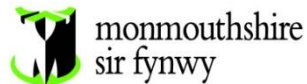


Public Document Pack



Neuadd y Sir
Y Rhadyr
Brynbuga
NP15 1GA

Date Not Specified

Hysbysiad o gyfarfod:

Fforwm Mynediad Lleol

**Dydd Mawrth, 9fed Medi, 2025 at 2.00 pm,
Shire Hall - Monmouth**

AGENDA

Eitem No	Eitem	Tudalennau
1.	Ymddiheuriadau am Absenoldeb/Cyflwyniadau	
2.	Datganiadau o Fuddiant	
3.	Cadarnhau a llofnodi cofnodion cyfarfod Fforwm Mynediad Lleol Sir Fynwy a gynhaliwyd ar 5 Mai 2025.	
4.	Camau gweithredu yn deillio o'r cyfarfod blaenorol a heb fod ar yr agenda:	
5.	Diweddariad Teithio Llesol (Rob Stanyer, Swyddog Prosiect Teithio Llesol)	1 - 12
6.	Diweddariad prosiect Traciau a Llwybrau Dolen i'r cofnodion: https://www.wyevalley-nl.org.uk/caring-for-wye-valley-aonb/our-projects/lowerwyetracksandtrails/ (Diweddariad is-grŵp)	
7.	Diweddariad Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru (Sarah Tindal, Uwch Swyddog Pobl a Lleoedd, De Ddwyrain Cymru / Bob Campbell, Uwch Swyddog Rheoli Tir, De Ddwyrain Cymru)	
8.	Cwestiynau cyfraniadau ysgrifenedig y Fforwm Mynediad Lleol.	13 - 14
9.	Diweddariad ar y Gwasanaeth Mynediad Cefn Gwlad	15 - 22

10.	Dyddiad a lleoliad y cyfarfod nesaf	
-----	-------------------------------------	--

Paul Matthews
Prif Weithredwr

CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

MAE CYFANSODDIAD Y PWYLLGOR FEL SY'N DILYN:

Anne Underwood
Irene Brooke
Anthea Fairey
Shan Lewis
Phil Mundell
Phillip Allsopp
Bethany Handley
Barbara Heys
Ian Mawdsley
Terence Mead
Sallie Roderick
Jack Thurston
Kelvin Varney
Huw Watkins
Rhys Wynne-Jones
John Askew
County Councillors: Sara Burch
:

Gwybodaeth Gyhoeddus

Mynediad i gopiâu papur o agendâu ac adroddiadau

Gellir darparu copi o'r agenda hwn ac adroddiadau perthnasol i aelodau'r cyhoedd sy'n mynychu cyfarfod drwy ofyn am gopi gan Gwasanaethau Democrataidd ar 01633 644219. Dylid nodi fod yn rhaid i ni dderbyn 24 awr o hysbysiad cyn y cyfarfod er mwyn darparu copi caled o'r agenda hwn i chi.

Edrych ar y cyfarfod ar-lein

Gellir gweld y cyfarfod ar-lein yn fyw neu'n dilyn y cyfarfod drwy fynd i www.monmouthshire.gov.uk neu drwy ymweld â'n tudalen Youtube drwy chwilio am MonmouthshireCC. Drwy fynd i mewn i'r ystafell gyfarfod, fel aelod o'r cyhoedd neu i gymryd rhan yn y cyfarfod, rydych yn caniatáu i gael eich ffilmio ac i ddefnydd posibl y delweddau a'r recordiadau sain hynny gan y Cyngor.

Y Gymraeg

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu cyfraniadau gan aelodau'r cyhoedd trwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg. Gofynnwn yn barchus i chi roi rhybudd digonol i ni er mwyn darparu ar gyfer eich anghenion.

Nodau a Gwerthoedd Cyngor Sir Fynwy

Ein Pwrpas

- i ddod yn sir ddi-garbon, gan gefnogi lles, iechyd ac urddas i bawb ar bob cam o'u bywydau.

Amcanion rydym yn gweithio tuag atynt

- Lle teg i fyw lle mae effeithiau anghydraddoldeb a thlodi wedi'u lleihau;
- Lle gwyrdd i fyw a gweithio gyda llai o allyriadau carbon a gwneud cyfraniad cadarnhaol at fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng yn yr hinsawdd a natur;
- Lle ffyniannus ac uchelgeisiol, lle mae canol trefi bywiog a lle gall busnesau dyfu a datblygu;
- Lle diogel i fyw lle mae gan bobl gartref maen nhw'n teimlo'n ddiogel ynddo;
- Lle cysylltiedig lle mae pobl yn teimlo'n rhan o gymuned ac yn cael eu gwerthfawrogi;
- Lle dysgu lle mae pawb yn cael cyfle i gyrraedd eu potensial.

Ein Gwerthoedd

Bod yn agored. Rydym yn agored ac yn onest. Mae pobl yn cael cyfle i gymryd rhan mewn penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio arnynt, dweud beth sy'n bwysig iddynt a gwneud pethau drostynt eu hunain/eu cymunedau. Os na allwn wneud rhywbeth i helpu, byddwn yn dweud hynny; os bydd yn cymryd peth amser i gael yr ateb, byddwn yn esbonio pam; os na allwn ateb yn syth, byddwn yn ceisio eich cysylltu gyda'r bobl a all helpu - mae adeiladu ymddiriedaeth ac ymgysylltu yn sylfaen allweddol.

Tegwch. Darparwn gyfleoedd teg, i helpu pobl a chymunedau i ffynnu. Os nad yw rhywbeth yn ymddangos yn deg, byddwn yn gwrandao ac yn esbonio pam. Byddwn bob amser yn ceisio trin pawb yn deg ac yn gyson. Ni allwn wneud pawb yn hapus bob amser, ond byddwn yn ymrwymo i wrando ac esbonio pam y gwnaethom weithredu fel y gwnaethom.

