

NORTH WEST CHILTERNES COMMUNITY BOARD AREA - CYCLING AND WALKING ASPIRATIONS

Date: November 2022

1.Introduction:

This draft document has been compiled by the North West Chilterns Community Board's Transport and Road Issues Action Group in order to outline the walking and cycling aspirations and issues for the NWC area. It is specifically intended for consideration in the development of Buckinghamshire Council's Local Walking and Cycling Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).

Th aspirations and issues described in this document have been informed by local knowledge from within the Action Group, BC Local Members and also by information contained in existing or aspirational plans/proposals such as the adopted Wycombe Local Plan, the adopted Longwick Transport Vision, the draft A4010 Strategy, the draft Hughenden Greenway Project.

New walking and cycling infrastructure are described, along with specific barriers that could prevent walking, cycling and accessibility for people with disabilities. These barriers include the surface condition of roads and footways.

It is intended to update this document after consultation with the NWC Community Board in December 2022 and as and when new aspirations or issues arise.

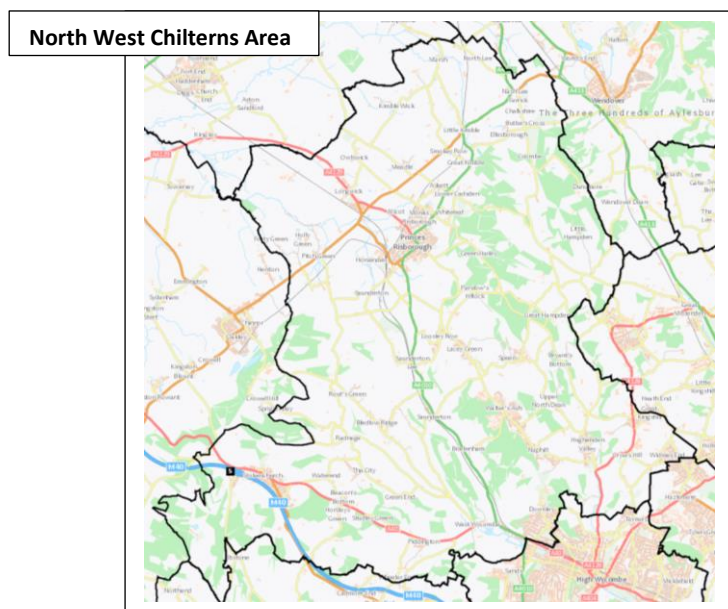
2. The North West Chilterns Area:

The North West Chilterns area sits largely within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). It is predominantly rural with numerous small villages and hamlets, but also larger settlements such as Downley, Princes Risborough and Stokenchurch. There are local facilities, places of interest and large swathes of Chilterns countryside.

The A4010 strategic route and the Chiltern Railway line runs north-south through the area and there are very many country lanes and public rights of way which criss-cross the area linking villages and towns.

Given the geographical context of the North West Chilterns area as described above, the need to maximise opportunities for walking and cycling and accessibility for all, is obvious.

The map below shows the North West Chilterns Area:



3. National and Local Policy:

National walking and cycling policies are set out in the Government's documents *Gear Change: A bold vision for cycling and walking* and *Local Transport Note LTN 1/20: Cycle Infrastructure Design*.

One example of how national policy can be met is by delivery of an Active Travel Route along or parallel with the route of the A4010. Currently the A4010 has sporadic lengths of cycle/footway that are not joined up and therefore the opportunity for Active Travel is limited. This document proposes joining up these sporadic lengths to provide a continuous Active Travel Route, maximising the opportunities for active travel to local employment, railway stations, local services and attractions.

Local policy is currently set out in Buckinghamshire Council's *Local Transport Plan 4* (due to be replaced by Local Transport Plan 5). Current Local Transport Plan Policies 12 and 13 are relevant and the suggestions and proposals in this document will help the successful delivery of these policies:

Policy 12 – Walking - *Walking should be the best option for more of our short journeys. We will look to develop the walking network and encourage walking, to help ensure it becomes one of the most convenient ways to make short journey.*

Policy 13 – Encouraging cycling - *We will look to develop the cycling network through a combination of new infrastructure, maintenance and promotion. We will support initiatives to help cycling become one of the most convenient and well used forms of transport for short journeys.*

4. New walking and cycling infrastructure:

The following maps on pages 4 to 10 have been produced to identify the following:

- Locally derived aspirations for new walking and cycling infrastructure.
- Proposed or aspirational walking and cycling infrastructure contained in existing documents.
- Barriers that could prevent walking, cycling and accessibility.

