

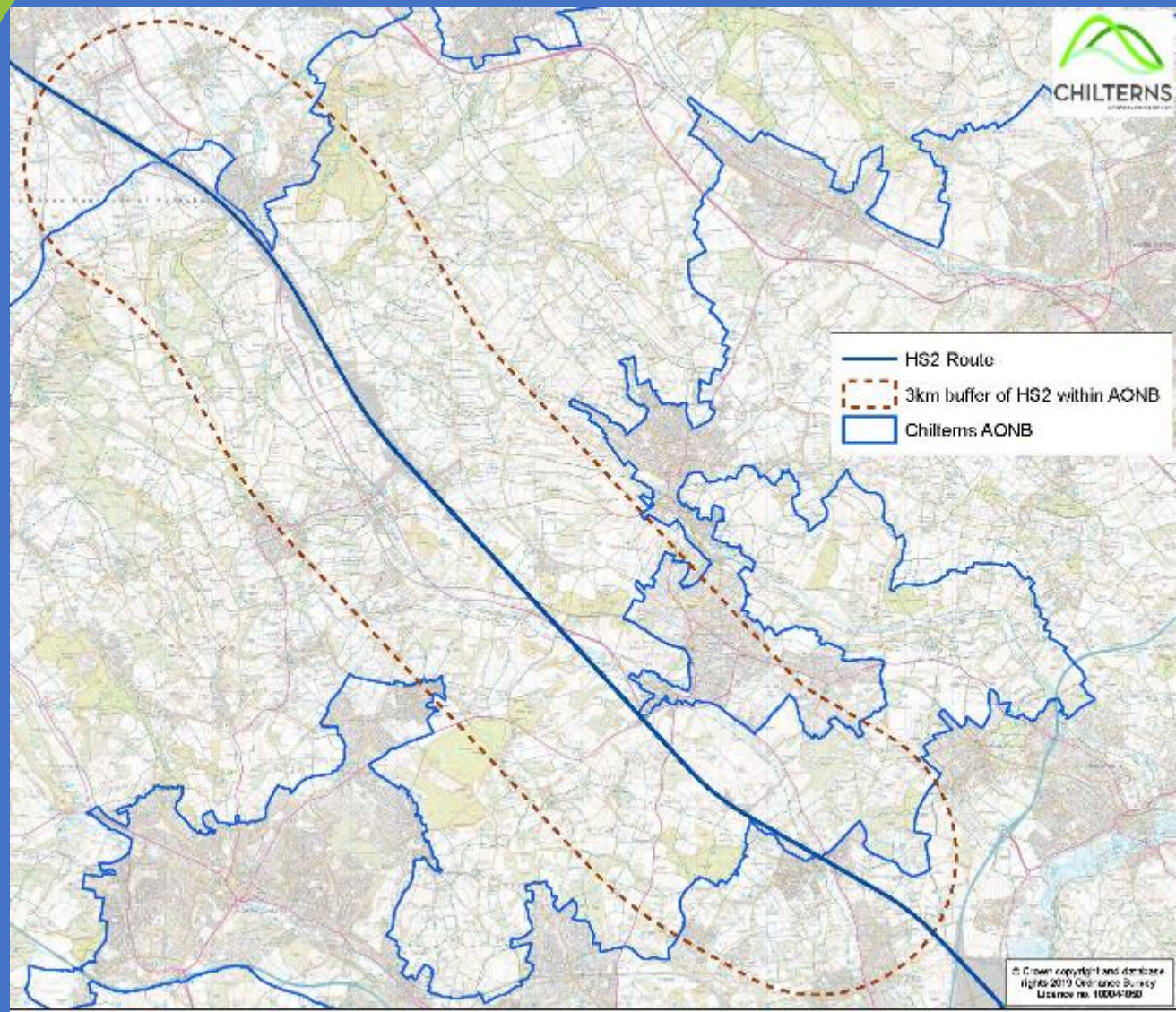
HS2 Additional Projects Fund

Neil Jackson
Conservation and Landscape Officer

February 2023



CHILTERNs
CONSERVATION BOARD



Chilterns AONB Review Group

The Chilterns HS2 Review Group was established by assurance from the HS2 Select Committee in response to proposals from the Chilterns Conservation Board, Buckinghamshire County Council and Chiltern, Wycombe and Aylesbury Vale District Councils. The Review Group is comprised of local authorities in the Chilterns affected by HS2, the CCB, Natural England, Department for Transport and HS2 Ltd.

The group had 2 main purposes:

- To oversee the creation of Detailed Design Principles

Link on this page: [The HS2 Review Group - Chilterns AONB | Chilterns AONB](#)

- To allocate a budget of £3m available local environmental integration and enhancement measures as **Additional Projects** within 3km either side of the HS2 route as it passes through the AONB.