Hyblygrwydd. Byddwn yn parhau i newid a bod yn hyblyg i alluogi cyflwyno'r gwasanaethau mwyaf effeithlon ac effeithiol. Mae hyn yn golygu ymrwymiad gwirioneddol i weithio gyda phawb i groesawu ffyrdd newydd o weithio.

Gwaith Tîm. Byddwn yn gweithio gyda chi a'n partneriaid i gefnogi ac ysbrydoli pawb i gymryd rhan fel y gallwn gyflawni pethau gwych gyda'n gilydd. Nid ydym yn gweld ein hunain fel 'trefnwyr' neu ddatrysyr problemau, ond gwnawn y gorau o syniadau, asedau ac adnoddau sydd ar gael i wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn gwneud y pethau sy'n cael yr effaith mwyaf cadarnhaol ar ein pobl a lleoedd.

Caredigrwydd – Byddwn yn dangos caredigrwydd i bawb yr ydym yn gweithio gyda nhw, gan roi pwysigrwydd perthnasoedd a'r cysylltiadau sydd gennym â'n gilydd wrth wraidd pob rhyngweithio.

Cylch Gorchwyl

Fforwm Mynediad Lleol Sir Fynwy yw'r Fforwm Mynediad Lleol statudol ar gyfer Sir Fynwy (ac eithrio y rhan o'r sir sy'n eistedd ym Mharc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog), yn unol â'r hyn sy'n ofynnol o dan y Ddeddf Cefn Gwlad a Hawliau Tramwy 2000.

Swyddogaeth y Fforwm yw cynghori'r awdurdod lleol, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru ac eraill ar y gwelliannau i fynediad y cyhoedd i dir yn yr ardal at ddibenion hamdden yn yr awyr agored a mwynhad o'r ardal, a chynghori a chynorthwyo o ran rhoi'r Cynllun Gwella Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus ar waith.

Aelodaeth

Caiff aelodau'r Fforwm eu penodi gan yr Awdurdod Penodi (Cyngor Sir Fynwy) yn unol â'r rheoliadau perthnasol. Mae aelodaeth y fforwm ar hyn o bryd fel a ganlyn:

(cynrychiolydd yr "Awdurdod Penodi")

Sylwedyddion:

Cynrychiolwyr o Gyngor Sir Fynwy a Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru

Anne Underwood

Irene Brooke

Anthea Fairey

Shan Lewis

Phil Mundell

Phillip Allsopp

Bethany Handley

Barbara Heys

Ian Mawdsley

Terence Mead

Sallie Roderick

Jack Thurston

Kelvin Varney

Huw Watkins

Rhys Wynne-Jones

John Askew

County Councillors: Sara Burch (the "Appointing Authority" representative)

Observers;

Representatives from Monmouthshire County Council and Natural Resources Wales



Kingswood Gate Active Travel Scheme

What is Active Travel?