Map 1:

This map shows the walking and cycling improvements in Princes Risborough arising from the expansion of the town.

The improvements are either included in the adopted Wycombe Local Plan, the adopted Longwick Transport Vision or have been identified by the Community Board's Action Group and BC Local Members.

The map also shows barriers to walking, cycling and accessibility that need addressing.

Map 2:

This map shows the proposed A4010 Active Travel Route from Stoke Mandeville to High Wycombe, which is included in the locally inspired draft A4010 Transport Strategy, dated March 2021, supported by the Community Board.

The intention is to join up the sporadic lengths of existing cycle/footway to create a continuous route.

This will result in a step change in local accessibility to local employment, railway stations, local services, attractions and the Chilterns countryside.

Map 3:

This map shows locations along the A4010 where many people cross the road where the existing crossing facilities are either non-existent or limited in size.

The intention is to enhance safety at these locations by providing a formal crossing point. These connections have been identified by the local Parish Council's and also the Community Board's Action Group.

Map 4:

This map shows the Hughenden Greenway, which is a BC project currently being developed.

The map shows local connections to the Greenway from Naphill and Cryers Hill to improve accessibility to adjacent settlements. These connections have been identified by the Community Board's Action Group.

Map 5:

This map shows the main walking and cycling needs in Longwick identified in the adopted Longwick Transport Vision dated Dec 2021, that accompanies the Longwick Neighbourhood Plan, dated 2018.

Both documents provide further detail on the walking and cycling needs in the Longwick Parish.

The Neighbourhood Plan can be found on Buckinghamshire Council's website and the Longwick Transport Vision on Longwick Parish Council's Website. The links are:

https://buckinghamshire-gov-uk.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/Longwick-cum-Ilmer-Parish-Neighbourhood-Plan-2017-2033_OudhZvt.pdf

[https://www.longwickcumilmer.org.uk/media/News/CSSE34%20Longwick%20Transport%20Vision%20Final%20Report_compressed%20\(2\).pdf](https://www.longwickcumilmer.org.uk/media/News/CSSE34%20Longwick%20Transport%20Vision%20Final%20Report_compressed%20(2).pdf)

Map 6:

This map shows other local walking and cycling issues in the area that have been identified by local people, resident groups and BC Local Members.

Map 7:

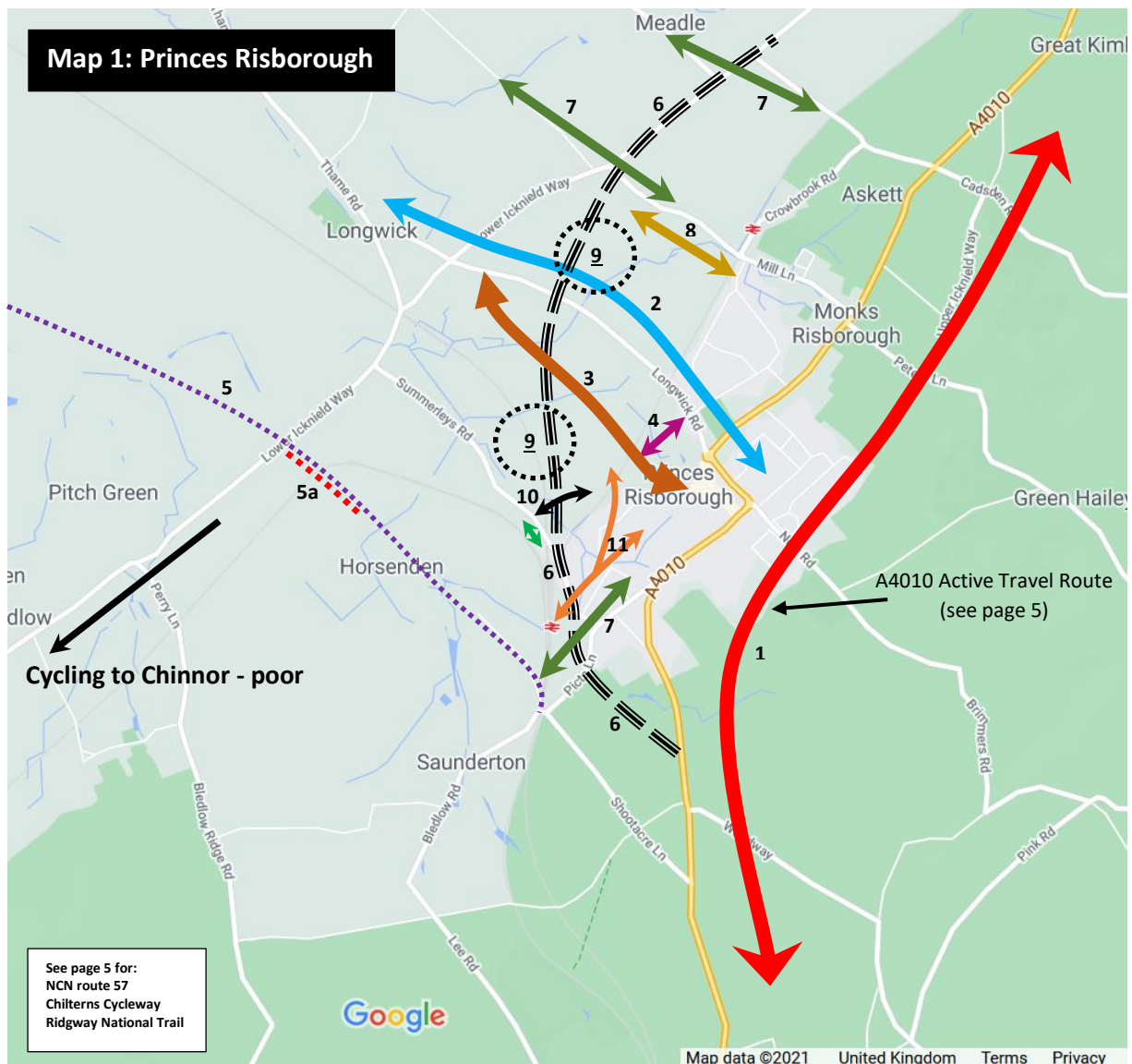
This map shows roads in need of repair to the extent that this is a barrier to safe cycling.

