

Oakham Town Council

8th June 2021

Dear Town Clerk,

Consultation – potential new shared cycleway & footway provision on Burley Road, Oakham, Rutland

We are writing to you with information regarding a public consultation we are due to launch on 14th June.

The consultation relates to:

- a potential new shared cycleway and footway provision along Burley Road, Oakham, Rutland and
- wider engagement regarding walking and cycling provisions generally.

Due to the location of the area being consulted on, we wanted to alert you to this prior to the public consultation going live – as we know this will be of particular interest to residents within your constituency.

About the potential new route

The potential new route would start at the Burley Road roundabout, connecting with the existing shared cycleway and footway on the bypass. The route would span the section of Burley Road (on the northern side) approximately running to just past Oakham C of E primary school.

For your information we have enclosed the following documents relating to the proposal:

- Overview of potential route
- South Section (Cutts Close Park end)
- North Section (Burley Park Way end)
- Frequently asked questions

Consultation period

The public consultation will run between Monday 14th June 2021 and midnight on Sunday 11th July 2021.

Viewing the plans

From Monday 14th June the above plans and FAQ document, will be made live on our website – along with further supporting documents: www.rutland.gov.uk/burleyroad

Copies of these plans will be available at Oakham library, and where requested, a paper copy will also be posted out.

Responding to the consultation

Due to Covid 19, the preferred response method is for individuals to provide feedback through the council's online survey: www.rutland.gov.uk/burleyroad

However, if residents are unable to respond online, they are advised to contact us either by email: tstrategy@rutland.gov.uk or by calling 01572 758205. We will then discuss alternative response methods, including paper response forms where requested.

Promoting to your residents

The information within this letter has not yet been made public. However, from Monday 14th June we will be launching the public consultation and would welcome any opportunity you may be able to provide to promote the consultation to your residents, from the 14th June onwards.

We will also be doing a letter drop (with copies of the visuals) to those households directly along the proposed potential new route (on both sides of the road).

Further information

If you, or any of your residents, have any questions about the potential new route or consultation please do get in touch by emailing me: tstrategy@rutland.gov.uk or calling 01572 758205.

We would also be very happy to meet with you virtually to discuss the proposal if you have any concerns, questions or ideas for promoting this further to your residents – please let me know if you would like me to arrange a meeting.

