

Brampford Speke Parish Council

2nd September 2021

Report Author – Cllr William Gallois

Exe Valley Cycleway Report

Having been charged with the PC, as footpaths lead, with exploring a putative Exe Valley Cycleway with other stakeholders, I am cautiously optimistic that conversion of the footpath between Stoke Canon and Brampford Speke could be a realistic possibility in the medium-term. This is on the basis of:

- 1) A conversation with Derek Boustred (Chair of Stoke Canon PC) - Derek has polled other members of the PC and members of the community, and it seems there is broad support for the idea.
- 2) Correspondence with Simon Bates, Green Projects Infrastructure Manager at EDDC. East Devon are strongly in support of the initiative, as one might expect since it was their report on the Clyst Valley Regional Park which has sparked new interest in the idea.
- 3) Conversations with Mary Greener and other signatories of a letter to the PC supporting the idea. I suggested to this group that it might be useful if they could formally constitute themselves as a pressure group/lobby; in part as this would be a good means of quantifying support for the idea, and in part because it would allow our PC to listen both to the concerns of those who would oppose such development and to its advocates.
- 4) Henry Gent, our new Green Party Devon County Councillor. As one might expect Henry is strongly in favour of such schemes. He has spoken to the relevant officers at the CC and this proposal is on their radar, but it is not near the top of the list of priorities.