

Route 403 Cross Council Working Group Update to Calne Area LHFIG – October 2023

The Working Group was established in 2022 to “preserve and enhance the 403 Sustrans Route between Chippenham and Avebury as a multi-user route for active travel and leisure, well-being and commuting purposes, and to promote its use to, and care by, the local community.”

The Group now comprises representatives from Calne Town Council, Calne Without Parish Council, Bremhill Parish Council, Cherhill Parish Council, Chippenham Town Council, Wiltshire Council’s Rights of Way Team, Sustrans, Sustainable Calne and the Chippenham Cycle Network Development Group.

Progress since the previous update (July 2023) includes:

- The route diversion to the east of Yatesbury has is now reflected on the official Sustrans online map. The Group is sourcing a supplier of metal finger signs to mark the diversion on the ground.
- Hills Waste Management have undertaken to cut back overgrown hedges following the end of the nesting season. The Group is investigating options for improving the track surface through this section.
- The Group has been trying to make contact without success to contact Valencia Waste Management, the new owner of the meadow immediate east of Low Lane, with a view to promoting surface improvements.
- Wiltshire Council’s Rights of Way Team is exploring opportunities for further surface improvement work along the disused railway line.
- Further work continues to improve accessibility along the disused railway line. One gate has been tied back with the approval of the landowner. Another has been removed for repair, with the possibility that this show that it is not required. Current focus is on accessibility into Castlefields Park.
- An information board has been installed by the Friends of the River Marden on the railway line near Bodnage Wood. The Group has made further progress on developing an information board to help promote the route to potential users.
- Calne Without Parish Council are planning works to improve access from the railway line onto footpath CALW13, which crosses the railway line just north of the Millenium Bridge.

Cllr John Barnes
Calne Without Parish Council