Thank you for your time and help promoting the consultation,

Yours sincerely

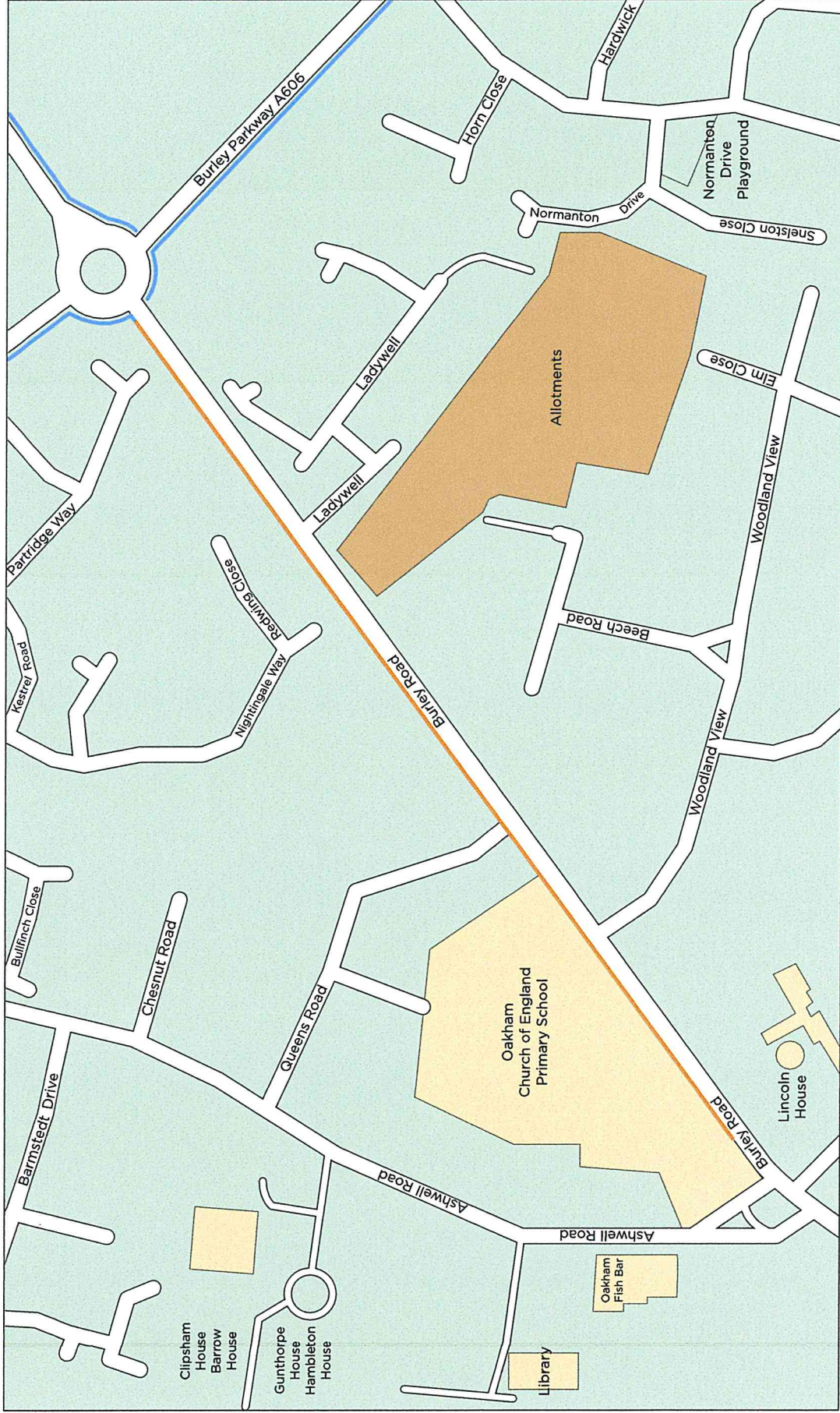


Heather Caldicott – Transport Strategy Manager

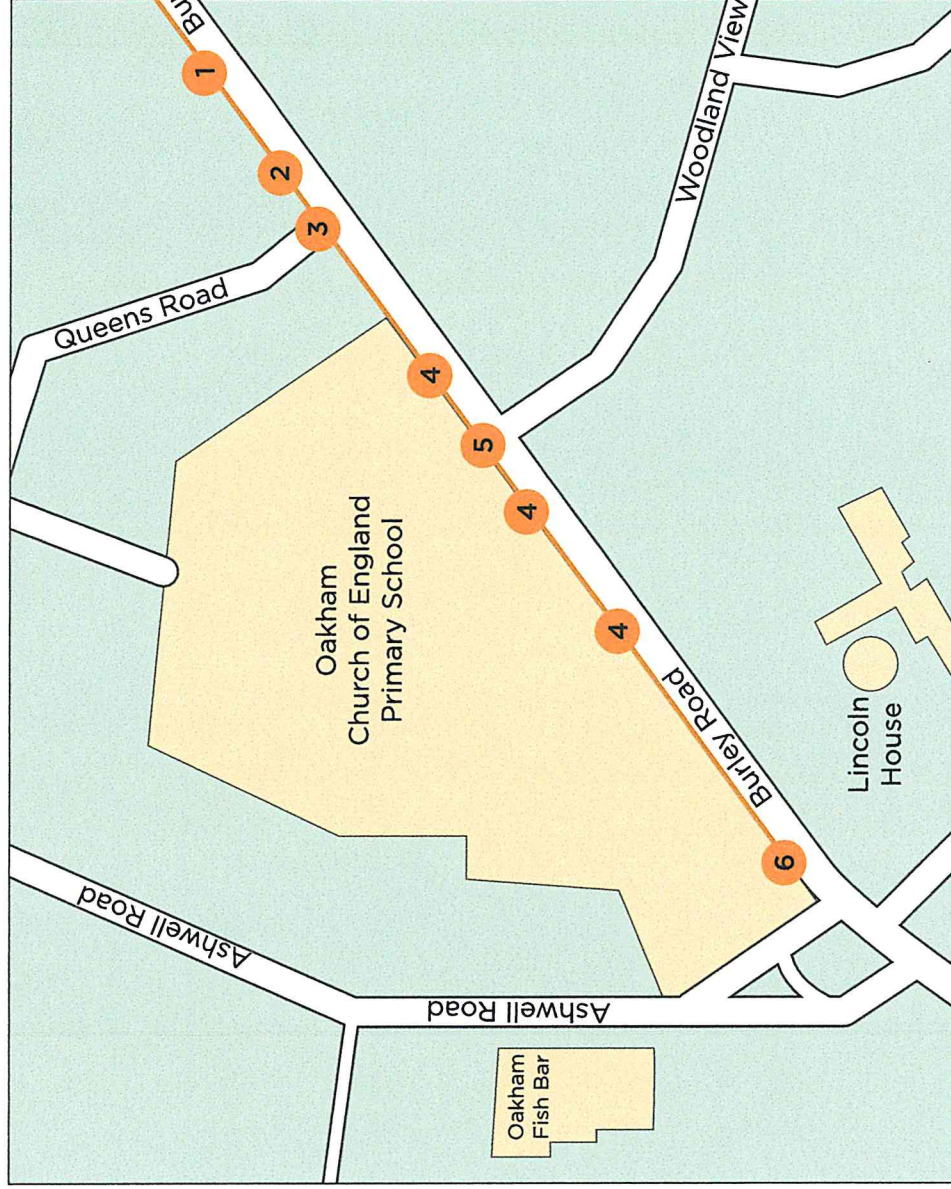


From the 14th June you can access further information, along with the survey, by scanning the QR code.

