

Informal drop-in workshop for parishioners 10th May 2018

Introduction

Parishioners were invited to an informal drop-in workshop to give their views and opinions on 2 aspects of the Neighbourhood Plan. These were Greenspace and Footpaths/cycle paths both now and in the future.

Parishioners were asked to provide their comments on two maps of the parish which were marked up with the current footpaths using sticky notes. The questions were:

Footpaths and Cycle paths:

1. Are there any routes that you would use if there were a new footpath or cycle path constructed in the parish?

Green Spaces:

1. Are there any green spaces (fields, woods etc) in the parish which you regularly use, or know others regularly use, and think should be preserved from any future development/use?
2. What are those areas used for ie dog walking, children playing etc.

Attendees

44 people from the parish attended and were asked to say which area of the parish they lived in; 37 were from Ruishton, 2 from Thornfalcon, 3 Henlade and 2 Lower Henlade.

Their responses to the above questions are as set out below.

Responses

Green Spaces

1. Ensure green space is kept all round Ruishton to ensure it remains a separate village and not a suburb of Taunton.
2. Keep villages separate with green space around them.
3. Please preserve riverside walks x 2 comments.
4. We regularly use Henlade Wood for dog walking.
5. Keep green spaces around here please (*Thornfalcon*). Access to thorn Clump and countryside.
6. River walks and green corridors please.
7. The fields either side of T22/19 (*behind Woodlands Drive*) are regularly used by dog walkers.
8. Chard canal and disused railway line.

Footpaths

1. Footpaths needed along bypass crossing from Greenway Lane eg towards North Curry etc.
2. From Henlade to Thornfalcon, proper footpath (not rough grass) on main road.
3. Maintain the path and field as you walk to Creech along the riverbank.
4. T22/11 (*along riverbank to Taunton*) and T22/12 (*along riverbank to Creech*) are lovely walks and routes to key places ie Sainsbury's and Creech St Michael.
5. Footpath 22/8 (*Greenway Lane to corner Stoke Wood*) – It runs from Greenway Lane which is on a very dangerous entrance and exit. Traffic is very heavy at times. There are no footpaths and the speed of vehicles needs to be checked.
6. Footpath around Thorn Clump (*new*).
7. Footpath from Steart Lane to T22/14 (*alongside Tarmac*) (*new*)
8. Ruishton Lane needs to be improved, widened and with a footpath to improve safety.
9. Ruishton Lane footpath (*new*).
10. We really need a safe pavement from Ruishton Inn to A358 x 2 comments.

11. Footpath from Ruishton to Park and Ride.
12. Footpath from (*Ruishton*) school to Lipe Lane ends (*ability to walk further*) as Lipe Lane is so dangerous.
13. Link Doctors at Creech to Ruishton.
14. Bushy Cross Lane footpath to school.
15. Link to Creech canal (*via*) a footpath from Ruishton.

Cycle paths

1. Cycle path on Thornfalcon Hill (*new*). I enjoy cycling the small country roads around Hatch Beauchamp and beyond. Thornfalcon Hill is dangerous.
2. Cycling path between Creech and Ruishton especially for children at Heathfield (*new*).
3. Cycle route between Ruishton to Creech St Michael school/new build end (Hyde Lane) (*new*).
4. Cycle path from Ruishton to Creech (Cheats Road etc) (*new*) x 2 comments.
5. Cycle past past church to Sainsbury's. Upgrade the footpath/change into footpath and cycle lane x 3 comments.

General

1. Though Ruishton Lane is a problem for both pedestrians and motorists, any improvement would encourage more traffic and create more of a rat run.
2. Please, please, please trim back hedge on Ruishton Lane. It will give the road at least 18" extra width.
3. (*from corner of Cheats Road towards Creech St Michael*) Pavement collapsing into ditch, hedging taking over restricting path width to 1 person, roots making path dangerous to walk.
4. Don't leave bags of dog poo hanging on gates, fences, hedges etc.

(typing in italics added for clarity)