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▲ Cyclists go down petition path in a bid for new route



SUPPORT: Bike Safe, which is campaigning to build a cycle path along the B4044, presents a petition to county council chief Ian Hudspeth

Picture: OX70195 Ed Nix

CYCLISTS took over the roads as campaigners from charity Bike Safe demanded a cycle path between Eynsham and Botley.

The group of about 40 cyclists gave Oxfordshire County Council leader Ian

Hudspeth a petition, which had been signed by more than 4,000 people, to build a lane along the B4044.

He joined the group on a bike ride then watched a presentation by its chairman Ian Leggett at the Hill End centre.

Mr Leggett said: "The signatures demonstrate the huge community support for this project and the opinion that the need for sustainable, active transport must be addressed now."

But Mr Hudspeth said it

was unlikely the path, which would be open to cyclists and pedestrians, would ever happen.

He added: "The only way I can see this coming to fruition is if there was a specific fund from central Government for cycling

we could apply for. We don't have any funding for it. But I was very impressed by the work the group have done and I suggested they contact the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership to look at it further."