Page 2

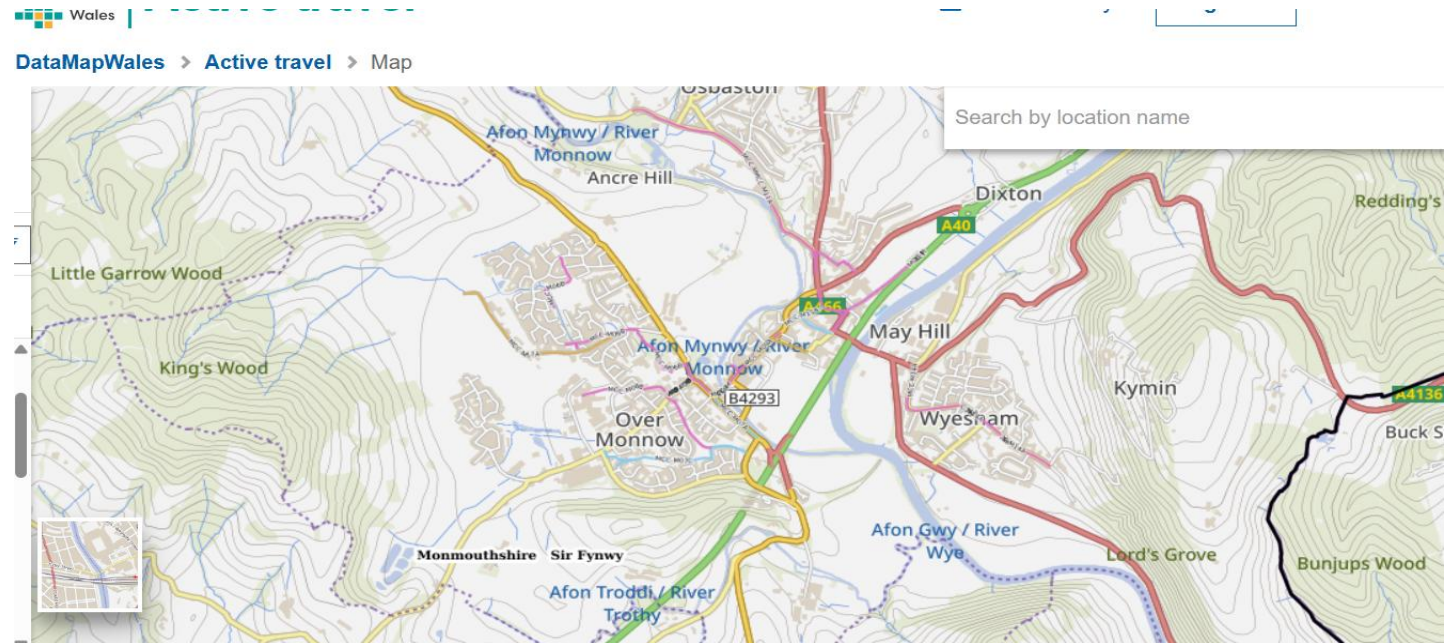
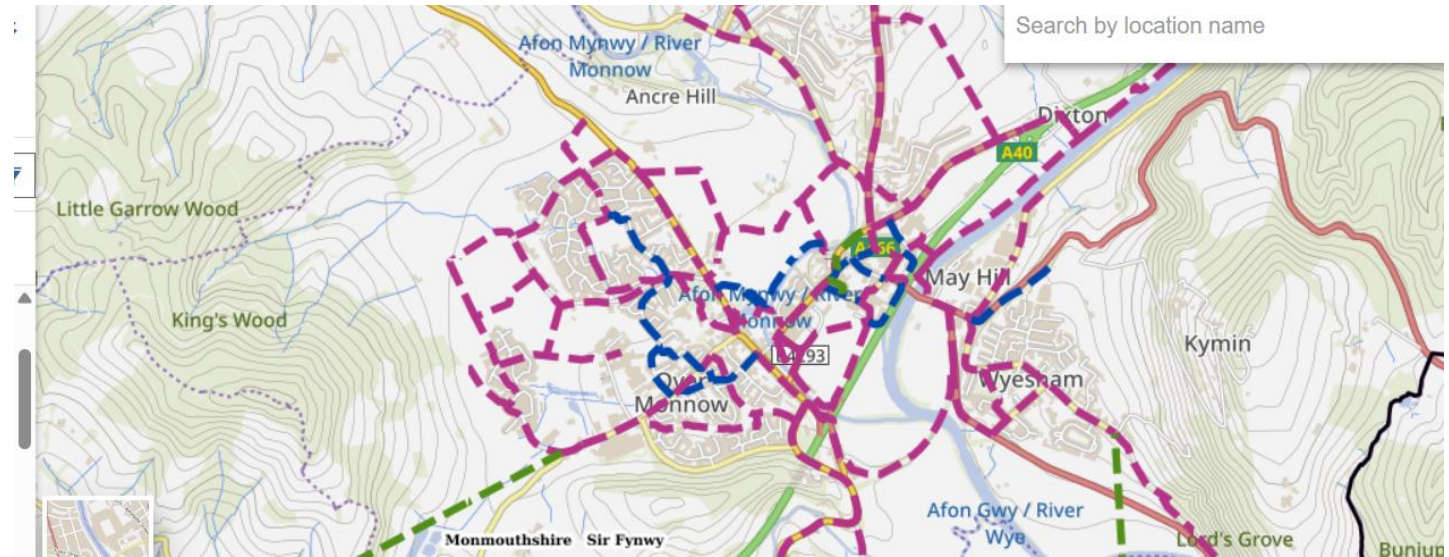
Active travel can be defined as:

- *Everyday purposeful journeys made by walking, cycling or wheeling, such as travel to school or work, rather than purely for leisure.*
- **The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013** - requires local authorities in Wales to continuously improve and plan for active travel routes and facilities, ensuring new road schemes consider pedestrians and cyclists, and promotes active travel journeys.
- Focus is on routes up to 3 miles to get to key destinations such as schools, key employment sites and town centres

