National Cycle Network Route 403 Surface Repairs

1. Background

National Cycle Network Route 403 is a 42-mile route that links Melksham, Chippenham, Calne and Marlborough. It passes through Calne Without in two sections:

- To the west of Calne, where the route follows the old Chippenham to Calne railway line.
- To the east of Calne, where the route follows Low Lane, goes through the Hills landfill site, and, from there along country lanes to Cherhill and on to Yatesbury and Avebury.

The Council is part of a Working Group comprising representatives from other groups including Cherhill Parish Council, Calne Town Council, Bremhill Parish Council, Chippenham Town Council, Wiltshire Council, Cycle Chippenham, Sustainable Calne and Sustrans. Over the past three years, the Group has undertaken improvements to signage, got part of the route to the east of Yatesbury diverted onto a better path, undertaken improvements to surfacing, got overgrowth cut back and removed barriers along the route.

2. Proposal

Parts of the route through the Hills site are in poor condition – narrow, heavily rutted and difficult for cyclists.

It is proposed that Calne Without Parish Council undertakes a trial project, improving the worst section (of approx. 40m) near the sand conveyor:



The material required are estimated at:

- 5 bulk bags of Type 1 graded granular material (as base course).
- 2 bulk bags of Limestone Dust granular material (as surface dressing).

The materials would be delivered through the Hills site to a delivery point adjacent to the proposed location. Hills have committed to facilitating this delivery.

The material would then be laid by volunteers working under the direction of the Parish Council. Wiltshire Council's Rights of Way Team have committed to supporting with a mechanical compactor (wacker plate).

3. Estimated Cost

The estimated cost would be:

Material	Cost (excl. VAT)	Supplier & Comments
5 x 800kg bulk bags of Type 1 Granulated Material	£295.00	Bradfords (price may vary)
2 x 800kg bulk bags of Limestone (or Granite) Dust	£118.00	Bradfords (price may vary)
Delivery	Incl.	
Total	£413.00	

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council authorises a budget of £450 for surface repairs to the Route 403 Calne to Avebury Cycle Track section through the Hills Waste Site.

Cllrs John Barnes and Doug Price Route 403 Working Group