



Health & wellbeing

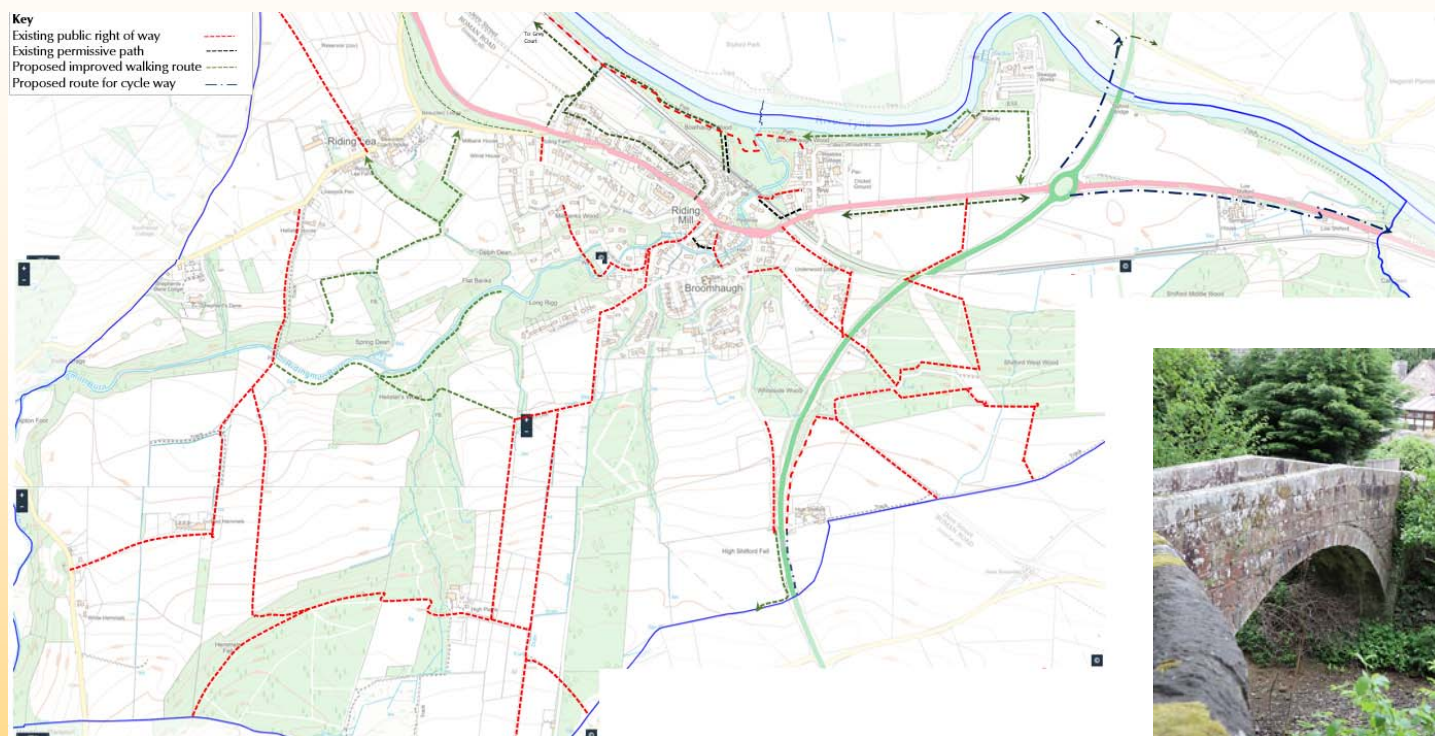
Introduction

Health and wellbeing – and simply being able to enjoy the environs of Riding Mill – are important to all the residents.

Our overarching objective therefore is to provide a lovely and friendly environment in which to live, providing residents of all ages with the opportunity to engage in a wide range of leisure and recreational activities for the benefit of their health and well-being.

We will aim to deliver this through

- ⊗ seeking to improve cycle and pedestrian infrastructure within the Parish;
- ⊗ Renewing and enhancing the riverside right of way footpath to Corbridge;
- ⊗ Making more use of the land leased by the Riding Mill Sports Club involving a wider range of residents and more activities, including the infants' school; and,
- ⊗ Keeping the Tennis Club facilities up to date.



Your views Are you happy with our suggestions? Or have you additional ideas? Does anything concern you about health and well being in the parish? Are you willing to help arrange activities?

Planning policies

We see four areas where there is a need for policies:

Natural environment & biodiversity: protect the rural character of the Parish and surrounding area from the impact of development and protect and enhance the local landscape character, its biodiversity, footpaths and bridleways; consider the impact of all built and other development on sites and features that are environmentally important in the Parish and surrounding area; protect landscape, local fauna, flora and wildlife and habitat connectivity within and beyond the Parish.

Public realm: avoid unacceptable impacts on neighbouring residential areas.

Footpaths & cycle ways: encourage proposals that improve the network of cycle ways and footpaths. Ideally, cycle ways and pedestrian lanes would be separated for safety reasons; in particular, the footpath from Riding Mill to Stocksfield to be widened to provide a safe route for pedestrians and to provide a link for cyclists to the Hadrian's Cycleway across Bywell Bridge.

Facilities: The Neighbourhood Plan will encourage proposals that create or enhance leisure and recreational facilities for the residents of the Parish, particularly young people.

Community actions

We see scope also for community actions:

Permissive paths: Possible additional permissive paths have been identified and are set out on the map of the Parish. Some of these would require additional funding but they could enhance the quality of walks and cycle ways available in the Parish.

Published walks: The Parish Council will enhance the information it already provides about public footpaths and cycleways and the actions that it is taking to conserve them for the future.

Music & general interest events: If there is sufficient interest, the group has identified an opportunity to establish an annual programme of community social events to provide musical evenings and other events such as talks on topics of general interest to the Parish, for example on local history and the local environment.

Summer fair: If there is sufficient interest, and volunteers for an organising committee, the group considers that the further development of the Summer Fair would be of benefit in establishing linkages within the local community.