Misbourne Greenway: construction bulletin

March 2024

Overview

The Misbourne Greenway is a proposed walking and cycling route between Wendover and Uxbridge, Buckinghamshire. The main route through the valley is the A413, which is too busy and with traffic speeds too high to be an attractive and safe route for people travelling actively whether walking, wheeling or cycling.

The route realises part of the broader vision for a Buckinghamshire Greenway walking and cycling route running north to south across the whole county from Brackley to the Colne Valley.

Active travel charity Sustrans has been leading the design and build of the project to deliver a 4-kilometre section of this route between Dunsmore Lane, Wendover and Aylesbury Road, Great Missenden. Support has been provided by the Chiltern Society, Buckinghamshire Council, Network Rail and Greenways and Cycleroutes.

This section is funded by the Department for Transport (DfT) and is part of Sustrans' ongoing programme to enhance the National Cycle Network (NCN).

At the start of February 2023, we secured extra funding to bring the Firecrest fields section in scope for this phase of work. This extra funding will come from the Chilterns AONB HS2 Review Group – a panel of local organisations that administers DfT funds for locally beneficial projects. More information and background about the group can be found here:

In October 2023, we agreed a contribution from Chiltern Railways Community Investment Fund towards signage and seating on the route.



Overview map

The map overleaf shows the route, highlighting key elements and the progress made to date.

While a lot of the construction works are now complete, you will note that the access and exit points are still to be completed, meaning that there is no access to the path yet.

Progress update

March:

In March we were able to complete the fencing works along the new ramp section to the south of Cobblershill Lane.

The main focus however has been getting the planting underway. We have been hard at work with our charity partners, planting 800m of new hedgerow between Dunsmore and Cobblershill Lane.

Thanks to all the volunteers who came along to help, including residents, Missenden Walled Garden, Buckinghamshire Council staff, and several local schools. These were difficult conditions for planting with tough, stony ground but everyone worked really hard and your help was very much appreciated. We hope you'll come back once the path is open to see new hedge start to grow.

We were particularly pleased to reuse wood chippings generated during initial clearance for the rail side fence as mulch for the new plants; this was very local and sustainable sourcing. We also avoided the use of plastic guards with an extra temporary line of fence posts and netting to protect the new planting from browsing by deer. This will be removed once the plants are established.

We will keep you informed as to further opportunities to volunteer and help us take care of the new hedge and other habitats along the path, including more planting in the autumn/winter.

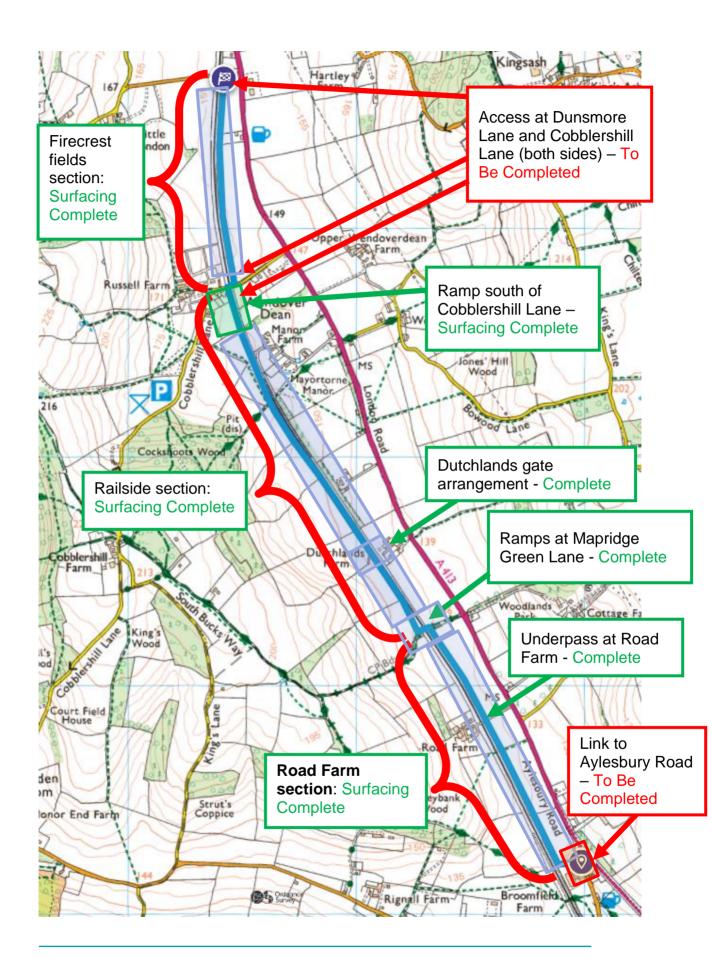
Thanks to Chiltern Rangers for delivering the days, to the Firecrest Pub for the use of their car park and facilities and to The Tree Council funding this.



Planting Days









Works planned for coming months

April onwards:

- Snagging and isolated small works along the path
- Dunsmore Lane highway connection to be completed
- Connections to the highway at Cobblershill Lane (north and south) to be completed
- Planning for the Aylesbury Road link works to be developed.

Please note, the path will not be open to the public until works along the whole 4km length are complete. This is expected to be late summer, and at this time it remains a construction site.

There are isolated construction works taking place at different points along the path and multiple dead ends that mean there are very limited exit points.

Please respect our construction team, residents and landowners adjacent to the path by not accessing it at this time.

We will provide more details in due course.

Further information

For further details, to request to subscribe or unsubscribe from future bulletins, please contact: <u>south@sustrans.org.uk</u>

