

Reading Rights of Way consultation

Community organisation response from CADRA – September 2021

The Rights of Way in the Reading Council area include significant routes along the Thames and Kennet waterways, and through the Kennet Meadows as well as some shorter rights of way which have historical interest as leftovers from pre 19th and 20th century urban redevelopment.

In a large urban area, these provide valuable green lungs, health benefits and leisure options as well as practical routes to work or further transport options such as rail or bus.

The use and improvement of these rights of ways would be encouraged, and appropriate and careful provision made for shared usage by walkers and cyclists as well as protection from illegal use by motorcycles and vehicles. Increased consideration to maintenance and litter removal should be given, and signage to take litter home.

Added provision for accessibility by those with mobility restrictions would be welcomed.

More information on the network and public maps for display in busy locations such as the Thames Promenade would be desirable. Regarding Historic Rights of Way, the Ramblers Association, with the assistance of thousands of volunteers, have produced a nationwide map of potential rights of way under the banner of “Don’t Lose your Way”.

In the Reading area there are 19 miles of such paths which could be cross referenced to the existing recorded routes in the Reading area.