

# Hastings Country Park

## Greenway

*Access for all*



[hastingscountryparkgreenway.org.uk](http://hastingscountryparkgreenway.org.uk)

# Benefits of a Country Park Greenway

A Greenway route would provide a safe, all weather, erosion resistant, walking surface, that would allow access to the Country Park for all ages and abilities, for Hastings residents and tourists.

The Greenway would be a shared use path that would enable pedestrian and wheelchair access, along with pushchairs, mobility scooters and bicycles. Currently the park is almost impossible to access by wheelchair or with a pushchair.

The proposed Greenway would create a superb tourist route with stunning views across Hastings Old town, the Country Park and Rye Bay, linking up to the very popular coastal walking and cycling route along Hastings promenade via the Bulverhythe Link to Bexhill.

It would also offer a much needed alternative path for walkers to avoid the existing footpaths that become very muddy and difficult to use after periods of wet weather and during the winter months.

The Country Park Greenway would have an all weather firm surface and provide a shared route with access for all. It would enable people with disabilities and mobility issues to travel right across the Country Park -

In addition it would be a valuable National Cycle Network (NCN) South Coast Route improvement for long distance cyclists, as the section east of Hastings Old Town is problematic due to dangerous roads and steep hills.



## Route Details

The Hastings Country Park Greenway would start at the top of the East Hill lift, which has been renovated to take wheelchairs, prams & cycles.

At this point it would connect with the existing NCN 2 shared use path and would follow this tarmac access road as far as Fairlight Place.

It would run along the natural contours of East Hill, close to the North Western perimeter, avoiding the ancient earthworks, to join up with Rocklands Lane and continue to the junction with Barley Lane.

Where the access road turns sharp left to link up with Fairlight Road, the new route would continue across the fields, close to the Southern field boundaries before joining up with the footpath near to Warren Cottage.

It would leave the footpath before the Quarry and loop around the Northern edge to join the footpath again before it reaches Coastguard Lane next to the Visitor Centre.

The construction would require very little alteration to the existing land, which would help to keep the project budget down.

This would be a low impact route , with minimal groundworks, so as to be almost invisible over the East Hill section.

It could also potentially be carried out as two separate phases of work.

The Hastings Country Park Greenway project should be lead by Hastings Borough Council, as the owner of all of the land involved, in partnership with East Sussex County Council and working with Hastings Urban Bikes, Hastings Greenway Group, Ramblers and other organisations that support the aim.

The route is part of the network of planned network of walking & cycling routes in the adopted Hastings Local Plan and included in the Hastings Walking & Cycling Strategy approved by Hastings BC and ESCC.

## Plan of Action

The first stage for this project will require funding for route design work (design work was completed for ESCC on the second section from Barley Lane to Fairlight a few years ago); to resolve any issues and to provide a cost for the construction work. This should be done in consultation with all interested organisations and with publicity to seek the views of the local community.

The second stage would be to apply for planning permission and deal with any other queries and suggestions.

The final stage would be to seek for funding for construction of the route, which could come from the Local Enterprise Partnership allocation for the Hastings & Bexhill Waling & Cycling Network or from other countryside access sources.

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