MAP KEY:

The following key applies to each map:

*** = locally derived suggestion, issue or problem**

= proposal referred to in existing documents and/or plans



Key:

1 # A4010 Active Travel Route (cycleway) see page 5



2 # Longwick to Princes Risborough Cycleway



3 # Longwick to P Risborough Cycleway (via Wades Park through expansion area)



4 * Brook Road walk/cycle link



5 Existing: Phoenix Trail (part of NCN Route 57 - see page 5)



5a * Unsurfaced and hazardous length of Phoenix Trail



6 # Proposed PR Relief Road (including parallel shared cycleway/footway)



7 * Severance created by PR Relief Road (also affects Chiltern Society promoted cycling routes)



8 * Chiltern Society promoted cycling route affected by PR expansion (construction phase)



9 * Network of cycling routes necessary within PR expansion to link housing to local services and rail stations



10 * Suggested improvement at Park Mill (footway at Summerleys Rd junction, street lighting for underpass)



11* # Cycling/walking links to station

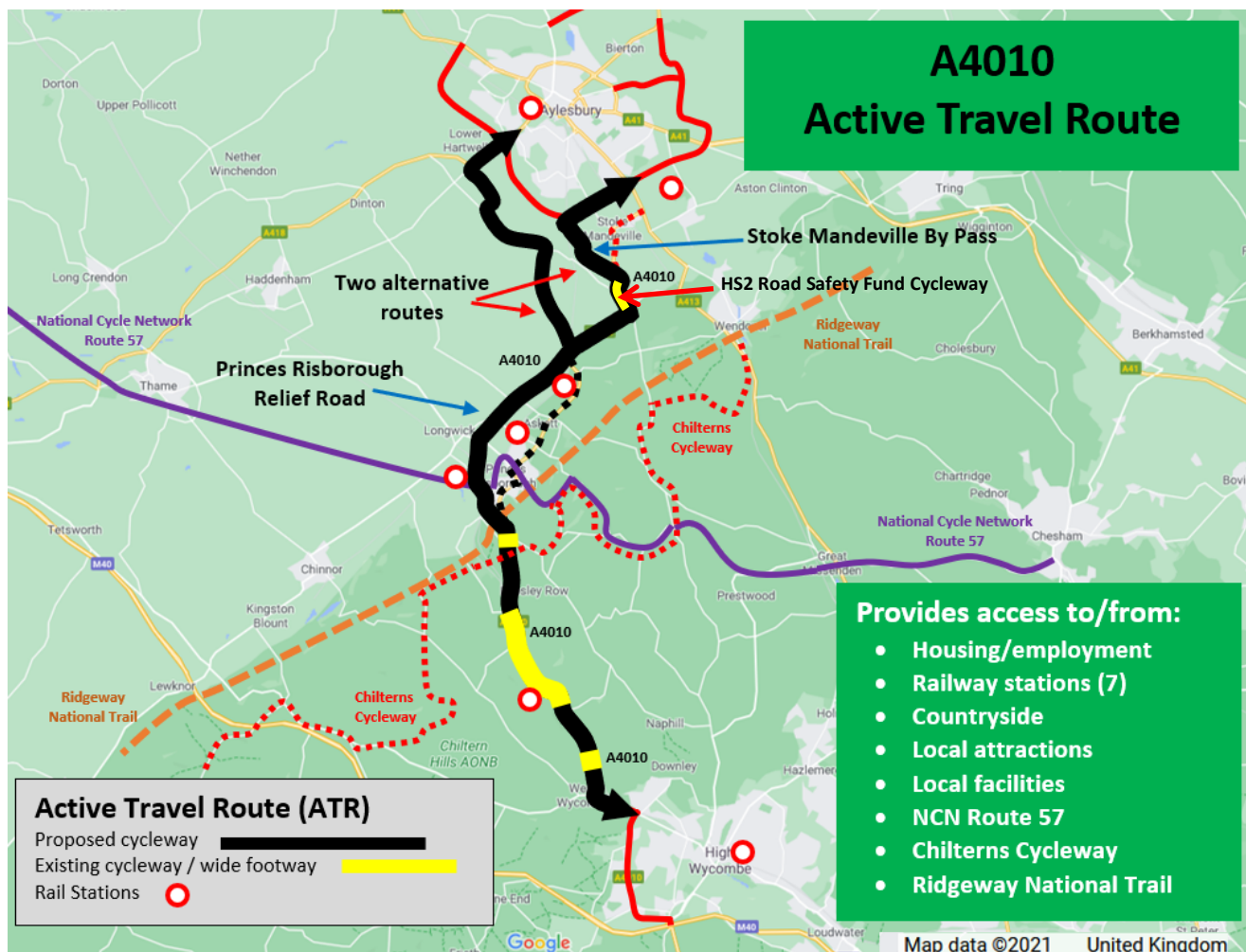


12* Cycling/walking link to from proposed relief road to Kites Park/Princes Estate

