

Silkin Rickshaw Business Proposal

MR. SIRVAN SINGH AND MR JOSEPH LEWIS -OWEN TO LICENCE

Concept

We would like to be able to provide members of the public and tourists an alternative choice of transport...Silkin Rickshaw.

Aims

Our aim as a company would be to provide an alternative means of transport with zero emissions, this aspect will be our unique selling point. We also want to bring a new twist to the Telford tourism industry by providing a historic tour with guides bringing the old Telford back to life.

Why we chosen this business?

We have chosen this business as it is unique form of transport and a will show a perspective of Telford. We plan to offer two types of Rickshaw Taxi Services; the first being an alternative to everyday day to day travel within Telford, the other being an idyllic ride through the Historic Town of Telford.

Areas

We will be situated in Telford Town Centre and Ironbridge where we could offer customers a variety of locations to travel to. There is the choice of a leisurely ride to Telford's historic Ironbridge, a stroll through the idyllic Silken Way or the surrounding areas of Telford Town Centre.

Benefits

- Leisure Taxis have zero emissions and leave no carbon footprint
- Locations around Telford would be:
 - Ironbridge
 - Silken Way
 - Blists Hill Museum
 - Coalport China Museums
 - Jack Field Tile Museums
 - Dale End Park
 - Ironbridge Gorge Museums Trust.
- The business could be expanded therefore local people could be employed to ride tourists around Telford's historic spots!

businessman Mike Harris executive, Roland Pickstock. They are providing gigabit internet connectivity, a revolutionary system of providing high speed fibre technology to towns and cities via in a multi-million pound deal. Mr Pickstock is the managing director of the Pickstock Group of companies.

Pair's new venture hopes to let pedal power take strain Bid to take town's tourists by rickshaw

Report by Thom Kennedy
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YOU might expect to see travellers taking in the tourist trail by rickshaw if you were in Tokyo or Hong Kong, but in Shropshire it's an altogether more unlikely sight.

But two young entrepreneurs hope that a new service offering trips around of Telford's tourist hot-spots using the pedal-powered transport will find a captive audience among visitors to the town.

Sirvan Singh and Joe Lewis-Owen, both 27, are setting up the service to travel the length of the Silkin Way with visitors on board their vehicle.

The pair will hope to replicate the success of rickshaw runs in other visitor-friendly destinations such as Edinburgh and Bath by introducing what is a very new idea for Shropshire.

"We wanted to start from town, and take tourists and even local people to Ironbridge, Coalport and other local places that will make for nice little sightseeing trips," said Mr Singh, who lives in Brookside.

Route

"We thought it would be something nice that might bring Telford to life with another way of getting around instead of just by car, something that's a bit different, and eco-friendly as well."

He added: "It's hard to find a job these days, so we are doing this because we wanted to try to make a job for ourselves."

The Silkin Way is usually a cycle path, stretching from the town centre to the banks of the River Severn in the Ironbridge Gorge.

Because the rickshaw, which the pair will buy from a manufacturer in London, is pedal-powered, it can be used on such a route. Now the duo are awaiting clearance from Telford & Wrekin Council to get it up and running, and could be ready to roll in time for the late summer season.

Mr Singh and Mr Lewis-Owen, from Leegomery, have known each other since childhood, and have always hoped to go into business together. Mr Singh added: "We are confident that there's a market out there."



Idea - Sirvan Singh and Joe Lewis-Owen on the Silkin Way



The pair want to follow the example of cities like Edinburgh

Transport scheme nets £7.6m

Report by Thom Kennedy

A major scheme to introduce Formula 1 technology to public transport vehicles, which is being developed with a team in Shropshire, has been handed a £7.6 million Government grant.

The Telford base of vehicle parts maker GKN has been involved in a project with F1 team Williams to develop energy storage technology for large vehicles.

Used by the F1 team in its own cars since 2009, the "flywheel" technology was acquired by GKN for an undisclosed, multi-million pound sum last month.

Now GKN Land Systems and its partners have been awarded a £7.6 million grant as

part of a wider £15.6 million project to apply F1 technology for use in public transport, initially city buses.

The project is aimed at delivering a 25 per cent fuel saving for bus operators on inner city routes, potentially leading to lower fares for passengers and allowing operators to keep some less economic routes open, while reducing traffic pollution in cities across the country.

GKN's Gyrodrive system is designed to store the energy generated by a bus as it slows down to stop, and use that energy to

help accelerate again, generating significant fuel savings.

The hybrid technology could be used in various vehicles, which are all served by the Hadley Park base in Telford, which makes items such as wheels, chassis, clutches and gearboxes for larger equipment like diggers.

It is part of the Advanced Propulsion Centre programme, which will see government and the industry each invest £500 million in the automotive sector.

GKN chief executive Nigel Stein said: "These technologies will keep the UK's automotive sector at the forefront of the global industry for many years to come."