



Greenway News

Issue 6 Spring 2024

The Greenway Group has a vision for a safe, shared use path to connect our local communities

Since 2017, the Greenway Group has been working with the local councils and the charity Sustrans, to map out a greenway which can provide a traffic-free route for walkers and cyclists between Wotton, Charfield and Kingswood. With work underway to reopen Charfield Station, it is even more important to secure this walking and cycling route.

In 2018 the Greenway Group undertook a big community survey which showed support for the greenway idea. We then fundraised to pay for an initial feasibility study which reported on potential route alignments.

In 2020, thanks to further donations and council funding, we were able to commission additional work to map the route and to commence discussions with landowners. This study is almost complete, with many landowners having confirmed their agreement in principle.

In 2024, with more funding secured from Stroud District Council, Sustrans have been commissioned for a detailed design study. The Greenway Group, Gloucestershire County Council (who are now managing the project), Stroud District Council and South Gloucestershire Council are all involved. Wider stakeholders, including the Parish and Town Councils and others attend regular steering group meetings.

The latest design study will undertake ecology, biodiversity, topographical and other surveys, and engage with all relevant stakeholders including the Environment Agency. Detailed designs will be produced for the greenway route, and the river and road crossings that are needed.

Greenway Group objectives

Since council support has now been secured for the design study, the Greenway Group will no longer be undertaking fundraising or project management. Instead, we will focus on four areas:

- Campaigning for the future greenway
- Raising awareness of the greenway in our local communities
- Engaging with stakeholders to help the greenway get built
- Promoting active travel locally to strengthen the case for the greenway.

Please get in touch if you'd like to be involved! We are working closely with the Wotton Area Climate Action Network who are keen to see more active travel routes as well as better public transport services.



Greenways provide safe routes for people to walk, wheel and cycle, free from traffic

Photo Credit: Department for Infrastructure, Copyright: ©2021, Department for Infrastructure

Charfield Station update

Construction work could start on the station next year, subject to approval of the full business case. The target date for station opening is spring 2027. For more information see: <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/charfield-train-station>