The Additional Projects Fund

To date, the Review Group has agreed funding for 4 projects:

1. Landscape and Biodiversity Connectivity

£500,000 overseen by CCB working with farmers and landowners. Projects include willow pollarding, hedge creation and restoration, woodland planting wildflower rich grass margins established to increase pollinator numbers, owl and kestrel boxes, new signage to help visitors recognise, enjoy and respect the farming and wildlife they see while enjoying walks across the area.

2. Ridgeway Riding Route

£136,000 awarded to the Ridgeway National Trail - ambitions to adapt 7 sections (between North Stoke and the Ashridge Estate) of the existing rights of way network, to provide links with sections of the Ridgeway National Trail already open to horse and bike riders.

3. Wendover Canal Towpath Upgrade

£291,500 awarded April 2021, further **£380,000** awarded November 2022 to upgrade the badly deteriorated towpath within the parishes of Wendover and Halton.

4. Misbourne Greenway

£330,000 awarded to complete the final 1km of the 4km route between Great Missenden and Wendover after delays and inflationary pressure meant that the original DfT award would not be sufficient to complete the route.

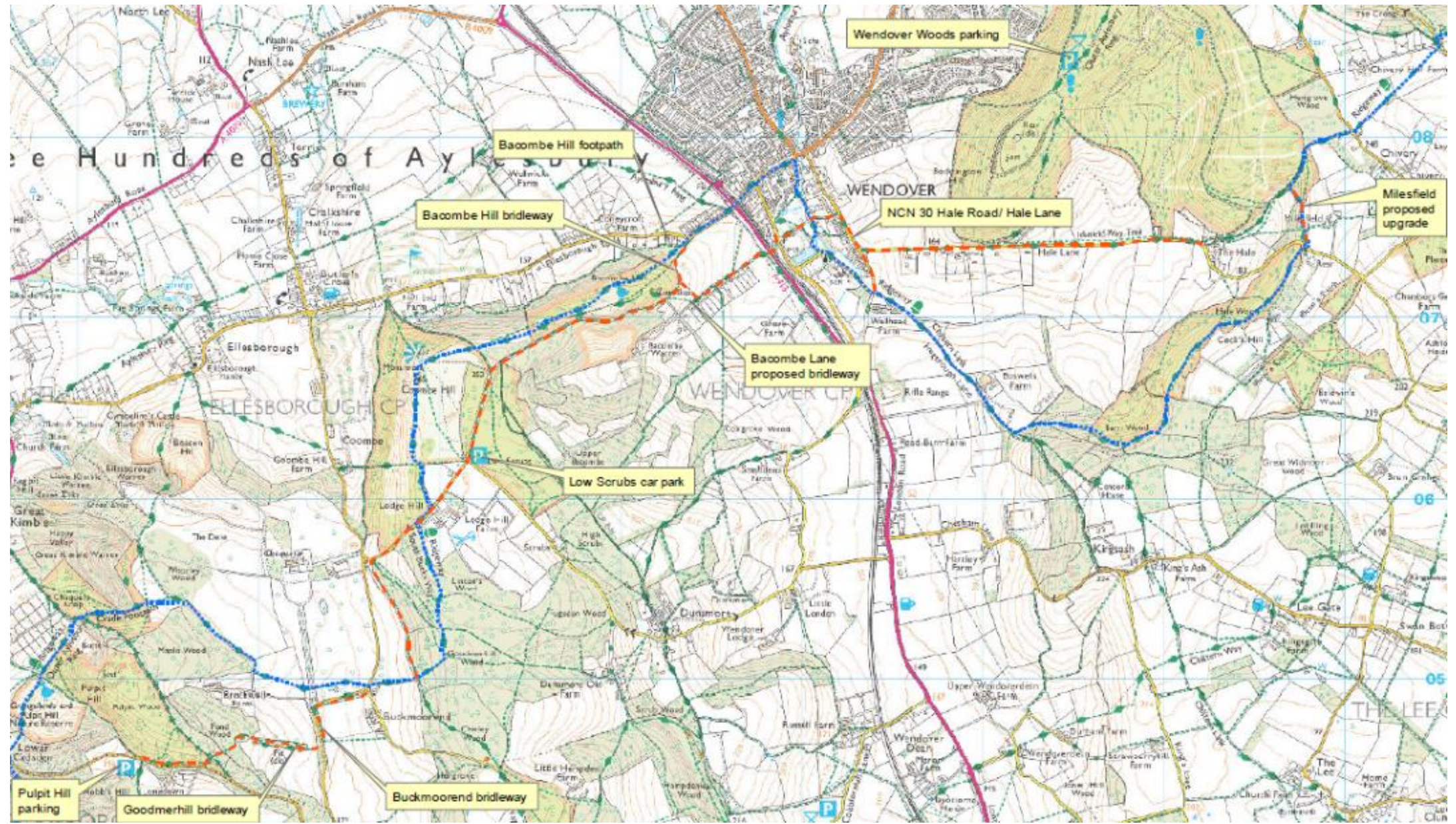
£1,137,500 of the total allocated funds of **£1,637,500** awarded to access projects
= **38%** of total AP fund.