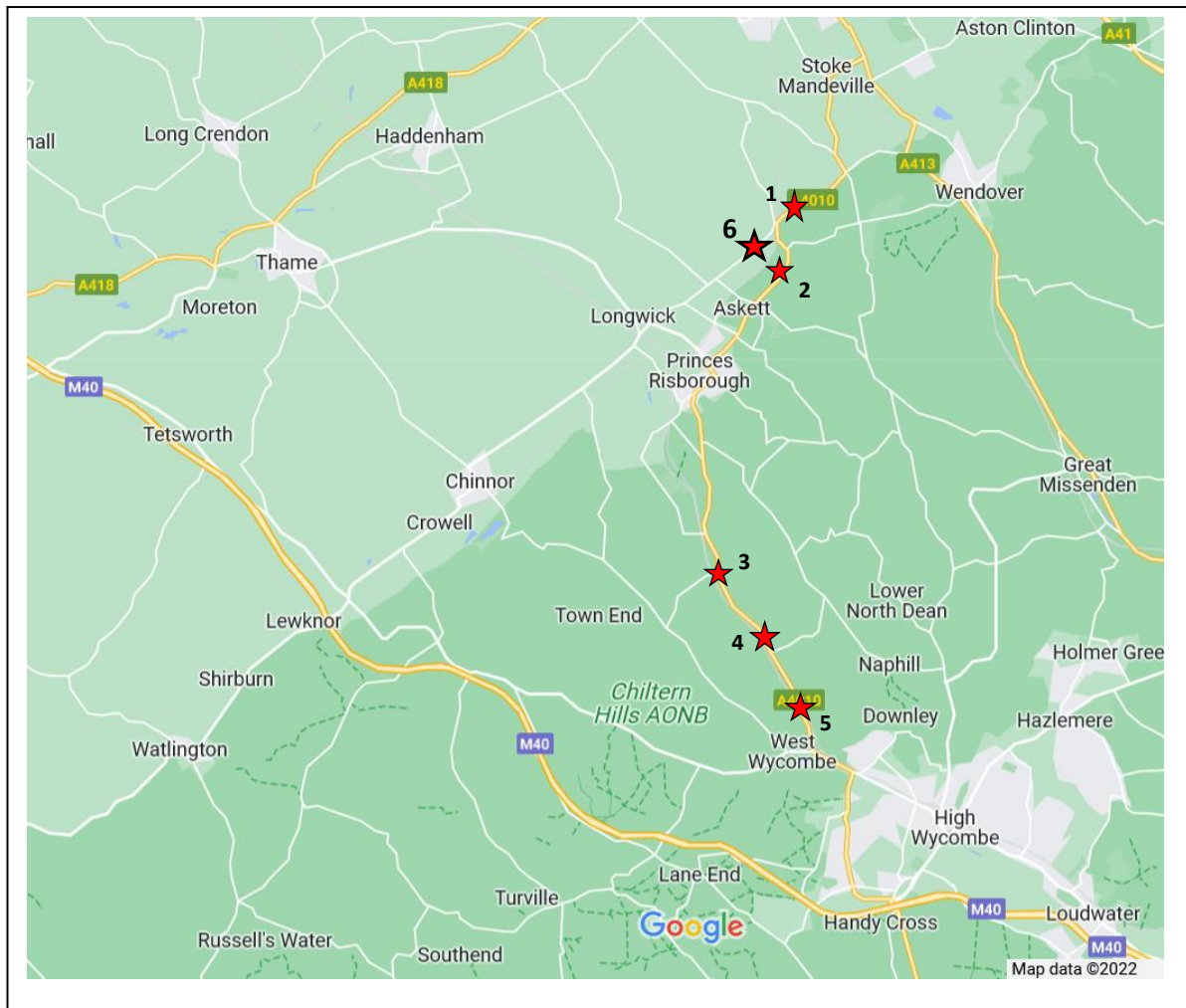


Map 2: A4010 Active Travel Route

(Please see draft suggested A4010 Strategy Supported