

Through the Biggleswade P3 group and the Ivel Valley Conservation Volunteers, some local residents have been involved in caring for the local environment for many years - and we have a lot to thank them for.



We would now like to increase the level of volunteer activity through a 'Friends of Biggleswade Green Wheel' group. This group will initially be led by BRCC and will liaise with the other Green Wheel partners to coordinate volunteer input. The group may in time undertake wider fundraising and enhancement activities. Central Bedfordshire Council is responsible for keeping the Public Rights of Way around the Green Wheel open. However, to maximise enjoyment of the route and its associated sites, additional support is sought for a range of activities.

In particular, we are looking for volunteers who could:



If you would like more information about volunteering to care for and improve the Green Wheel, either individually or as part of a group, please:

Email: [GreenWheel@bedsrcc.org.uk](mailto:GreenWheel@bedsrcc.org.uk)  
 Call: 01234 832617  
 Web: [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/biggleswadegreenwheel](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/biggleswadegreenwheel)  
 Visit: Friends of Biggleswade Green Wheel on Facebook

The production of this leaflet has been funded by Biggleswade P3 - a group of local residents who for over 20 years have worked to improve access to our local countryside. We are very grateful for their support.



**Central Bedfordshire Council**  
 Working in partnership



# Enjoy the Biggleswade Green Wheel



The Biggleswade Green Wheel is a walking and cycling route around the town, passing through areas of landscape, heritage and wildlife interest. Much of the Green Wheel is now in place and able to be used, with remaining sections due to be completed over the next year or two. Start enjoying the Green Wheel now, but remember to look out for further route improvements and a new leaflet.



Version 1 | 2015

## About the Wheel

The Biggleswade Green Wheel has been developed over recent years as a result of groups and individuals calling for more, better quality, opportunities to walk and cycle in the local area. Having a 'wheel' around the town, with a number of 'spokes' leading from the 'hub' of the town enables people to access the route close to their homes and follow the whole wheel, or just part of it.

BRCC and Central Bedfordshire Council - with support from Biggleswade Town Council and in conjunction with local landowners - have created new paths and upgraded existing routes to create a complete circuit. At present, the entire route can be walked, and much of it can also be cycled. It is hoped that over the next year or 2, further enhancements can be made to create a continuous cycling route.

Much of the route is on off-road paths which have been created to provide a good walking and cycling surface while blending into the natural setting.

At present, the main rim of the Green Wheel is 7.5m / 12km, with the longer walkers option including Biggleswade Common being 8.75m / 14km.

In addition to the paths which form the wheel, a wide range of green spaces, attractive views, heritage sites and amenities add to the enjoyment of the route.

To the north of the town, Biggleswade Common, the largest area of Common Land in the county, provides over 300 acres of attractive grazing meadows; and links to both the RSPB's Lodge nature reserve; and a new walkers' route through the Manor Farm Fishery, west of the River Ivel.

To the east, the emerging 'Linear Park' of the King's Reach development will compliment the Saxon Drive Linear Woods. A footpath provides a walkers link from this section of the Green Wheel to the newly planted Jubilee Wood and BRCC Diamond Jubilee Orchard at Kennel Farm.

To the south, Holme Green Wood provides an important landscape and habitat feature within a predominantly arable setting.

To the west, the River Ivel and its associated mills and wildlife provides an attractive corridor, as well as a new link west towards Shuttleworth.

Get out, get fit - have fun!



## Countryside Code

Respect other people:

- ✓ Consider the local community, landowners and other people enjoying the outdoors
- ✓ Leave gates and property as you find them and follow paths unless wider access is available

Protect the natural environment:

- ✓ Leave no trace of your visit and take your litter home
- ✓ Keep dogs under effective control

Enjoy the outdoors:

- ✓ Plan ahead and be prepared
- ✓ Follow advice and local signs

## Please respect all users of the Green Wheel

Walkers & Joggers:

- ✓ Allow cyclists to pass.
- ✓ If you have a dog, please keep it away from other users and always clean up after it.

Cyclists:

- ✓ Use your bell or say 'excuse me' when approaching others.
- ✓ Keep your speed down, pass other users wide and slowly; and be prepared to stop if needed.
- ✓ Ride in single file when near other users.







We expect this level crossing to be replaced by a bridge in a few years' time. In the meantime, please follow the instructions on the signs to ensure a safe crossing.

Currently there is no route for cycling north from Mill Lane to the Dan Albane car park. We hope to provide an off-road route in the coming years, but in the meantime please take great care when using Shortmead Street.

While the King's Reach estate is being constructed, please follow any signposted diversions.

The surface of this track is due to be improved in the next year.

We expect this level crossing to be replaced by a bridge in a few years' time. In the meantime, please follow the instructions on the signs to ensure a safe crossing.



### Key to map

- Green Wheel Route Cycling and walking
- Green Wheel Route Walking only
- Green Wheel links Cycling and walking
- Green Wheel links Walking only
- Promoted cycle route
- Traffic-free cycle path
- Bridleway
- Footpath
- Take care at these junctions
- National Cycle Network route number
- One way
- Railway with station
- Crossing
- Level crossing
- Hospital
- Accessible green space
- Formal green space
- Woodland

