

**Report for the Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum**

**24<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

**Derby City Council Rights of Way Improvement Plan**

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**General Rights of Way Service**

The service is now running at close to normal levels although there are still some difficulties associated with the limitations of home working.

The Highways Maintenance service continues to carry out the rights of way maintenance and enforcement function. The maintenance service is looking to add paths to its online complaints form link on the Rights of way - maintenance and enforcement web page. This is being investigated but the public can contact the service directly by phone and email.

**Definitive map and path orders**

As stated in previous reports, work continues to be carried out towards the production of the legal event modification orders that are required to bring the definitive map areas covering Derby up to date. There are no ongoing applications for definitive map modification orders. The Council is currently processing several public path order applications.

There is no news from Defra about the 2026 cut-off date introduced Deregulation Act 2015.

**Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP 2)**

It is intended to explore ideas for the next Derby City RoWIP with the City and County RoWIP joint subgroup in November. One area of focus that will be explored is the believed need to improve the connections between South Derbyshire District and the City.

## Path Schemes Update

### City Centre to Wyvern cycle path open



Cyclists and pedestrians can now enjoy a brand new 3m wide cycle path that provides a continuous off-road route connecting the city centre with the Wyvern, the new A52 footbridge and Pride Park.

The improvement scheme formed part of the £161m joint bid with Nottingham City Council to the Department of Transport's Transforming Cities Fund, which is aimed at improving connections between major employment sites and promoting active travel and public transport.

The development of the new 1km extended cycle path located on the grass verge between Chequers Road and the A52, adjoins the existing pedestrian cycle path at Pentagon Island and the existing cycle path adjacent to the Costco Store.

Further works are planned and underway as part of the TCF programme, for an additional 1.8km of improved pedestrian/cycle route between Highfield Lane and Raynesway, involving path widening and resurfacing and the installation of new street lighting.

**Sinfin Moor Park Permissive Bridleway.** The proposed permissive circular horse-riding route will connect Sinfin Moor Lane with the park. An on-site inspection with local park users and horse riders is planned to take place in October.

**Derwent Valley Cycleway.** The proposed cycleway scheme will link Haslams Lane, Derby and Little Eaton village. City and County officers have been discussing ways forward with Highways England.

## **Allestree Hall**

The sale of the Hall and the closure of the golf course were discussed at Full Council and Council Cabinet over the summer but there have been no changes to the proposals. The sale of the Hall is expected to be completed in the coming weeks and the golf course is to be converted into parkland as planned. There will be no restrictions to public access outside of the curtilage of the Hall itself. The Council is working with the Friends of Allestree Park on the best use of the park as a public open space.

## **Council cycle2work (cycle to work) scheme**

Applications for the Council's cycle to work (cycle2work) scheme can be made.

Cycle to work is a government initiative that was introduced in 2001 to encourage more people to commute to and from work by bike, enabling people to make healthier choices and reducing the UK's carbon footprint.

The initiative allows employees to make Tax and National Insurance savings on the cost of a new bike and safety accessories, you can now apply for bikes up to £3000. These savings are achieved via a salary sacrifice arrangement and lets you spread the cost to make payments more convenient

Cycle2Work is supported by a wide range of specialist bike dealers, catering to everyone regardless of their needs, budget, location or journey to work! This includes Halfords, Tredz and selected independent bike shops.

**From the Council Newsroom (with updates from Ray Brown)**

### **Cuttle Brook bridge opens in Chellaston on Canal Path**



A new multi-use bridge has now been completed over Cuttle Brook close to Infinity Way on National Cycle Network Route 6.

The new bridge is 3.5 metres wide and will provide a significant improvement Route 6, the multi-use cycle path that runs between Derby City centre and Swarkestone. Further to this, equestrian users will now be able to take advantage of this route.

The scheme began on Monday 28th June and involved the removal of the existing narrow bridge over Cuttle Brook, close to Infinity Park Way and the installation of a new multi-use bridge constructed in its place.

The work was completed on Tuesday 10th August, and the bridge was officially opened by Councillor Ross McCristal, and City Council Officers that worked on the project.

Local horse riders have stated that they are pleased with its suitability.

This scheme was part of the Local Growth Fund programme of works, with the aim of improving sustainable transport routes to Infinity Park Derby.



## **New secure cycle facility at Bold Lane Car Park**

Derby City Council opened a brand-new secure cycle facility on Monday 9 August as part of its commitment to promote and encourage sustainable travel.

Located inside Bold Lane car park - the 'safest car park in the world', Derby City Council has worked with Parksafe Systems to deliver a secure and segregated lock up facility, accessible only by smart card.

Access to the area is only available to those who have purchased a monthly membership. Two membership options will be available to purchase through MiPermit – Premium and Standard, from Monday 9 August.

Standard membership includes a smart pass for access to the facility, use of the on-site lockers, pump and car park facilities, including vending machine and toilets. Premium membership offers additional access to the on-site tyre repair kit and multi-tool sets.

There were a limited number of memberships available at launch, and if the scheme proves successful, it is hoped that capacity will be increased to match demand.

## **Derby Ram Trail**



The Derby Ram Trail was a stunning, free public art trail of 30 individually designed ram sculptures in Derby. Crafted by regional, professional, emerging and as yet undiscovered artists, it weaved its way through Derby from 27 May to 25 August, encouraging local people to explore and enjoy their city from an exciting new perspective.

Forming a trail of discovery, the sculptures provided an exceptional, creative opportunity to engage people in important topics – from health and well-being to history and culture, to name a few.

There is a Schools' Mini Ram Trail at the Derby Museum & Art Gallery. It is based on 30 winning designs taken from a competition for school pupils and home educated children from across Derby took part in a competition to design their own mini rams on the theme of What is important to me, right now?

Derby Museums produced the Derby Ram Trail in partnership with Wild in Art. They were supported by Presenting Partner, Cathedral Quarter Business Improvement District (BID).

An auction ran by Charles Hanson took place on 9<sup>th</sup> September for the 30 Ram sculptures. All were sold raising nearly £158,000 with the Royal Ram selling for £16,500. The Mayor of Derby bought the Pride in Derby Ram.

The trail was a successful event for the city, attracting thousands of people to visit and raising over £300k for Derby Museums.

### **Flood alleviation at Sunnysdale Local Nature Reserve**

Work began in Sunnysdale Local Nature Reserve in July to create new meadow and wetland habitats as part of the Cuttle Brook flood alleviation scheme.

The section of the park where works are taking place will be closed until November this year. The allotments will be accessible during the works.

Part of the path network within the park will be reworked but there will be no permanent inconvenience to the public and some sections will be improved.

Whilst the key aim of the scheme is to reduce the flood risk to local residents, the scheme also presents an important opportunity to improve and increase biodiversity in the area.

### **Recommendation**

To note this report.