

## **Access to the footpath AW35 and the proposed Greenway**

The landscape plan submitted by the developers (note it is not shown on the layout plan) shows that there will be an entrance to footpath AW35 which runs alongside the railway and permits, when not too muddy, a quick route to the station and surgery. In the other direction it gives access to Charing Heath. What the developers have not taken account of is the proposed plan to turn this footpath into a “greenway” – that is an all-weather footpath and cycle path.

The Greenway is a key project in Charing’s Neighbourhood Plan and is also a “High Priority” project in Ashford’s new Cycling Strategy. The Parish Council has twice mentioned this to the developers. Further it is clearly mentioned in the S106 agreement for the site. However the S106 agreement see (<https://planning.ashford.gov.uk/planning/IDOX/default.aspx?docid=1752253>) shows (pages 59 and 60) that the developer has to pay £32,000 plus indexation to KCC to surface the bits of the footpath on either side of the development. The section that passes through or adjacent (it is thought that part of the land may be owned by SE rail or network rail) is not mentioned. The assumed implication would be that the developer would make this section up when building the rest of the site.

The absence of specific mention of this in the plans is a serious omission.