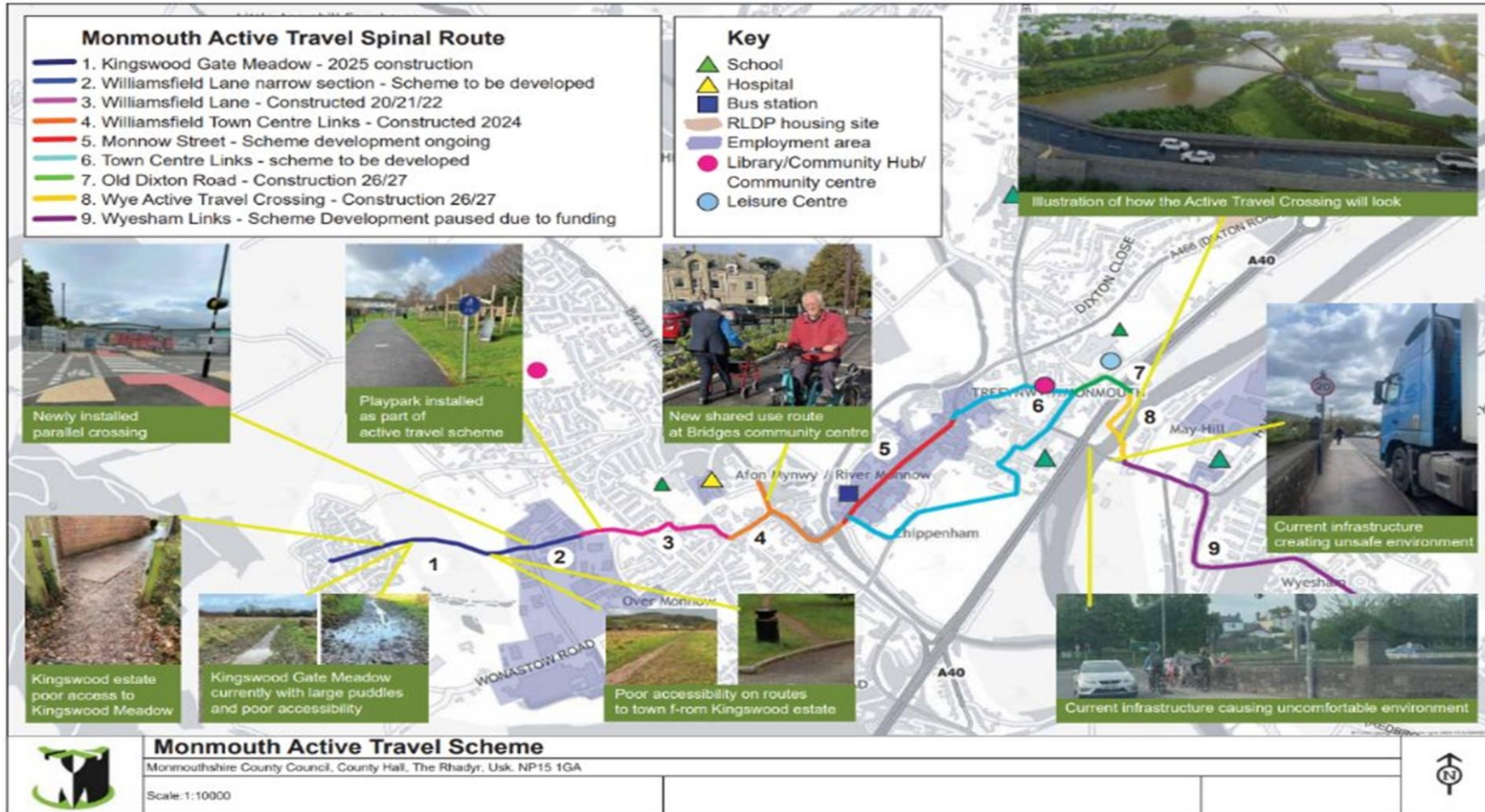


Active Travel Network Map

- Last updated in 2020
- In the process of being up dated this year



Active Travel Routes in Monmouth



The Kingswood Gate scheme

Page 5

- Kingswood Gate Housing estate was built by David Wilson Homes in 2015, comprising 300 residential properties
- The estate lies separated from the main town of Monmouth
- Walking and cycling options are limited and either don't follow desire lines or do not meet the needs of the users.





Image of current path being used



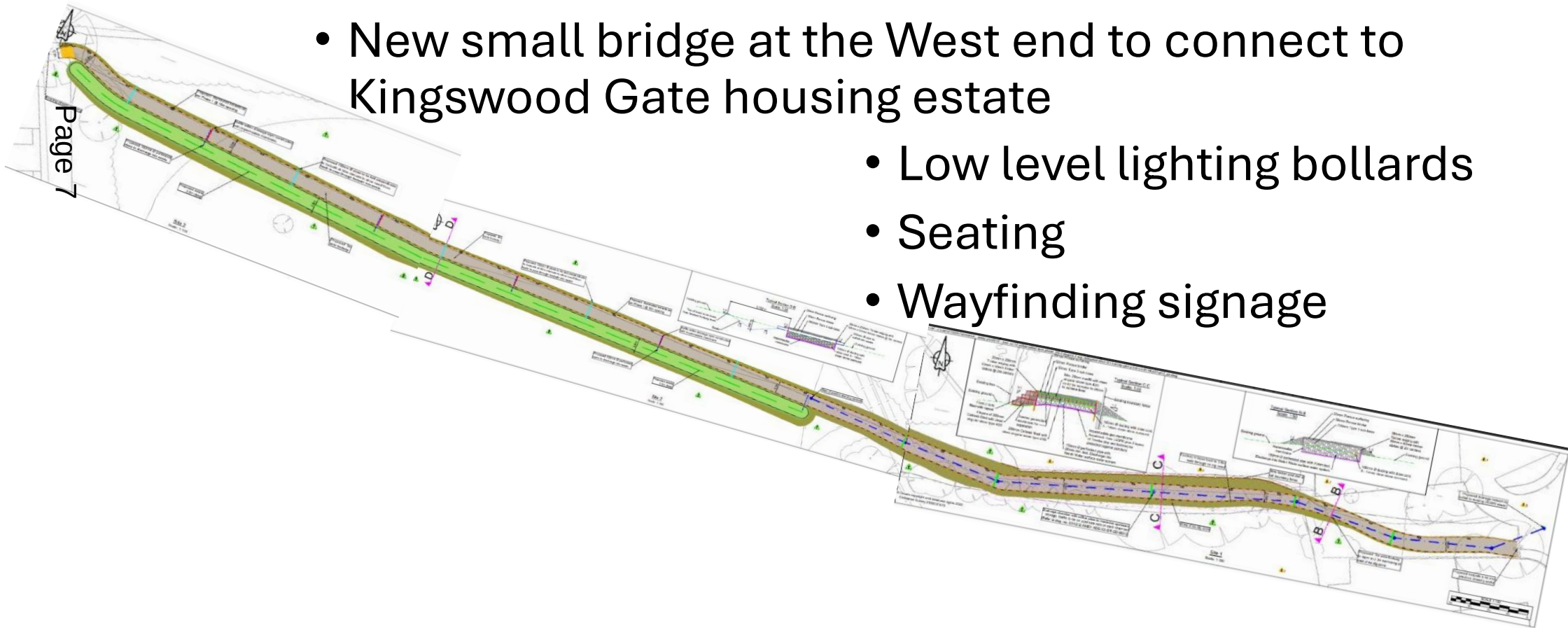
AI image showing what the path could look like when finished

The Kingswood Gate scheme

- A 3 metre walking, wheeling and cycling path across the meadow
- Allows safe, direct travel to and from the centre of Monmouth

