



## **Two Shires Greenway Greenway Project AGM**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025, 7.15pm**

**Salford Priors Memorial Hall**

Dear Friends and Supporters of the AAGP

This is to let you know of the upcoming AAGP AGM and formally invite you to attend.

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Apologies for Absence
3. Approval of AGM Minutes from 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024
4. Matters Arising
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Accounts
7. Election of Chair
8. Election of Executive Committee.
9. Any Other Business.

We will arrange for a 'Zoom' link to be available to those who cannot make the meeting in person. It would be useful if you could let us know whether you intend to attend in person or by 'Zoom' by responding to this email.

Best wishes

Jill Smith, Hon. Secretary

21<sup>st</sup> January 2025

[jill.smith@twoshiresgreenway.org.uk](mailto:jill.smith@twoshiresgreenway.org.uk)



## Annual General Meeting Minutes

7:30pm, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Salford Priors Memorial Hall  
School Road, Salford Priors, WR11 8XD

### Present:

Joe Harvey - Chair TSG  
Jill Smith - Hon Sec TSG  
Daryl Bailey - Treasurer TSG  
Colin Tether - TSG Exec (Zoom)  
Graeme Reeves - TSG Exec  
Cllr Susan Juned – Stratford DC  
Cllr Manuela Perteghuella – Stratford District Council (Zoom)  
Cllr Erick Wilson - Alcester Town Council  
Cllr Simon Carter – Chair Welford Parish Council (Zoom)  
Alan Green – Consultant Salford Priors Parish Council  
Alan Saunders - Evesham Rambling Club  
Cllr Robert Hale - Evesham Town Council  
Cllr Ian Graham - Offenham Parish Council  
Cllr Colin Jones – Harvington Parish Council  
Cllr Alison Hegarty – Luddington Parish Council  
K Hegarty – Luddington Parish Council  
Michael Clifford – Film maker  
Gillian Pawson Chair Evesham Civic Society (Zoom)  
Alexandera Jones  
Chris Hill  
Trevor Homer  
John Cashmore  
Pat Perry  
Liz Heneghan  
Pete Havard  
Steve Freer  
Anne Freer

### Apologies:

Liam Maude - TSG Exec  
Cllr Justin Kerridge – Councillor Warwickshire County Council  
Cllr Kim James – Salford Priors Parish Council  
Robin Walker – Cycle Evesham Vale  
John James - Bidford Health Centre Patient Participation Group

### Election of Chair

Joe Harvey was proposed by Robert Hale and seconded by Gillian Smith. Elected unanimously.

The other officers were elected as follows

Jill Smith – Hon Secretary

Liam Maude – Vice Chair

Daryl Bailey – Hon Treasurer

Colin Tether

Graeme Reeves

A request for representatives for the Broom to Stratford route was made. Any volunteers to join the executive group should be made to Joe Harvey.

### Introduction and Chairman's Report – Joe Harvey

Joe Harvey welcomed the large audience to the Two Shires Greenway AGM and reminded them why the charity had changed its name to better describe its aims and its ambitions.

We cross two beautiful rural counties and want to engage them both to work with us to develop a strategic partnership to create a new and exciting network for walking and cycling. In particular, we need them to lobby Active Travel and the Department of Transport to move away from their policy which strongly favours funding urban routes over all else and accept the argument that rural counties need connectivity as the key objective.

While we are working hard with our supportive district councils of Stratford and Wychavon all of you here today can put the argument to your organisations and contacts that these are changes you see as critical in developing much needed infrastructure in your areas.

Two Shires have raised the amazing sum of nearly £1 million pounds to get sections of the routes under way but the serious money required for delivery of the whole package can only be found via the government coffers

If you wish to comment, email or phone those who can influence and change, parish/district/county councillors, MP's, walking and cycling activist organisations wherever they are, and ask for their support.

