



## **Saxonwood Road to Battle Abbey shared-use path - Project priority proposal**

### **1. Introduction**

This paper delivers a summary of C&W WG work analysing the 'Saxonwood Road to Battle Abbey shared-use path' project proposal and makes a firm recommendation to the BTC Planning & Transport Committee.

The 'Saxonwood Road to Battle Abbey shared-use path' project would provide a safe cycling & walking route between the environs of Battle & Langton Primary School and the Abbey Gatehouse, with links to the High Street.

Further details on the project are contained in the project proposal paper (Order of Costs v2.0) issued to potential contractors, dated 09/11/2021.

### **2. Considerations**

- The path route already comprises a network of Public Rights of Way Footpaths and Bridleway, however neighbours, landowners and other parties have been informed of the intention to make the route a shared-use path and of the need to undertake works adjacent to/on their properties. No specific objections have been registered, as a result of written explanations and questions.
- The project scope is a significant section of the proposed Battle Schools Greenway that has been recognised by ESCC in their recently published C&W Infrastructure Plan. Ultimately this could form a contiguous shared-use route between Claverham Community College and Battle Railway Station.
- The project requires path widening, improved surfaces, fencing, signage, improved drainage, and appropriate safety barriers. It is intended to undertake the project by a 'design and build' contract allowing some other aspects such as relocation of lighting columns and required additional lighting will be evolved at the design stage within agreed budgets.
- At this stage discussions continue with English Heritage, Historic England, and the Historic Buildings & Monuments Commission for England regarding the areas which are historically sensitive. Verbal communication so far received has been constructive and positive outcomes are anticipated.
- The C&W WG have requested Order of Cost quotations from three contractors, two have responded and a third is being sought, one having pulled out. It is however now possible for priority setting to comment that an order of cost of approximately £200,000 is likely. The C&W WG would like an Officers report on the Battle Health Pathway cost part of the overall North Trade Road Recreation Ground development, since this may give another viewpoint on the potential cost to be expected.

### **3. Recommendation**

**The C&W WG recommend to the P&T Committee that the 'Saxonwood Road to Battle Abbey shared-use path' project proposal should be given a High Priority rating and should be forwarded to Full Council with this rating for its deliberation to include with a High Priority in the Council's CIL expenditure budgeting.**



Revisions / Versions:	
Date	Item
01/03/2022 v0.1	Initial draft, DW/BM
03/03/2022 v1.0	Version presented to P&T