Burley Road - overview of potential route



South Section (Cutts Close Park end)



- 1 Remove x1 concrete bollard
- 2 Litter bin and vehicle-activated sign to be moved further back
- 3 New tactile paving and shared pedal cycle and pedestrian route markings added
- 4 School accesses to be narrowed and dropped kerbs with tactile paving to be provided
- 5 School crossing sign to be moved further back
- 6 Dropped kerb with tactile paving added, along with shared pedal cycle and pedestrian route markings and 'end of route' markings

Along the length of the proposed route, the intention is to trim verges, cut back vegetation and widen the existing footway to create a shared route for cyclists and pedestrians that's 3metres wide. There will be concrete edging, to stop vegetation from obstructing the route. The route will also be clearly marked.

This is a draft design of the proposed joint cycleway and footway provision. If the route is taken forward for construction, the final design may have some amendments (to take into consideration feedback from this consultation and in response to a safety audit). These changes will be brought back to consultation if they result in a significantly altered scheme.

Potential shared cycleway and footway provision on Burley Road, Oakham, Rutland

Frequently asked questions – June 2021

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Why are we doing this?

- In 2020 the Department for Transport (DfT) announced a new grant called the ‘Emergency Active Travel Fund – tranche 2’.
- RCC have been successful in securing just over £36,000 through this fund.
- The objective of the fund is to help local authorities provide safer walking and cycling provisions, whilst in the short term helping to provide alternative means of travel to the bus, during the Covid 19 pandemic. In the longer term, it is hoped that providing such infrastructure will help encourage more sustainable and active modes of travel – helping to reduce our impact on the environment.

How was this route chosen?

- Our grant bid response (to question 4 of the grant) outlines the method used to identify the proposed potential route along Burley Road, Oakham. Our bid response is available on the [Transport Strategy section of our website](#).
- In summary, the Burley Road scheme was selected ahead of other schemes through a prioritisation process as follows:
 - Stage 1 – screening: potential routes were checked to ensure they could meet the grant requirements.
 - Stage 2 – scoring: Points were allocated to potential routes for meeting various criteria, such as access to education, services and employment.

- Stage 3 - Sense checks: From stage two, the top 5 routes were sense checked and further prioritised by considering:
 - Cycling and walking potential (using data where available),
 - Whether the route offers a useful route, ideally linking with existing parts of the network to enhance connectivity
 - The cost and time required to deliver the scheme.

How will feedback be taken into consideration?

- All feedback received will be compiled and reviewed, alongside findings from the wider Future Rutland Conversation.
- A short summary report will then be prepared and circulated to members of the Council's Highway and Transport Working Group for their consideration.
- The report, along with the decision outcome will also be uploaded to the [Transport Strategy section of our website](#).

When will the scheme be constructed?

- If the scheme is approved, construction will take place by 31st March 2022.

How much is the scheme going to cost and who is going to pay for it?

- The exact cost can't be confirmed until after the detailed designs are produced. Detailed designs won't be produced unless the scheme is approved – with a decision not being made until after the public consultation.
- The current estimated scheme cost is £50, 000.
- Of this £36,000 will be provided by the Department for Transport (DfT) using the Emergency Active Travel Fund – Tranche 2 allocation, with any shortfall made up by Rutland County Council (if the route is approved).
- If the scheme is approved, any shortfall will come from RCC's Integrated Transport Capital Funding pot – an allocation we receive from the DfT to deliver road safety and integrated transport schemes.
- The decision making process regarding use of the Integrated Transport Capital Funding is outlined in report number 25/2021 which went to [Cabinet on 16 February 2021](#).

What about other routes?

- During late 2021 we will be working on our Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). Our LCWIP will identify the existing gaps in our walking and cycling network and set out a mechanism for prioritising potential new routes – should funding become available.

- A significant amount of background work has already taken place to identify gaps in our network, however, we would welcome your input. As such, later in the year we will be holding a further engagement opportunity to find out where you think there are gaps.

How is consultation taking place?

A separate Consultation and Communication Plan has been prepared for this scheme and can be found on the [Transport Strategy section of our website](#). This plan outlines in detail who we are consulting and how.