### Treasurer's Report – Daryl Bailey

We currently have just under £7,500 in the accounts. This year our expenses were £700 and are for items such as paying for the AGM meeting. All applications for the main works funding are done by parish councils with our support. Any grant funding is held by parish councils and not the TSG. This is public money and parish councils are set up to hold and use such funds. This also means that VAT can be recovered. This ensures all financial transactions are transparent and in the public domain. A copy of the financial report has been sent to all contacts of the TSG.

Progress: Evesham to Harvington – Jill Smith

We are working on this part of the route in two sections, Evesham to the Valley and Harvington to the Valley.

Evesham to the Valley Jill has walked the route with Chris Day and officers and it is confirmed the Section 106 funding towards the cost of the route is still in place.

Harvington to the Valley. Harvington PC have formed a working group to concentrate on the section from Harvington to the Valley. We have had several meetings with Wychavon DC, Management of Eagle One who own the Valley land, Worcester CC officers and National Highways. All are in agreement that this is a beneficial route and they are happy for it to be created. We are currently seeking legal permissions from National Highways to allow us to do survey in order to start the project.

Progress: Salford Priors to Wixford – Alan Green

Alan Green previously the chair of Salford Priors PC and has worked with land owners since the beginning of the project. He has now stepped down as chair but continued his involvement as a consultant working with the Salford Priors Parish Council Leisure Trails working group. Legal agreements have been sent to all landowners involved and work has already started on clearing the paths ready for the creation of a cycle path. All the landowners along the route have been very supportive of the project. This has enabled Salford Priors PC to use section 30 of the highways act to establish a bridleway. Once the route is established Salford Priors PC will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance. Current estimates are the route should be completed by the end of 2025.

Progress: Wixford to Alcester – Joe Harvey

Once the Salford Priors to Wixford route has been created we currently have a route into Alcester. It goes over the bridge at Wixford to the Three Horseshoes Pub along the lane to Exhall, up the bridleway into Oversley Wood, along their internal road and out the other side to cross the A46 at the bridge which leads down into Oversley Green and Alcester Town. This route does use sections of public road and we will continue to work on a more direct route based on the old railway line which is our preferred route.

Progress: Broom to Bidford Health Centre – Joe Harvey

This is an important part of the route and will be of great benefit to people wishing to access the health centre on foot. We are in contact with Dr Tim Shackley from Bidford Health Centre, however the work to be done by Oculus development seems to be on hold at the present time.

Business Plan – Graeme Reeves

The business plan, like the greenway route has been broken down into sections. This has enabled a more detailed business plan to be written that reflects more local issues.

This will be circulated later but it must be emphasised it is a working document that will be adapted as needs and circumstances change. If you know of any local information that can be used in the business plan like benefits to local businesses, access to schools etc. please let us know.

A.O.B.

Sue Juned asked if a response had been made about the South Warwickshire local plan and offered to check this.

Jill Smith stated that the route from Evesham had been removed from the latest Worcestershire LCWIP. Robert Hale is going to attend the Active Travel Forum and will raise this issue for us.

Erick Wilson - Alcester Town Council raised the issue of scale and cost when raising awareness of the project. Joe Harvey gave an approximate figure of £20 million but said that this would be looked at in more detail. He stated that this funding did not have to be raised immediately.

Michael Clifford – Film maker is hoping to make a short film about Active Travel in the Stratford district and is keen to include the birth of a new greenway. He has currently made a film about the Lias Line recently created by Sustrans.

Meeting ended 8.30pm with thanks from the Chair to all those present.

