

Consultation Report: Burgess Hill - The Burgess Hill Place and Connectivity Programme - Public Rights of Way Improvements

1) The existing paths and background to the proposal - see attached plans

The Burgess Hill Place and Connectivity Programme of works is aimed at creating safe, direct and attractive walking, cycling and equestrian routes linking communities, businesses and destinations within the Burgess Hill area. One of the aims of the project is to create safe, direct and attractive routes to encourage walking and cycling. To achieve this, a package of improvements to the existing rights of way network, by increasing cycle links within the Burgess Hill area, have been identified.

The attached plans identify the paths over which it is intended to formalise cycle use by entering into a formal permissive path agreement with the landowner. These are as follows:

- A. [Part of footpath 21BH \(PDF, 380KB\)](#)
- B. [Part of footpath 64BH \(PDF, 386KB\)](#)
- C. [Part of footpath 70BH \(PDF, 351KB\)](#)

The above routes form part of a larger network of public rights of way, helping to provide safe routes to travel sustainably around Burgess Hill. The attached [Plan 1 \(PDF, 167KB\)](#) identifies the overall scheme.

Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC) as landowners of routes A and B above intend on entering into a formal permissive path agreement with the County Council, permitting cycle use over part of the above paths. The sections are identified on the attached plans. Upon completion of the transfer of land over which footpath 70BH crosses, a further permissive agreement will be entered into.

All 3 routes identified will provide both walkers and cyclists with a continued network of shared use paths, increasing off road cycle use.

2) Consultations

On 26 January 2023 a copy of this consultation report was sent to the relevant amenity groups and local councils with the request that any comments be submitted by 23 February 2023. Before proceeding with any legal orders, careful consideration will be given to all comments received.

3) The Works and Costs

MSDC have carried out the required surfacing works to paths 21BH and 64BH ensuring that the paths surfaces and width are suitable for use by both cyclists and pedestrians to a standard acceptable to the County Council. Any works needed to path 70BH will be carried out once the land is within their ownership.

Under the terms of the permissive agreement, MSDC as landowners will be responsible for the ongoing surface maintenance of the paths.

4) Overall Conclusion

Introduction of cycling along the identified lengths of path will provide users with a safe off-road network of paths to travel around Burgess Hill. The introduction of cycling along these lengths is a welcome addition to the public rights of way network.

Ami Dye
Senior Rights of Way Officer
26.01.2023