

Lucy Wright

From: Kevin Dewitt <Kevin.Dewitt@westsussex.gov.uk>
Sent: 22 January 2025 12:51
To: Lucy Wright
Cc: Helen Marshall; Lynda Hunter; Andy Relf; Gary Mason; Richard Bates
Subject: Fishbourne meadows - path surfacing works
Attachments: WSCC-PROW_Rural_Footpath_Standard_Spec-14259_1RevA.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Good afternoon all

I wanted to make the Parish Council aware of some works WSCC Public Rights of Way team are provisionally proposing which will involve surfacing footpath 555 at Fishbourne Meadows.

The King Charles III England Coast Path (KCIIECP) will follow along the same route as the footpath and there is an opportunity to apply for funding from Defra to pay for improvements to the KCIIECP trail.

Our initial proposal is to surface the path from the south end of the bridge at Fishbourne meadows until reaching just before the sluices at the next path junction (see section highlighted in yellow on map below).

The specification for the works will be similar to that of PROW team's standard specification for rural paths (see attached, material would be Limestone MoT Type 1). However, the section going immediately south of the bridge for around 60m is within a Scheduled Ancient Monument, so it is likely that a less intrusive specification will be used for this section of the path (involving no digging but rather building up the path surface). I intend to commission an Archaeological Impact Assessment for this aspect of the works.

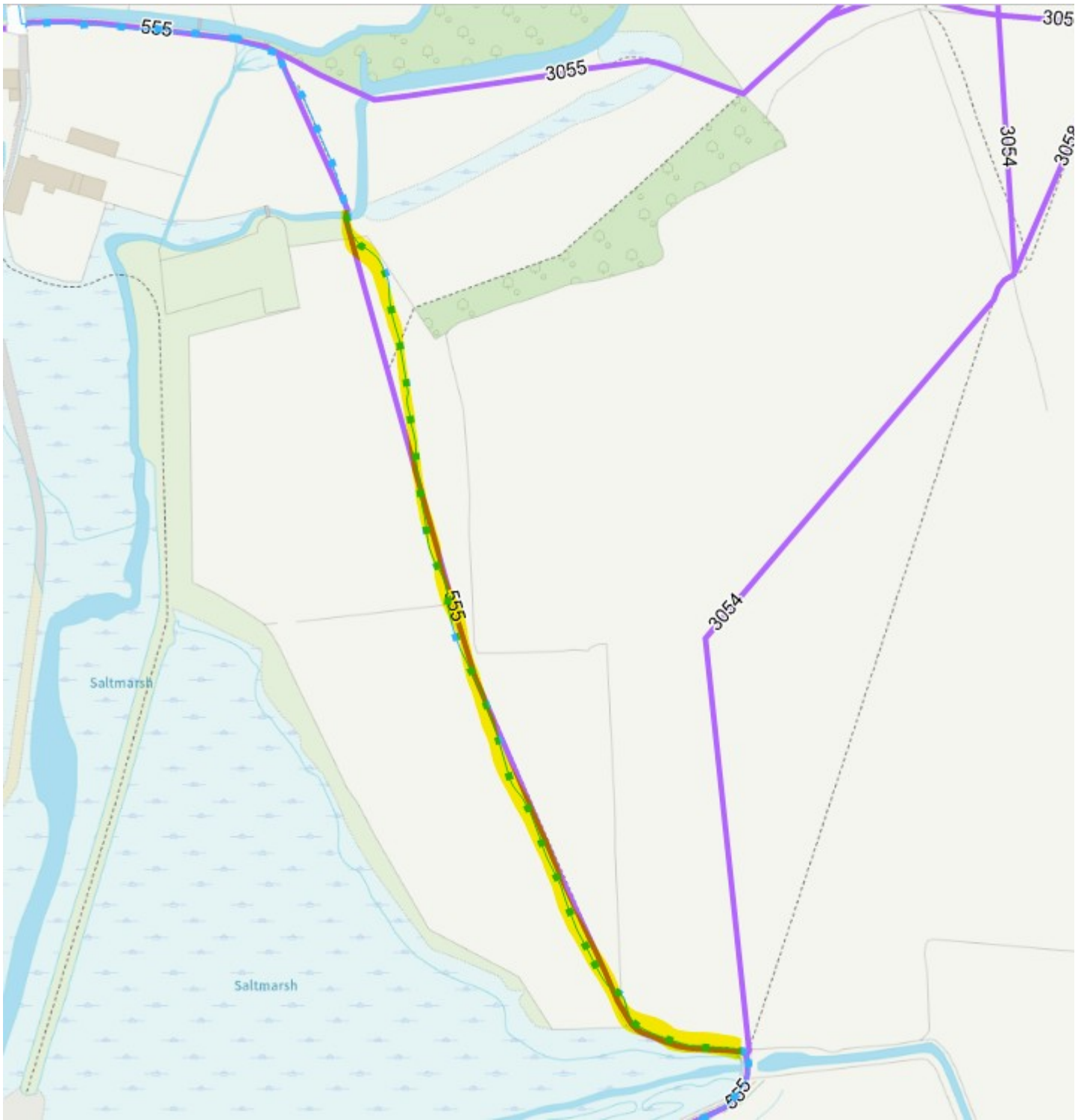
The works, if going ahead, will likely take place late spring/summer this year.

On average these works usually take around 2 weeks to complete and the path will be closed for the duration, so there will be some disruption to public access, although there are alternative routes that can bypass the closed section of path. If the works proceed, I would put up advanced notices informing the public of the closure (normally 2 weeks beforehand).

On a related note, I have instructed contractors to replace the two plank bridges, located along the same section of path, with slightly wider and longer structures, as the existing ones were not quite covering the muddy/wet ground. These should be installed sometime between next week and end of March.

I have consulted with Chichester Harbour Conservancy and they are supportive of the works. I intend to contact the tenant (the landowner is WSCC) and Fishbourne Meadows Association, once plans have progressed.

I would welcome any comments from the Parish Council. If you have any concerns or queries, please do let me know.



Kind regards

Kevin

Kevin Dewitt

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