by NWC Community Board 11/3/21)



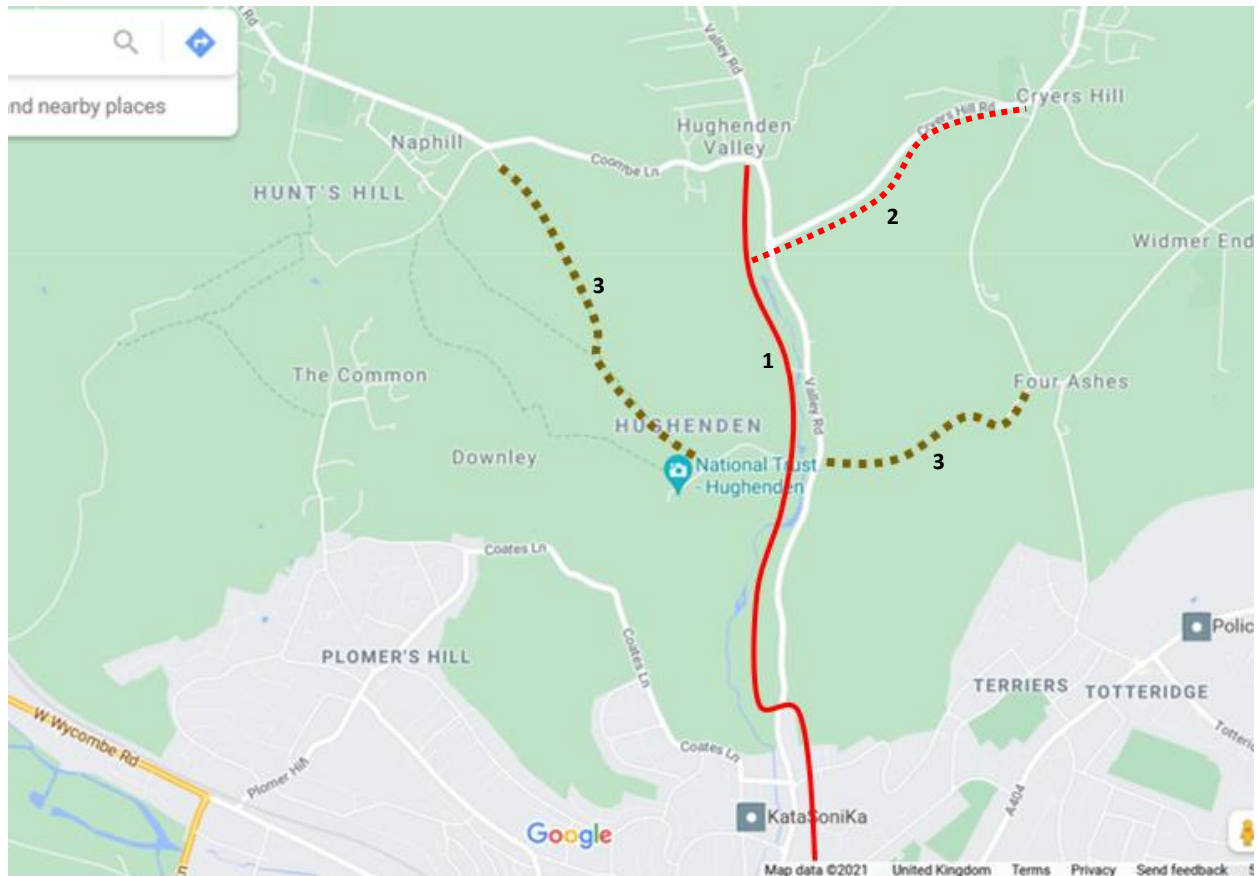
Map 3: A4010 Enhanced Walk/Cycle Crossing Points:



