



## AINSDALE CYCLE CAFE for Autism Initiatives

Ainsley Gomon was commissioned to undertake a feasibility study and design proposals with visualisations for converting an existing vacant commercial unit next to Ainsdale train station in Southport into a combined cafe and cycle workshop.

The clients intention for the cafe was to provide a new type of cafe that was integrated within a combined cycle sales and accessories area together with a bike recycling workshop. Mecycle can provide cycle sales and repairs, plus provide advice and tuition from experienced staff on cycle maintenance.

Inspiration for the interior was taken from the clients brief to keep the interior as simple as possible. The renovation of the building revealed original facing brick walls, a Victorian shopfront with deep moulded fascias together with stained glass windows which were all renovated to retain the character of the surrounding area.

Many recycled building materials were used during the construction, and the tables and chairs used for the interior have been mixed in with stools and larger upholstered statement pieces to give an contemporary, ad-hoc fit-out.

As a result of our design proposals and visualisations Autism Initiatives programmed and carried out the refurbishment themselves using local experienced tradesmen and willing volunteers from their own cycle groups.

Through continued customer support, Autism Initiatives are able to offer meaningful work opportunities within a supportive environment for people with autism – seeking to increase their own skills, knowledge and enhance their lives.

**Value:** £50k (estimated)  
**Completed:** Spring 2013  
**Commission:** Feasibility