

Proposal for Active Travel development: a School Street in Battle Town Centre

1. Introduction

This proposal has been prepared by the Battle Town Council's (BTC) Cycling and Walking Working Group (reporting to the Planning & Transport Committee) to describe the provision of a safe route for shared cycling & walking use avoiding the busy High Street between Battle & Langton Primary School and the Abbey Gatehouse.

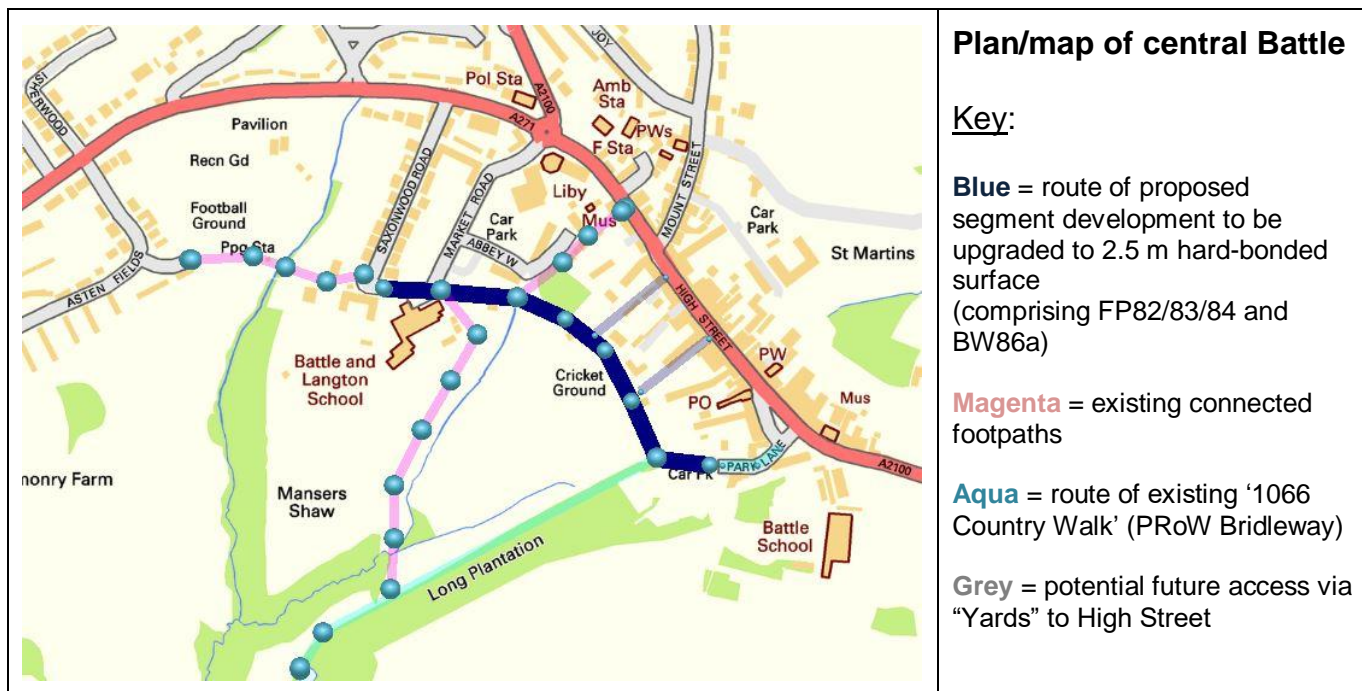
2. Background

The segment proposed for development is a small part of a longer route known as the Battle Schools Greenway (supported by BTC), which would in due course make off-road connections for cyclists and walkers between Claverham College further to the west and the Abbey Gatehouse. It would provide a safe route for students, parents with children attending other local schools and playschools and all users wishing to avoid the limited High Street footway.

Longer term aspirations would provide additional segments reaching the Railway Station to the east. This overall Active Travel route is included in the "East Sussex Cycling and Walking Strategy" – Battle, Local Cycling and Walking Implementation Plan, being finalised by ESCC. It is therefore assumed that the case for this route is already made with regard to Active Travel requirements.

3. Description

The proposed development segment (totalling 584m in length) is situated in the town centre area, from just west of Battle & Langton School at Saxonwood Road to the Abbey Gatehouse at Park Lane along existing Public Rights of Way comprising high-footfall Footpaths and a Bridleway.



The existing footpath has a tarmac surface but is on average 1m wide. This route development proposes widening on the existing line to 2.5m with a bonded surface.

4. Route details

At certain points a width reduction for terrain constraints may be required. Various enhancements/repositioning to gates, fences and one bench seat will be required. A relatively small amount of grading and new fencing will be required to aid visibility between users, particularly around the pumping station. Some new bank protection will be required where surface widening takes soil away from its natural position and some will be required to replace old soil erosion measures. One sub-surface services cover will require lowering and two/three street lamps would ideally require repositioning. (Sustrans, during a site visit, were of the opinion that these works are possible.)

5. References

- 5.1. Battle Schools Greenway proposal leaflet © 2012
- 5.2. ESCC/Sustrans report: "East Sussex Cycling and Walking Strategy" – Battle, LCWIP March 2018
- 5.3. BTC Cycling and Walking Working Group report: "Proposal for Active Travel Implementation", 2020-08-05