

## Notes from Sustainable Calne “Working for Better walking and Cycling group in Calne” 22.02. 2021

Present: Tom Morris, Celia Stevens, Bob Greenwood, Denis Robinson, Kevan Wind, Suzie Bedo

Apologies: Tamzyn Lon, John Bennett

Agenda - Walking

1. Do we want to set up a walking group in Calne?

The group agreed it would be better to try and link with another organisation rather than start up on our own - would give access to training and insurance. Celia reported that she had previously contacted the Wiltshire Walking for Health officer at Wiltshire Council but agreed we would try them again and ask if we could access their training and support for setting up a group that walked longer distances. Celia to follow up. Bob Greenwood would contact Ramblers association to find out about setting up a Calne based group.

2. Do we want to set up a footpath maintenance group?

Again it was felt that as the Rights of Way within Calne itself were mostly in a good condition apart from being very muddy – it would be best to liaise with David Songhurst as they have/are doing a full audit of the paths in Calne without. Celia to contact and look at how we can work together.

3. What role can we play in improving routes across the town?

At present we weren't sure we could have a big impact on this and agreed to channel energy into one or two projects.

4. Do we want to investigate setting up an App for local walks?

It was felt that there are a range of Apps already available for routes and this was not something we wanted to take further at this point but could come back to.

Cycling:

1. What would we see as a priority to work to improve?

- After some discussion we agreed that we would prioritise pushing for the **route from Stockley Lane to Bentley Lane** which is already a Right of Way and is due to be upgraded as a footpath as a S106 project, to be made into a dual use path. Kevan to write to Cllr Trotman regarding this and Bob Greenwood to contact Kingsbury Green Academy to ask how many of their pupils do they think would use it.
- All agreed that the **Sustrans route to Chippenham** is a key route for cyclists to get from Calne to other places. It is well used but in a dreadful state and not possible to use for commuting or as a safe cycling route for young children for much of the year. We had seen people turning back because it was so muddy for walking and cycling. Denis had been in touch with Wiltshire Council. They are keen to get it up-graded but need finance for this. They are planning some repairs to the worst of the pot holes at this end and some repairs at the Chippenham end to the Zig-zag path going down to the road. However, liaising with Sustrans, they are keen for us to carry out a survey of users – possibly May sometime. We would need lots of volunteers as we would need people at several points along the way to both count users and also to ask certain questions which Sustrans will advise on. Collecting data is a good way to try and access funding for improvements to this route- despite the major issues related to the land ownership along some sections. Denis will continue to liaise and keep us informed.

**Suggested date of next meeting: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March.**

**C Stevens 23.2.21**