Gillian Smith (Hon. Secretary) 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024



## AGM Two Shires Greenway Project

Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 7.15 pm  
Salford Priors Memorial Hall

### **Annual Report and Accounts**

Dear Two Shires Greenway supporter,

The last update you received from us was the document entitled, '**The Two Shires Greenway at the crossroads**' which we sent out on September 24<sup>th</sup> last year. I have attached this as a reminder of the challenges we outlined and as a context for what we have done since. We believe that there is still an opportunity to deliver all or most of this project for the residents of South Warwickshire but more of that below. The following updates on work done since September 24<sup>th</sup> are as follow:

#### **1. Salford Priors to Wixford**

Salford Priors Parish council are starting on the first part of the delivery of Salford to Wixford Greenway. The intention is to cut back the vegetation on certain parts of the route by the end of February 2025 to avoid the bird nesting season which starts on 1st March 2025. Quotes have been obtained for fencing and clearance where necessary and will be actioned shortly - after this, work can begin on the construction of the Greenway itself.

#### **2. Evesham to Harvington**

Jill is pursuing all avenues to ensure that the grant we obtained for the Harvington section is spent and the progress on building the route out of Evesham is achieved. We are working with Wychavon District Council on this section of the route and hopefully we can give you more details on this at the AGM

#### **3. Wixford to Alcester**

Once the route from Salford Priors to Wixford is under construction we can re-engage with Alcester Town Council and all other partners to continue developing the route via Oversley Wood into Alcester with the necessary permissions and signage. This route can currently be walked or cycled but needs significant additional work to make it more easily accessible. While this, as you know, is not our preferred route, it does allow the complete Salford Priors to Alcester section to be open for use.

#### **4. Broom to Stratford**

While CIL grants are temporarily on hold this year by Stratford District Council we are continuing to work closely with Stratford District Council and Bidford Parish Council to win funding to begin work on the Broom to Bidford Health Centre route – we will keep you posted.

## **5. Funding**

An expression of interest has been made to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for approximately £400K working with Stratford District Council, Alcester Town Council, and Warwickshire County Council. We will hear if we have made the short list for a full application by the end of February. This grant is to fund a full-time officer based at Stratford District Council for 3 years to project manage work on all local greenways and rights of way. It will also fund a consultancy from a key national organisation with expertise in the field.

## **6. Future challenges and opportunities**

As many of you will be aware the present government is pursuing the development of Unitary Authorities which will dispense with the local County Councils and both Wychavon and Stratford District Councils. There are a number of very good reasons to be concerned about how quickly this process may affect our very strong relationship with Stratford District Council and the support we have had from them. However, there is still a window of opportunity for us to work in partnership with them (and colleagues at Warwickshire County Council) to deliver the hugely valuable amenities our project offers to the citizens within and outside the district.

In conclusion can I thank my colleagues on the executive for the extraordinary resilience they have shown in continuing their determination to get this Greenway built despite bureaucracy, minimal levels of funding and a lack of strategic planning for walking and cycling in rural counties by successive governments. Can I also thank all of you who have supported us over the last five years and given us help and encouragement.

Joe Harvey

Chair, Two Shires Greenway Project

21<sup>st</sup> January 2025

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31 MARCH 2024

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<b>Income:</b>		
Donations and grants	-	-
	-	-
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Hire of Village Hall	(30.00)	-
Website costs	(188.73)	(309.98)
Professional Indemity Insurance	(244.00)	(244.00)
HM Land registry fees	(33.00)	(45.00)
Contribution to Sustrans Report	(2,357.81)	-
Ordnance Survey licence costs	-	-
Meeting costs	(154.84)	(101.00)
<b>Total income less expenditure</b>	<u>(3,008.38)</u>	<u>(699.98)</u>
<b>Balance sheet:</b>		
Cash at bank	6,881.34	7,506.91
Accrual - meeting costs	(126.00)	(101.00)
Accrual - Sustrans Report	(2,357.81)	-
	<u>4,397.53</u>	<u>7,405.91</u>
Reserves b/fwd	7,405.91	8,105.89
Income less expenditure in year	(3,008.38)	(699.98)
Reserves c/fwd	<u>4,397.53</u>	<u>7,405.91</u>

Accounts prepared by D Bailey, Treasurer



