

Background to the Role

Transport is one of the biggest causes of greenhouse gas and threats to climate change. Home deliveries are on the rise and goods vehicles cause congestion and pollution on our roads. Online shopping is often from businesses from outside our area and can lead to further pollution and packaging waste and money leaving the local economy.

EPIKS are working with partners in the **Holme Valley** to combat this trend by developing a pilot low-emissions delivery service. Using e-cargo bikes, we hope that local businesses and services will buck the trend of rising vehicle deliveries and boost business with more local shopping. In the Spring of 2022, we will have an e-cargo bike. During the summer of 2022 we will experiment with delivering a small amount of goods from shops to local customers. We will also use the bike for 'social' purposes such as food bank deliveries, helping community groups to deliver goods to and from their premises and delivering to schools. There will be little or no charge for these activities so that we can get to grips with systems, new functions and markets for the bike (and take any pressure off our volunteers!)

We are keen that the bike's activities cover the whole of the Holme Valley Parish and not solely focused on say Holmfirth or Honley.

How will volunteers help with this project?

By volunteering with the e-cargo bike delivery scheme, you will be helping to stimulate the start of this exciting venture and help to shape the best way for it to work in the Holme Valley.

As we grow the scheme, we hope to be able to employ riders and there may be a period of overlap where some people volunteer while others are paid – *we will only ever ask volunteers to take the bike out if it is fun and rewarding for them!*

What are we asking volunteers to do? *Some or all of the following:*

- Ensure the collection and delivery of goods by e-bike
- Make deliveries by e-cargo bike around the Holme Valley Parish area
- Do bike checks to make sure the bikes are roadworthy
- Spread the word about the scheme and how the e-cargo bike works
- Record the hours you spend on the scheme

About e-cargo bikes

E-cargo bikes have enough battery power to carry heavy loads – the [Riess and Muller Packster 80](#) model we have chosen can be seen on this video. We will not know how many miles / hours our single battery will cover until we trial it – but we estimate it will cover at least 4 hours at a time – and we will not expect our volunteers to be our delivering for longer than this in any one session.

We have taken a great deal of advice from an established company in Calderdale with similar terrain – you may like to look at their website <https://www.cargodale.co.uk>



Volunteer Role: E-Cargo Bike May-October 2022

What skills and training are we able to offer?

We will ask volunteers about their availability in May 2022 to attend a 2 hour familiarisation training session with a qualified trainer.

Our riders will be covered by insurance and we will work with volunteers to maintain up to date / dynamic risk assessments.

Please note – the cargo bikes do take some getting used to, handling them is more strenuous than standard bikes and riders will have an advantage if they are familiar with riding an e-bike.

Where will the bike be stored?

We are currently looking for secure premises central to the Holme Valley that are easy to access.

Who runs the scheme and how is it funded?

EPIKS will run the scheme initially with 1 or 2 part time members of staff. We are a not- for -profit company limited by guarantee whose aims are to provide sustainable solutions for environmental problems.

The bike has been funded through the Holme Valley Parish Council Climate Emergency fund. Training and equipment for volunteers is funded through the Bright Green Community Trust – part of HoTT Wind – the profits from the turbine at Longley Farm. Running costs for summer 2022 will hopefully be funded through a crowd funding campaign during May 2022. The scheme is supported by partners including Holme Valley Climate Action Partnership.

By the autumn of 2022, we hope to be well on the way to making the scheme self – financing.

What equipment will we provide?

We will provide high vis vests with logos and a mobile phone with map / navigation.

We can provide a helmet (unless you prefer your own) and we will ask volunteers to provide their own outdoor clothing initially until we raise the funds to provide suitable attire.

Further info

General info about [EPIKS](#)

[Background](#) about the e-cargo bike scheme

Contact

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