Design features

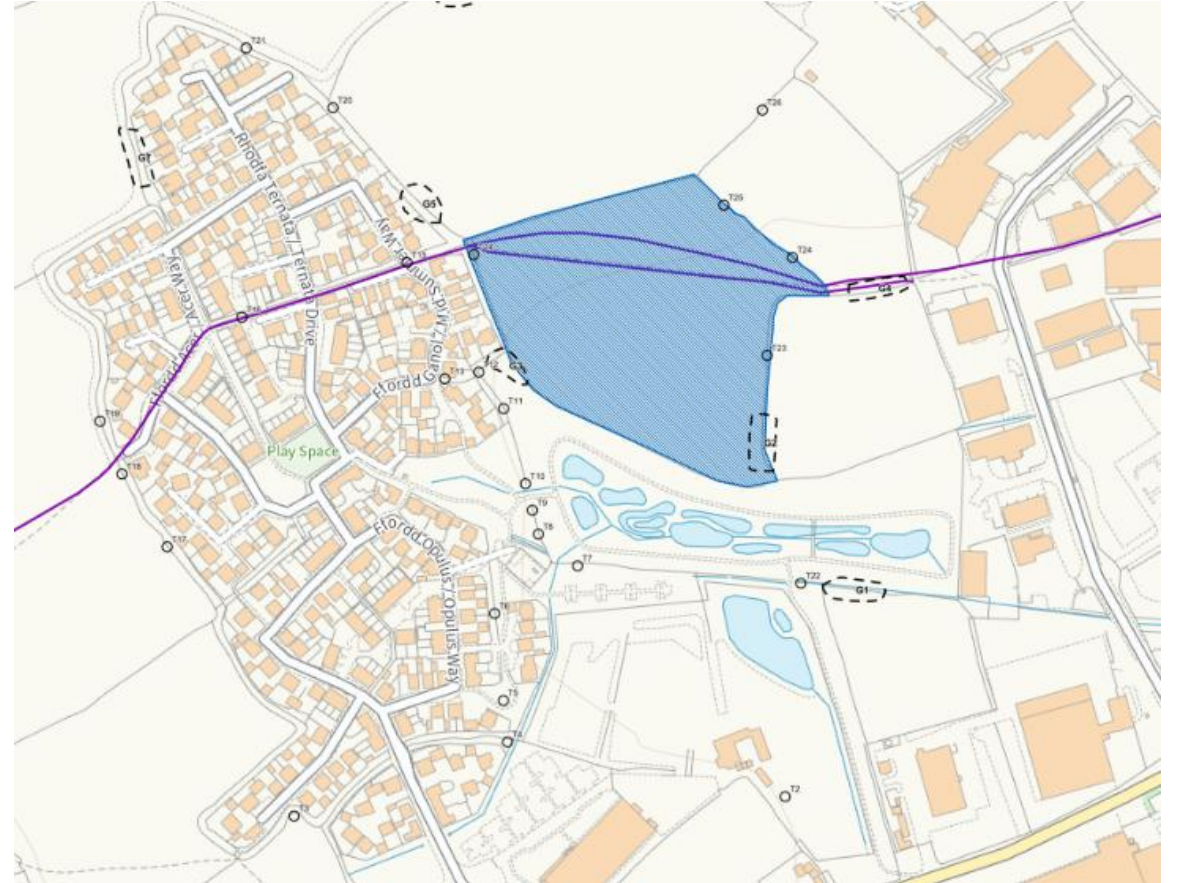
- 3 metre wide path for walking, wheeling and cycling
- Permeable surface to allow for improved drainage
- New small bridge at the West end to connect to Kingswood Gate housing estate
 - Low level lighting bollards
 - Seating
 - Wayfinding signage



Challenges of the site

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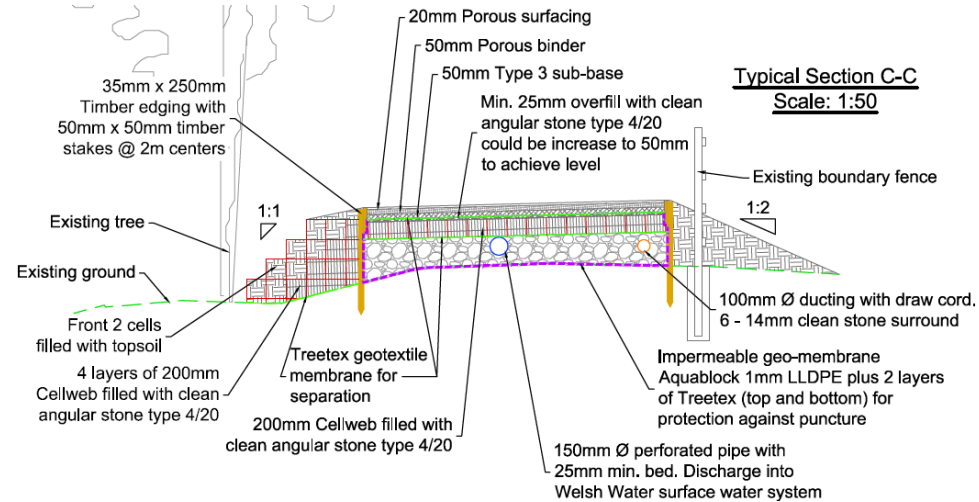
- A Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) is a locally designated area with high biodiversity value due to its habitats and species, or geological interest, which is recognized and protected within the local planning system even though it lacks statutory legal protection.
- Tree Protection orders (TPO)
- Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs) – natural approach to managing surface water to control flooding
- Habitat Investigations – badger sets
- Public Rights of Way across the land – deletion of old route and creation of new route