Ridgeway Riding Route

This project will be realised in phases over several years. The first phase launched in Dec 2019 with a grant from HS2 Ltd for a route between Pulpit Hill (near Princes Risborough) and Chivery (near Wendover). Working with landowners, the funding is enabling signage, surface improvements, cycle stands, hitching posts and benches



- improvements to the Ridgeway for walkers around Bacombe Hill,
- greater continuous length open to cyclists and horse riders via Milesfield,
- connection to one of the country's leading off-road cycling centres at Aston Hill
- better connected and safer routes for cyclists and horse riders along the Ridgeway Riders Route.
- Local tourism-related businesses will benefit from more cyclists and horse riders passing through or near Wendover



Wendover Canal Towpath Upgrade

The Wendover Arm Trust have gained support from almost 30 different national and local groups to upgrade the badly deteriorated towpath within the parishes of Wendover and Halton.

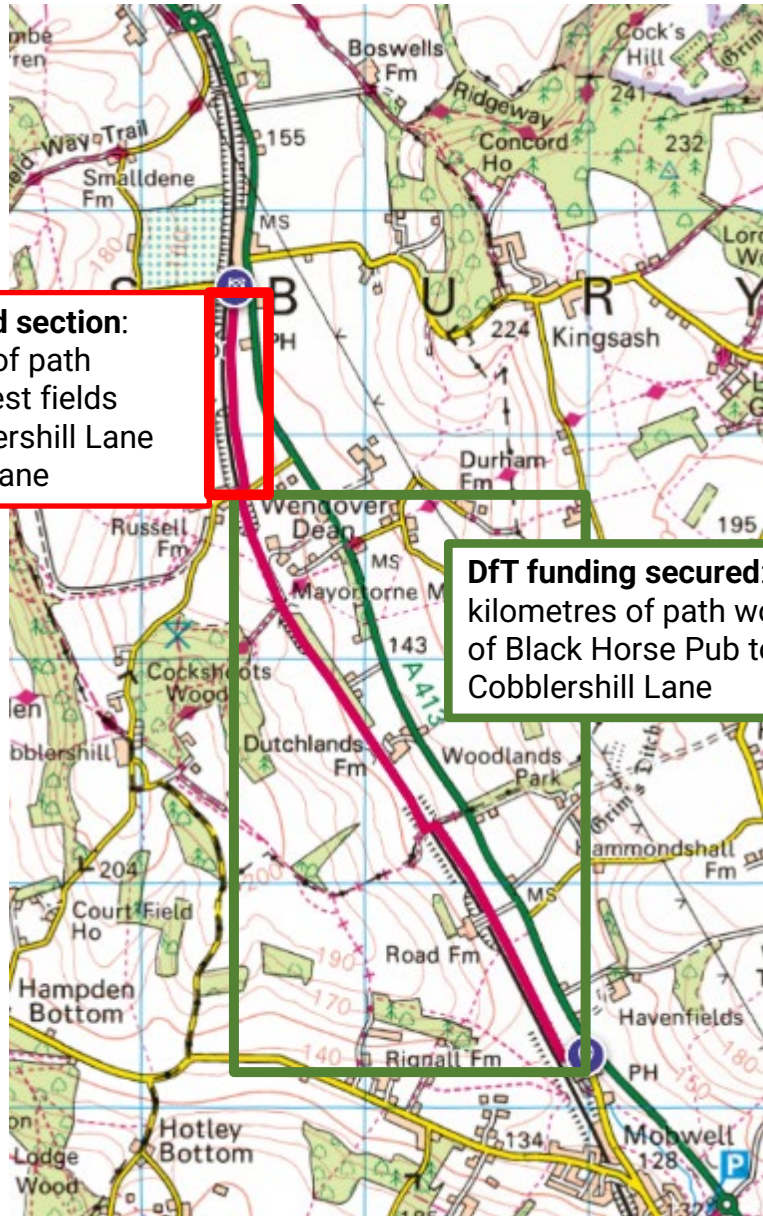
The towpath serves Wendover residents and is in close proximity to schools, care homes. The upgrade will provide access for walkers, runners, cyclists and those with reduced mobility and will form an important part of the ambitious Grand Union Canal Triangle between Aylesbury, Wendover and Tring – 22km of towpath linked by 6km of right of way through Weston Turville.



Misbourne Greenway

The Misbourne Greenway is a proposed walking, wheeling and cycling route along the Misbourne valley between Uxbridge and Wendover. When complete, it will form part of Buckinghamshire Council's vision of a Buckinghamshire Greenway covering the length of the county.

AP funding will allow completion of the final 1km with all the works constructed in one continuous phase from February 2023.



HS2 AP funded section:
one kilometre of path
through Firecrest fields
north of Cobblershill Lane
to Dunsmore Lane

DfT funding secured: three
kilometres of path works north
of Black Horse Pub to
Cobblershill Lane