

## Report from M-B footpath/cycleway WG 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

### Present

Danusia, Michael, Heath, Graham, Pat and Dave

Danusia was elected chairman

### Recent events

- Ridge submitted the planning application 23<sup>rd</sup> May but as of 6<sup>th</sup> June it has not been validated /no planning reference number (chase WBC)
- Our contact (Franklin Neathercoate) at Ridge has left the company and we are back to Steve Watts. It appears this project may not be an ideal fit for Ridge going forward. Our current contract with Ridge terminates soon after planning. The WG will investigate other options for project management , see below

### Next steps

- Once planning reference number is provided:
  - Contact Michael Butler (who hopefully will be the Case Officer) to ascertain whether any problems we can help with
  - The landowner letters of support can be added to portal by Ridge
  - Seek support from Burghfield, Sulhamstead and Wokefield parishes, St Mary's and Willink Schools.
- Once application is approved, the work required will include meeting any planning conditions, more detailed design eg. of bridge, drawing up specifications for contractor tender, identifying suitable contractors and processing their tenders, overseeing the construction. The best way to manage this could be to appoint a 'client representative' to act on our behalf and oversee the whole project, in particular splitting into a number of smaller contracts. A possibility might be the company Franklin has returned to which appears to be a better match for the size of contract. David to have a preliminary informal conversation
- West Berks Council might be able to undertake the management consultancy on the next phase, (produce the tender) Graham to approach Jon Winstanley.

### Finance

- Funding – a little over £100k is left of original £150k earmarked sum and probably another £400K needed from grants through match funding.
- Various sources of funding were identified. Not much can be done until permission granted and more accurate costs calculated, but worth getting up to speed with what will be required for each of these and making initial contacts.
- Graham to contact Sarah Hansen, expert on bid writing

### AOB

- Englefield heads of terms to be revisited once permission granted and similar documents prepared for Wokefield and Sovereign
- Nutrition run off to the water course to get Nutrition Neutrality - will need checking whether it applies
- Contractors will need a site compound – a negotiation with Englefield