

Barrier to Anglers Country Park

If we needed reminding that vigilance and perseverance are necessary qualities in campaigning and that we cannot rest on our laurels, this story is it. In 2021 Wakefield District Cycle Forum is involved in a campaign to remove kissing-gates which present barriers to cyclists, and many others, wanting to enter Anglers Country Park and Haw Park Woods. These barriers are on the Wheel and WoW cycle trails on which WDCF have consistently and successfully lobbied for the removal of other barriers.

The newsletter of the Wakefield District Cycle Forum, Edition number 6, September 2010 reported an early success:

Little successes can make big differences



This photograph shows the new access point to Anglers Lake from Santingley Lane. Till recently this access point was blocked by a high 'step over', which meant that cyclists had to lift their bikes over it. Not a pleasant task especially if you have a tag-along for the kids. Now that the access is open, after nearly 2 years of campaigning by the WDCF, life is easier for cyclists and also for wheelchair and pushchair users. It took a long time, but we got there in the end.



It is sad to report that less than 10 years later Wakefield MDC Countryside department have installed a kissing-gate barrier at this very spot. WDCF will do all in its power to reverse this unacceptable action. Hopefully a future newsletter will report our success.