Key:

- 1 * Suggested A4010 central refuge at Mill Lane Little Kimble (to improve safety for local people)
- 2 * Suggested A4010 central refuge/speed limit changes at School Lane Great Kimble (to improve safety for school children and ramblers)
- 3 * Suggested A4010 central refuge at Haw Lane junction (to improve safety for local people and Hearing Dogs for the Deaf)
- 4* Suggested Improvements to existing A4010 central refuges at Golden Cross (to improve safety for local people and cyclists)
- 5* Signage/visibility improvements at A4010 West Wycombe Bridge (to improve safety for local people and ramblers)
- 6 # Crossing improvement to reduce severance on B4009, Gt Kimble due to increased traffic arising from Risborough Expansion

Map 4: Hughenden Area



Key:

1 # Proposed Hughenden Greenway



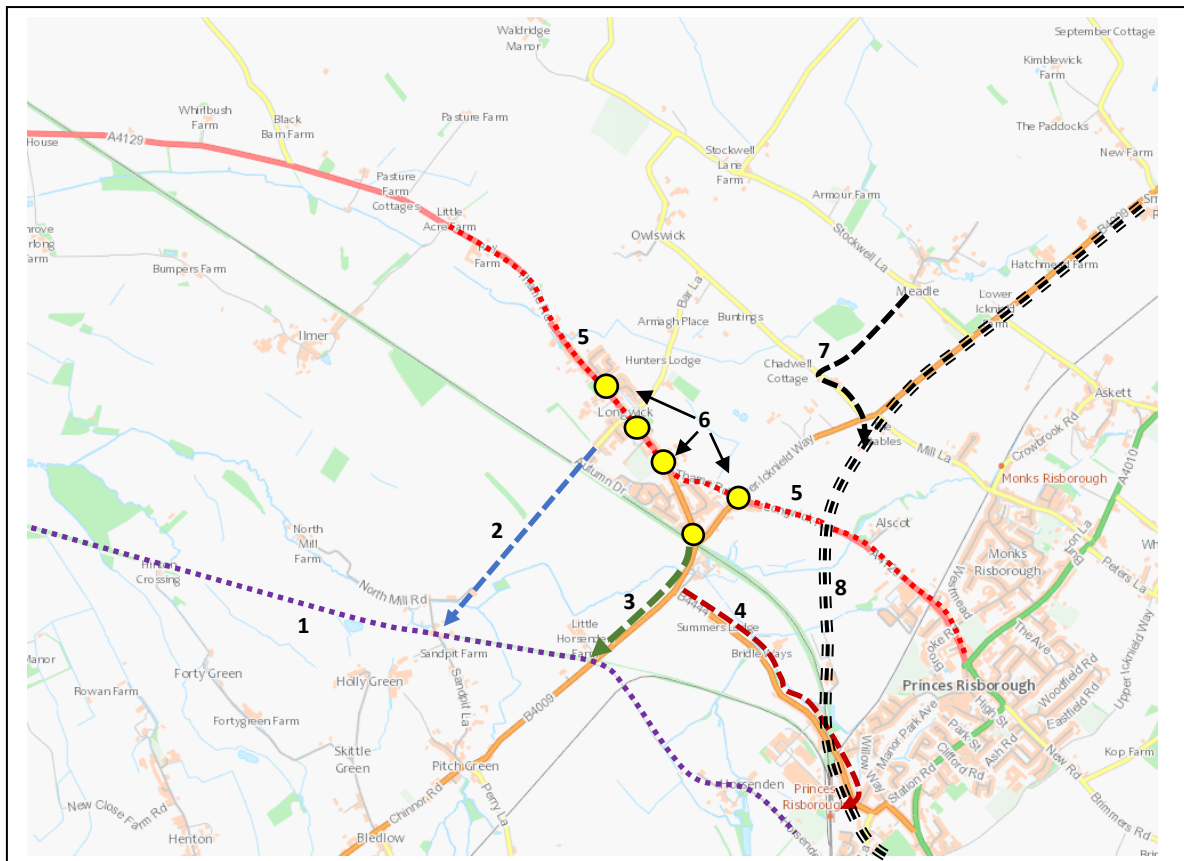
2 * Suggested extension of Hughenden Greenway to link with Cryers Hill