Funding

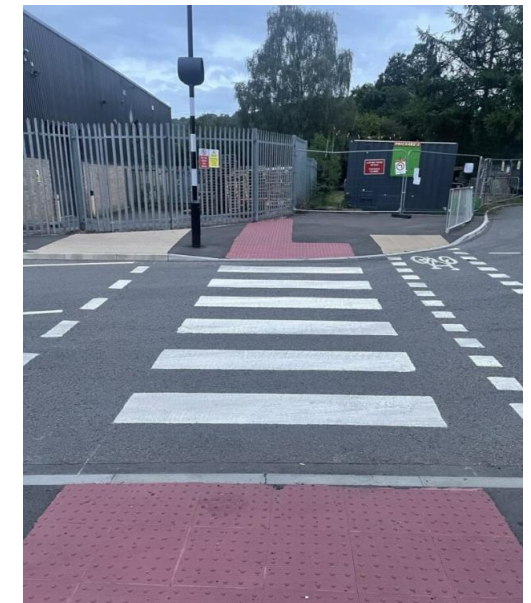
- Development and design costs
 - Section 106 contributions from the developer
 - Active Travel Fund from Welsh Government (ATF) – achieved via a bidding process each year
- Construction costs
 - Safe Routes in the Community Fund (SRiC) – achieved via a bidding process and is focussed on connections with local schools

Construction



Page 10

- Started 14th July 2025 and due to finish in October 2025
- “No Dig” style construction
- Bridge section has been constructed using ground screws to protect nearby tree roots
- Will connect to the new pedestrian crossing at the Wonastow Industrial Estate



Data collection

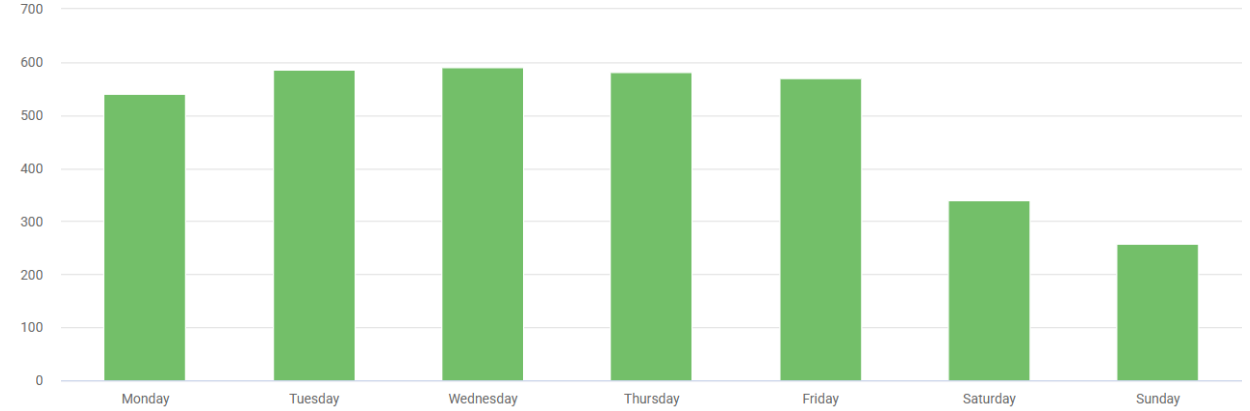
- Sensors in the WFL path
- Vivacity Cameras on Wonastow road
- Tag master deployable temporary sensor

Page 11



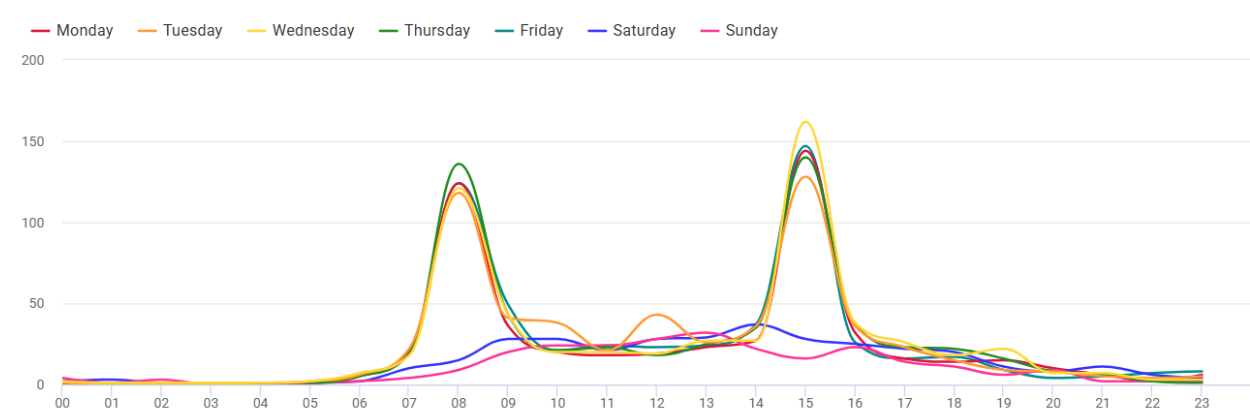
Typical week

Average counts by day of the week



Typical Day

Average hourly counts by day of the week





Thank you

activetravel@monmouthshire.gov.uk



Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru Natural Resources Wales

Monmouth LAF meeting notes

09/09/24

NRW Update:

1. Land Management update:

The Team have been busy unfortunately dealing with the spate of recent wildfires across the area especially over the Bank Holiday WE, however we have been trying to continue with our day to day management works on the Welsh Government Woodland Estate (WGWE)

Here are some key updates on recent and planned works across the area:

- The heathland grazing projects have had another year of success and the Cattle are being taken off Cleddon bog and Beacon hill heathland at the beginning of September, having grazed both sites all summer.
- We are hoping to undertake some horse logging within an area of ancient woodland in Wentwood forest.
- Gwent Wildlife Trust (GWT) are working at Minnets field in Slade woodland, replacing the fences and carrying out some management of the field, including bracken and bramble removal from the priority site.
- Wye Valley National Landscapes are going to run a volunteer day at Beacon hill in October, helping tackle the birch within the heathland
- Wentwood steering group meeting planned for the 24th September and we are keen to engage with the wider landowner stakeholders and the National Landscape to look at the future of the site in respect to recreation and access. We hope to approach the LAF for some formal advice shortly once the stakeholder group has met.
- OGB1 tree works is a large part of our winter work program as well as larger scale ash tree works.
- We will be carrying out internal/external flailing along forest and public roads.
- Day to Day forest management such as litter/flytipping/grass cutting/culvert maintenance etc.

