Cycle Crieff Cargo bike delivery service

Description - Cycle Crieff CIC has set up a very popular community cycling project with over 140 cyclists involved in various aspects of cycling.  We have two major elements the first being the main project https://cyclecrieff.scot/ which focuses on repairs, reuse, routes.  We also run free maintenance and bike skills courses.  A donation is always nice but not essential.  All running this project are unpaid volunteers.  The second element is a social group that supports and encourages cyclists in the area and we run regular events where cyclists encourage each other and invite others to join them.  We work closely with various partners, Remake, Morrison's Academy, Petit Mellow Velo and Comrie Croft. we also have connections with Crieff Connections, Crieff High School and many local businesses.

Our proposal for this fund is to investigate and research the feasibility of setting up and establishing a Cycle Crieff Cargo bike delivery service!  We have researched other similar projects and have identified a number of very positive and beneficial aspects to a sustainable and local delivery service.  We would look at the systems already in pace for these services in Scotland and the Netherlands. Crieff isn’t geographically flat hence the need for electrical assistance. Cycle Crieff CIC can carry out maintenance bikes, training would also be inhouse. We would need to consider secure storage and have local options. The admin and delivery team would be locally recruited in order to quickly establish and embed the project in the community. We would focus on quick support for those in the community who may find access to shops and merchants difficult. Crieff has a well-established community of older adults, some of whom I take on trips with Bertie Bus, as a volunteer driver, and these people would love to help quickly access shopping services. We would look at appropriate systems for all groups with the community to access delivery services as we want it to be easy, simple and reliable to book as well friendly and local. Having an app may suit some but a quick call and booking might be best.

The money would allow us to fully research the feasibility of a cargo bike delivery service in Crieff, expanding opportunities for young people, provision for the community and access to many facilities and services currently challenging to get to. There have been many suggestions not just mail and shopping but also house hold / garden waste disposable, collect and drop off medicines, local removals support, packed lunch collection and delivery. These are just a few ideas with the potential in a small but big enough community!

Bikes available - <https://www.cargocycling.com/>

Small area local Dutch set up

https://bikecity.amsterdam.nl/en/trending/bakfiets-bezorgt-pakketjes-van-ondernemers-haarlemmerbuurt-en/

Scottish services

<https://www.zedify.co.uk/carrier/>

<https://www.velo-citydeliveries.com> – These guys operate how we would love to, in Crieff!

The easiest way to describe how we want operate is – A do anything local delivery service easily accessed using cargo bikes and helping reduce vehicle use. Run by locals helping visitors and locals to use their community services and facilities.

**Cycle Crieff Cargo!**

**How It Works**

1. You call, email or contact us via the website and let us know what you need picked up and delivered, where it needs to go and by when.

​

2. We will confirm the details and price with you. If cost is an issue, please offer what you can currently afford!

​

3. Once all agreed, we will come and collect on our delivery bike.

​

4. Once we deliver your items, you will receive a confirmation message that it has been delivered safely.

Criteria – Simple checklist criteria are to look specifically at number of deliveries, mileage for each delivery (from bike park up to pick up to delivery and return to bike park up). Donation for each delivery. We intend using a practical system of researching the feasibility using established businesses and organisations who have expressed an interest in supporting our project.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date & time & return | location & item | Delivery name, number & location | Total mileage | Donation |
| 20/01/2024 - |  |  |  |  |
| 0800 – 08.35 | Handyshop/veg package | Morrison’s acd | 1 | £3 |
| 08.50 – 09.10 | Remake/refill items | British Legion | 3 | £3 |
| 09.20 – 09.40 | Campbell’s bakery/donuts | recycling centre | 2 | £3 |
| 10.00 -10.30 | Mesh/bolts | Turret distillery | 2 | £3 |
| 10.00 -10.30 | Aldi/food | Strathearn court | 2 | £3 |
| 10.00 -10.30 | Gourley’s/meat | Mrs Lee | 2 | £5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Quality of life – The health benefits of the delivery staff are clearly obvious but the connection they will have with our clients will support many isolated members of our community. We will reinvest all funds raised into the cargo bike project into training and social events. Following the Bertie Bus model of arranging social events for regular users would be one way of helping spread the word. We would look at utilising our Remake connection and linking their expansion with a cargo bike hub in conjunction with us. We would be looking at helping service their local delivery needs and linking with their clients and supporters.

Budget – we really are at the start of the journey and already have an active and busy not for profit bike project where no one is paid. We see this as an accompanying project supported by the main project but having a ringfenced budget and staffing. We anticipate purchasing/renting a suitable cargo bike. We will also investigate and cost both online and phone booking systems to smooth the booking experience. Possibly looking at prepaid customers and discounts for regular bookings. These budgetary aspects will need to be fully researched and a suitable set of options arrived at prior to any full launch.

Cost of living support – making local deliveries easy and cheap is a main focus but also helping local businesses disperse low or donated goods would be feasible. In addition to a food bank, we could consider food deliveries similar to the Christmas dinner deliveries we help take out but not in a car!

Other funding – we will be approaching other funding bodies for staffing, administration and setting up costs. We will also be looking at long term succession training to ensure longevity of the project and to reduce delivery costs to lower/no income clients. Sponsorship is a clear and obvious starter and we will look at suitable ways to encourage and initiate this.

Start & end – We would hope to set up a simple delivery system over the spring / summer of 2024 and reflect and learn from this before looking at any possible expansion. We see this as becoming a well established and ongoing community facility with a positive future.

Beneficiaries – all members of the Crieff community. Visitors wanting to access the same range of provision that the local community do and with the possibility of access for bikes being utilised as an element of the cargo service.