

Notes from meeting of Improving Walking and Cycling working group 14.7.21

Attendance: Celia Stevens, Denis Robinson, Bob Green

Apologies: Sue Deedigan



1. Up-date and actions for CALW24 footpath upgrade:

Our earlier concerns that they might start work before we had made the case for dual use seem unfounded – no discussions with land-owners have even taken place. Discussions have however widened to include members of Calne Without parish council and some progress is being made to move the project forward.

2. Feedback from cycle track survey.

Celia outlined a few of the main outcomes from the Cycle Track survey but full report not finished – will be completed by Thursday 28th July.

[428 users on Friday, 591 on Saturday, 1065 online results within 2 weeks – this data can help to justify expenditure on the track]

Results will be sent to Wiltshire Council and we will look at getting a press release – have a photo to go with it.

Our current primary aim is to secure longer leases for the track – only if this happens might we then have an opportunity to look at getting an all-weather surface and other facilities that would help those that want to use it for commuting.

3. Cycle route to Avebury - what are we aiming to achieve - actions.

Bob shared the map of the route with annotations about where the issues are. Both Celia and Bob familiar with the route and there are two areas that need addressing:

- There is a section of the path that is totally unusable for cyclists – those familiar with the route know there is a much better alternative bridleway and we would suggest that the official route needs re-assigning and new signage.
- There is a section after Low Lane that is very tricky to ride and unsuitable for families and needs improving. *This is a pity as this would be a great place for cyclists to access an off-road route on that side of town. It is also potentially a popular route coming from Avebury and could bring more tourists into the town.* Our issue is that we don't really know who is responsible for it and how to go about effecting these changes. Bob has had some initial contact with Sustrans but they are limited with how much support they can give us without payment. However, they have offered us a meeting of up to an hour. Bob will take up-to-date photos and send them details of our concerns and follow up with setting up a meeting to ask for advice on where to go with this.

4. Footpaths in and around Calne.

No real progress here but been busy with other things. However, we have indicated to others involved that we still want to be involved with the footpath audit. Currently the live document is awaiting up-dating and we should then be able to see what still needs to be done. Celia to follow up and then request helpers and allocate paths.

5. Training for walking group leaders.

Still awaiting dates for this – Celia to chase up.

Agreed we would try to get one of the Ramblers groups to start a walk from Calne and ask if we can open this to wider group. Denis R to follow up.

6. Date of next meeting - Wed 25th August 7.30pm. All welcome.