For any queries please use the Land Management Team contact email:

forestsandnaturesoutheast@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

NOTE: For urgent or out of hours incidents / reports use the Incident Control Centre (ICC) :

0300 065 3000 (24/7) [Natural Resources Wales / Report an incident](#)

Reporting off-road vehicles: contact@gwent.pnn.police.uk Call 101 @gwentpolice

2. Forest Operations update:

Current program is focused on managing tree diseases, Larch & Ash die back, most operations will start in September /October due to bird nesting and other protection restrictions. Site to be works are as follows:

- **Beacon Hill 72009:** Thinning
- **Whitestone 73003:** Thinning
- **Barbados 73020:** Thinning with some Larch removal
- **Llandog Bargins Wood 73526:** Clearfell
- **Chepstow Park 74002:** North West Thinning
- **Pant y Warren 74004:** Thinning
- **Fedw Wood 74007 & 74233:** Thinning and some minor Larch removal
- **Kemmys Inferior 77004:** Thinning
- **Wentwood 77040:** Horse Logging: Dispatch only

There is some general information on or Forest Operations the NRW website here:

[Upcoming forestry and land management work, Northern and Southern Wye woodlands, Monmouthshire - Natural Resources Wales Citizen Space - Citizen Space \(cyfoethnaturiol.cymru\)](#)

To contract the Forest Operations team direct please use:

SEForest.operations@naturalresources.wales

Action points from meetings:

Serial & Type -Action -Decision -Note -Point	Owner	Subject:	Completed (if required)

Bob Campbell

[Uwch Swyddog Rheoli Tir](#) / Senior Officer, Land Management

[Gweithrediadau De Ddwyrain Cymru](#) / South East Wales Operations

[Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru](#) / Natural Resources Wales



MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

9th September 2025

Countryside Access Service Update by Countryside Access Manager

Budget/staff changes

- Julie Bloomfield site assistant has retired. Field Wardens are covering inspections of sites at present.
- Morag Sinton has taken a leave of absence for one year starting from 1st September. The Volunteer Co-ordinator role is currently being advertised.
- A new Community Links Officer role is being advertised and interviews will take place on 12th September. This role is paid from Access Improvement Grant and will work with Tom Arnold to facilitate doorstep opportunities, including improving and promoting access for all.
- Jack Capon has started as Assistant Public Rights of Way Officer, 2 days a week. This role is shared with Gavin Pugh (3 days).
- Colette Bosley has taken over from Matthew Lewis as Countryside, Destination and Environment Manager
- The Council is restructuring and Countryside Access is moving to a new Directorate called Place, Communities and Well-being. Craig O'Connor has been appointed Chief Operating Officer. Further information will be provided at November's meeting when the changes have been fully implemented.

Legislative changes

[Sustainable Farming Scheme \(SFS\) 2026: scheme description](#)

The Sustainable Farming Scheme will begin on 1 January 2026 with the application form for the Universal layer of the scheme being available on the Single Application Form (SAF) via Rural Payments Wales (RPW) Online from March through to 15 May each year. Click the heading to read the final description of the Sustainable Farming Scheme in full.

Written Statement: Sustainable Farming Scheme (SFS) – Final Scheme description

PRoW and public access have successfully been included within the regulatory baseline and are offered as an optional action.

A meeting is arranged between Welsh Government Designated Landscapes and Local Authorities countryside departments. It will be an opportunity for us to share practical ideas and suggestions specifically on how we ensure the regulatory baseline is adhered to and what involvement/information Local Authorities will need.

Information on the regulatory baseline and the optional action are included below.

Regulatory Baseline

- in accordance with the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network you should adhere to the legal responsibilities on landowners to ensure the network is open, accessible, and safe for public use.
- you must manage Open Access land appropriately as set out in the Countryside Rights of Way Act, 2000.

Optional Action - Improved public access to the countryside

Enable people to access the countryside and enjoy the health and wellbeing benefits of exploring nature and our farmed environment

Aims

This theme is designed to improve the accessibility of the farmed environment, encourage responsible recreation and improve the visitor experience. This can strengthen the link between the consumer and how their food is produced.

Benefits

This is an opportunity to improve signage or access furniture on farms. This means there are fewer barriers to people enjoying the outdoors safely. It also provides an opportunity to improve the visitor experience and reinforce messages about safe and responsible use of the countryside. This benefits visitors, farmers and livestock.

Support

As part of this Optional Action, WG will fund one-off capital items with a focus on improving accessibility (with an emphasis on least restrictive access) and / or improving the visitor experience. This could involve funding to:

- remove stiles where security of livestock is not needed
- replace stiles with gates
- install seats / benches at viewpoints
- install information boards to highlight:

- elements of the Countryside Code such as reminders to keep dogs on lead, no littering, or the importance of closing gates
- educational, cultural or landscape points of interest

Where possible we will promote existing Local Authority processes to support these activities.

This action is not designed to fund compliance with access legislation relating to Public Rights of Way (PRoW) or the Countryside Rights of Way (CROW) Act which must be met as part of the SFS Regulatory Baseline.

