

Climate Action Ilkley Car Sharing Club

At a meeting of members earlier in the year Climate Action Ilkley members discussed projects they would like to see developed in Ilkley to help tackle climate change. A car sharing club was one of the projects that most people at the meeting supported.

With help from Share our Cars in Oxford we now have a nascent Car Sharing Club run in conjunction with HiyaCar, which is a commercial peer to peer car lending platform. We have started a closed loop scheme called Climate Action Ilkley, which is only visible on the HiyaCar platform when you are a member of the scheme. That means only local people can see and borrow your car.

HiyaCar looks after the booking and verifies drivers and provides insurance so that you don't even need to tell your insurance company. If you have a car to register with them it is simple on the app, or you can just register as a driver to borrow other peoples cars. The process is simple and once you have registered, if you send the email address you have used to register to me at kath.steward@climateactionilkley.org.uk I will put it into the closed loop and you will be able to see what is available and when.

If you are registering a car you can state the availability, and change it at short notice in the app, when someone requests to borrow it you get sent a message and have the opportunity to say no if it is not convenient, and you can make some money from your car.

If you are borrowing a car you can do so for as little as 1 hour or for longer depending on what the owner of the car has set as the limits. For most people this is for short term borrowing for fairly local journeys. The process requires you to take photos before and after to prove no damage but other than that is hassle-free. You will just need to top up with fuel to cover your journey before returning the car.

Car Sharing: Reasons Why you Should

1. To Save money

- Average car costs £3407 per year (which is £284 per month, £66 per week)
- Average financed car costs £5744 per year (which £479 per month, £110 per week)
- Estimates suggest that the average person works an extra 2 hours each working day in order to afford their car

- Average car is parked 96.5% of the time.
- Car costs include:
 1. Insurance
 2. Petrol
 3. Depreciation
 4. Emissions Tax
 5. Breakdown cover
 6. Parking permits / tickets
 7. Routine maintenance / MOT
 8. Unexpected repairs and breakdowns
 9. Fines
 10. Cleaning / oil / air / screenwash

2. To reduce emissions

- 50% of a car's emissions is in its manufacture – so if you get rid of your car and drive the same amount in a shared car you halve your per mile emissions
- 80% of households in the UK own a car; only 15% worldwide
- There were 29m cars in the UK in 2000, there are 39m today
- 60% of 1-2 mile journeys in the UK are done by car
- Nearly 2/3 of trips are single occupancy
- Air pollution is linked to 40,000 early deaths a year in the UK
- EVs are great, but only 20% less polluting than petrol cars, so replacing existing cars 1:1 with EVs won't work

3. To improve local Streets

Reducing the number of cars leads to

- Safer roads for cyclists and pedestrians
- More space for people with limited mobility to get around on our pavements
- Nicer environment
- Improve access for emergency vehicles

4. To improve your health

In high and middle income countries lifestyles have become increasingly sedentary, and physical inactivity has become the fourth leading risk factor for premature mortality. According to a CoMoUK 2019 survey, people who joined car clubs walked 16% more, cycled 10% more and used their cars 26% less

If you use a car less, you automatically tend to use buses / cycles / taxis / walking more. And active travel (including public transport) appears to have a measurable positive effect on health.

5. To get to know your neighbours better

Sharing a neighbour's car is convenient, quick, and generally a very pleasant experience - it's nice to meet local people.