycling in Godshill following concerns raised by residents about the lack of appreciation and consideration shown by participants cycling in Godshill when they were taking part in large cycling events.

The policy states the following:

Godshill Parish Council is pleased to welcome cyclists to enjoy the beauty, tranquillity and fresh air of Godshill and the New Forest as a whole. However, it recognises that large numbers of event participants can impact negatively on the parish and its residents and it asks Event Organisers and Cyclists to abide by the British Cycling 'Code of Conduct' and the New Forest National Park Authority's 'Cycle Event Organiser's Charter' and 'Cycling Code of Conduct' to enable all residents of and visitors to Godshill to enjoy its unique surroundings.

It will continue to lobby the New Forest National Park Authority and New Forest District Council to set a limit on the number of entries to cycling events in the New Forest.

Godshill Parish Council also asks Event Organisers and Cyclists to ensure that:

- The Parish Council is contacted at the earliest opportunity when the route of a large cycling event includes Godshill so that it is made aware of the event and can subsequently inform residents and others affected by it;
- Godshill and the New Forest are clearly conveyed as a special place on websites, through rules of participation, in pre-event communication and at registration.
- Dates and routes are chosen which avoid conflict with other activities such as the pony round-ups (drifts). Dates of drifts are available from the Verderers of the New Forest at www.verderers.org.uk;
- Pre-event briefings include reference to responsible cycling and to the following of the Highway Code;
- Cyclists ride in small groups so that vehicles can overtake safely on Godshill's narrow roads and the rights of way at the village's pinch points are strictly adhered to;
- All participants are made aware that there are free-roaming cattle and ponies which should be respected and not disturbed;
- Noise is kept to a minimum, particularly when descending at speed on Blissford Hill, Godshill. Residents expect to enjoy the village's tranquillity.
- Litter is disposed of responsibly or taken home – it is a constant problem in Godshill and is dangerous to the animals; and
- A post event de-brief is held to take account of feedback received from local people.