Ongoing development

Future development of this Optional Action could include support to improve the quality and / or quantity of rights of way both on an individual holding and on a collaborative basis. See Collaborative theme Collaborative Landscape Scale Activity.

[Introduction of the Environment \(Principles, Governance and Biodiversity Targets\) \(Wales\) Bill \(2 June 2025\) | GOV.WALES](#)

New Law - The Environmental Principles, Governance and Biodiversity Targets are finally out. This provides a new legal framework of accountability and enforcement for environmental laws in Wales.

There are four environmental principles – precaution, prevention, rectification at source and polluter pays – will be embedded in Welsh law, along with a duty on Welsh ministers and Natural Resources Wales to build these into their policy making.

A new environmental watchdog will be established – the Office of Environmental Governance Wales (OEGW) – to hold Welsh Ministers and public authorities to account on their compliance with environmental law, including through enforcement in the High Court if necessary. The OEGW will also provide advice to Welsh Ministers and monitor the application and effectiveness of environmental law across Wales.

The independence of the OEGW is likely to be a hot topic over the coming months, as Welsh Ministers want to appoint the body's Chair and other board members, with little input from the Senedd. At present, there is no provision in the bill to safeguard the body's independence or financial security, as there is in English and Scottish legislation.

A framework to set biodiversity targets is included in the bill, although there is no headline target to drive immediate action on nature recovery, and the first targets are

not due until three years after the bill has passed.

Countryside Sites

Annual tree inspections have been carried out at our 9 sites. Assessments are made regarding the health and safety of the trees on our managed sites. Disease and the dry weather have had an impact. Issues such as Ash dieback, or any limb damage as a result of high winds etc. are recorded. Any trees which under the QTRA assessment are deemed a danger to the public are logged and work programmed.

Two Green flag awards have been received for Castle Meadows and Rogiet Country Park

An application has been made to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) for TWIG grant. This project would involve:

- establishing a Friends of Group at Goytre Hall Woods,
- accessibility and signage improvements,
- removing the ash and establishing an open glade which volunteers could plant with native species and other woodland management improvements.
- Establishing leaky dams
- Improvements to outdoor learning area
- Green Skills Training, such as providing outdoor curriculum training
- Communications
- Dog campaign
- Updating Goytre Hall Wood Management Plan

Bridges

During the month of August contractors have been busy. In total 7 bridges have now been removed and replaced with steel beamed bridges which we hope will increase the longevity of the bridges. These 7 bridges have been subject to closure notices these notices can now be removed and the paths re-opened. The photographs show the type of bridges we have installed.

The 7 bridges have been installed at:

- Trevyr and Roan Oak in the Grosmont area
- Llansoy
- Llangunnog
- Wallstone Farm adjacent to the WCP (neighbouring St Pierre Golf Club)

- The Bont
- Woolpitch Wood

We are hoping to get a further 5+ bridges installed in the next couple of weeks. Landowner permissions have been granted, and the contractor has scheduled dates for installation



4 large bridges at Crossway, New House, Tal y Coed and Sunnybank have been surveyed to gather relevant information for their replacements and we are now awaiting results from the geomorphological studies.

Bridges have been removed at:

- Cwmcarvan
- Trefaldu Fishing ponds
- Glen Trothy

- Sunnybank and Talycoed
- Pill Farm (near the WCP close to the Newport border)

All these bridges were in a very poor condition and the Council could be liable if members of the public tried using them. 4 other bridges are to be removed in September.

Vegetation Clearance

Ongoing clearance work has been carried out by Volunteers, Wardens and Contractors across the network. Clearance work has been carried out on local routes, promoted routes eg Wye Valley Walk and National Trails such as ODNT and WCP.



Example of vegetation clearance on Offa's Dyke Path National Trail.

The Wales Coast Path app: Record, Save and Track your walks

Ever wondered whether you are literally on the right path? Want to save your walks and check your progress?

[Read more about The Wales Coast Path app](#)- designed to keep you on the path by showing where you are on a map, record walks you've done in the past into the app and keep track of your overall progress. It's great way to stay motivated and see where else you need to tick off!



Want a more simpler way of tracking your progress? Try the [Wales Coast Path Passports](#), one for each of the 8 regions of the path where you can tick off and date each completed section - either electronically or printed off.

Are you a business along the coast path?

If so, there is a business newsletter with useful information on how you can make the most of the path for your business. You'll receive info on the available resources to help you *and* your customers.

Click Subscribe below and answer Yes to the question "Are you a business owner?" to receive NRW's business updates. [Subscribe to business newsletter](#)



Events See what's happening on the path with NRW's [online events calendar](#).

Have you got an event on or near the Wales Coast Path? Submit a [Suggest an Event form](#) to NRW and they will promote it on the website (subject to approval). You can also approach Monmouthshire's Countryside access or Destination Management Team to promote an activity on Visit Monmouthshire.

Useful information

[Read more about the Countryside Code](#)

Be adventure SMART [Read how to be more prepared before heading out onto the path](#)

Public Rights of Way Working Map [Public Rights of Way - Public Rights of Way Map](#)

[Countryside Access Improvement Plan](#)

[Countryside Access Policy, Protocol and Operational Management Guide](#)

[Monmouthshire PROW Biodiversity Action Plan](#)

[Visit Monmouthshire](#) details the walks, rides and events that are available, along with accommodation and other attractions

[Public Consultations including Public Path Orders](#)

To report a problem use our interactive working map link above. Alternatively you can email countryside@monmouthshire.gov.uk or write to



Countryside Access, Monmouthshire County Council, County Hall. The Rhyadr, Usk
NP161GA

**Urgent issues such as a broken bridge can be reported on 01633
644850**