3 * Existing off-road rights of way that could be improved to provide cycling links to the Hughenden Greenway



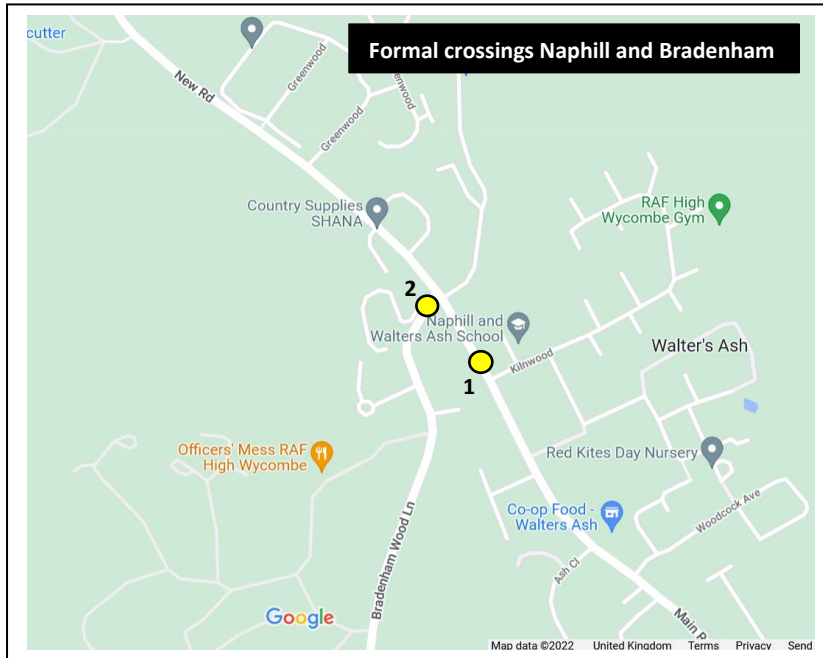
Map 5: Longwick



Key:

- 1** Existing Phoenix Trail (NCN Route 57)
- 2** # Suggested surfacing improvements to the existing walk/cycle route to the Phoenix Trail - - - - -
- 3** # Suggested new walk/cycle route to the Phoenix Trail along B4009 - - - - -
- 4** # Suggested new walk/cycle route to Princes Risborough Station along Summerleys Road - - - - -
- 5** # Suggested improvements to existing footways along A4129
- 6** # Suggested new pedestrian crossings ●
- 7** # Suggested cycle route from Meadle to PR Relief Road - - - - -
- 8** # Proposed Princes Risborough Relief Road = = = = =

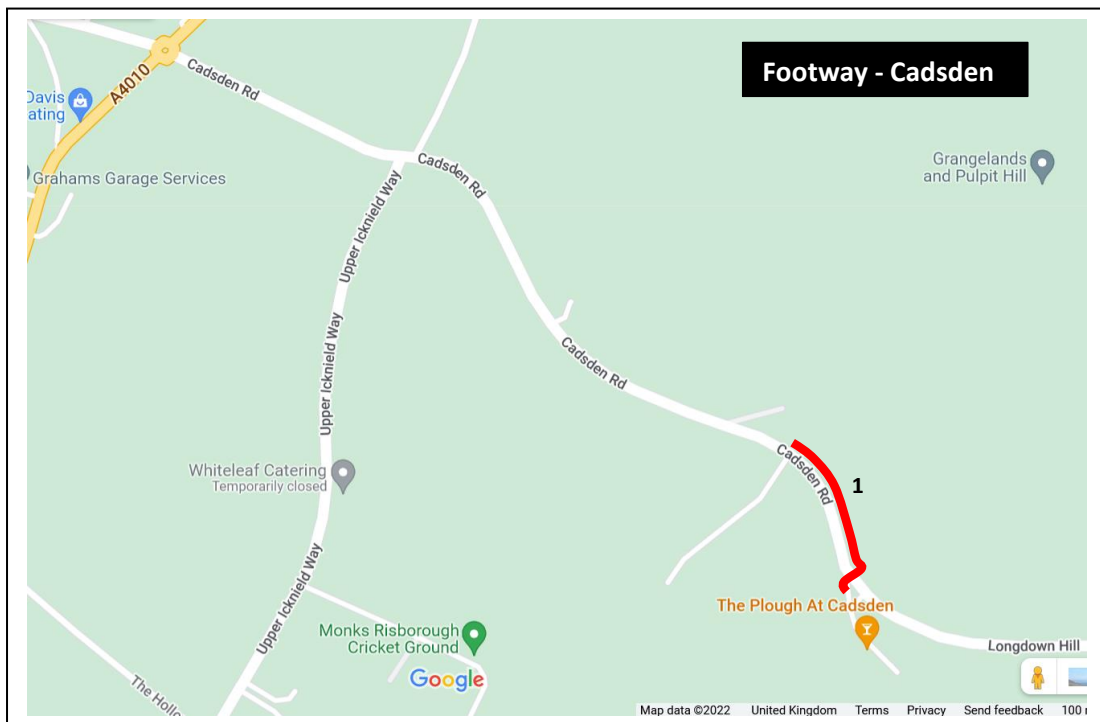
Map 6: Other Locations



Key:

1* Suggested formal crossing at position of school crossing patrol

2* Suggested formal crossing Bradenham Wood Lane



Key:

1* Suggested footway to link two public rights of way and improve road safety

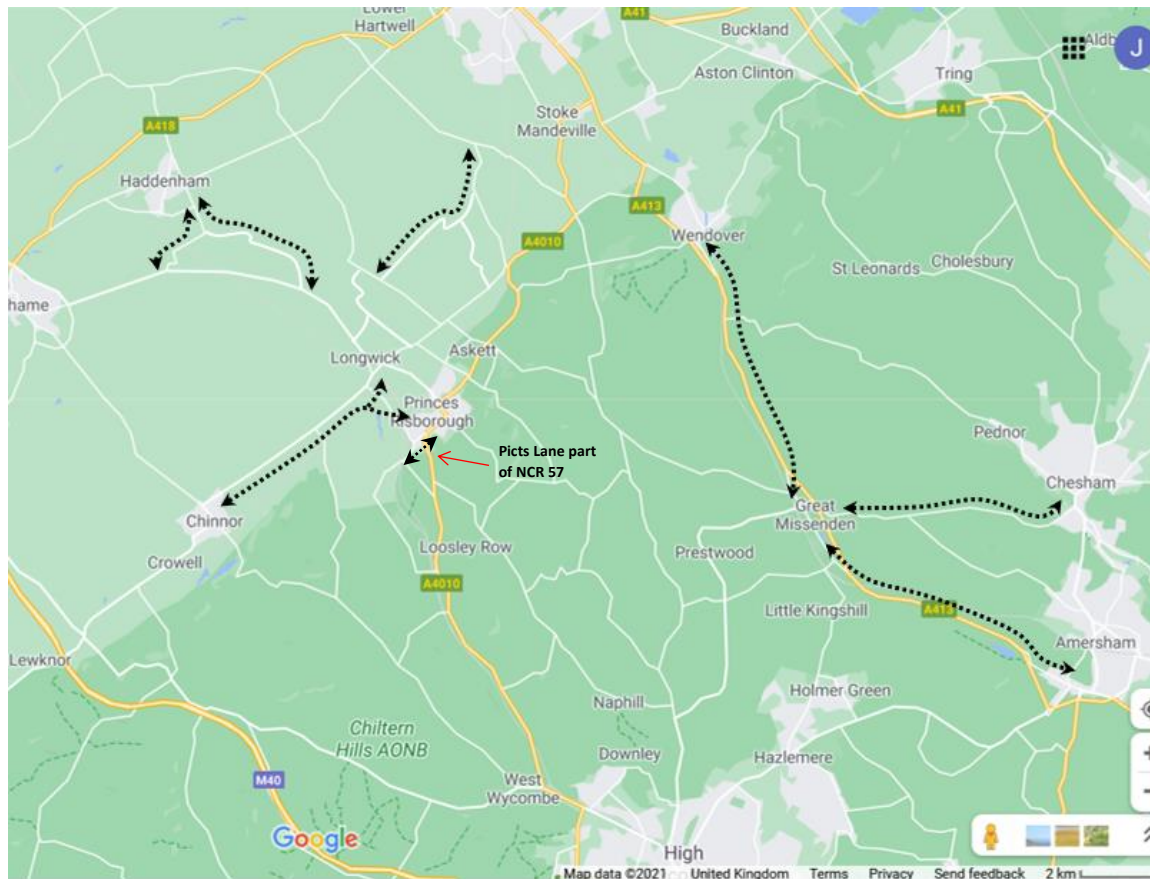


Map 7: Cycling - Road Maintenance Issues

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General Issues:

- The surface of many roads is hazardous for cyclists due to potholes and other damage.
- Road surfaces should be maintained to encourage safe cycling.



Key:

Roads connecting communities - poor for cycling (e.g. safety, potholes)