
Report To:	Planning and Environment	Date:	8 th December 2025
Contact Officer:	Paula Harrison		
Subject:	NEW TRAILS		

1. **Purpose**

- 1.1 To suggest options for a future trail around West Swindon Parish.

2. **Background**

- 2.1 Swindon Borough Council Travel Choices team have created an Active Swindon Trails Challenge to encourage people and families to take a walk on a Swindon trail path. The Parish Council currently has an art trail (soon to be updated) which directs a route around each of the public art pieces and murals within the Parish. There are plans to improve the current art trail by adding the new murals and introducing QR codes for more information about the art work.

3. **Trail Options**

- 3.1 One of the features of West Swindon Parish is the inter connectivity of path and cycleways across the Parish. There is the option to further celebrate these routes by linking to multiple themes. A new emerging theme could be West Swindon's Archeological and Historical Sites of Interest.
- 3.2 Through the process of developing the play area at Shaw Ridge, the relevance of Roman remains has been highlighted. It is hoped that this new partnership with the County Archeologist could help bring together a new historical perspective on West Swindon Parish. This trail could be a route through the Parish highlighting our historical past.
- 3.3 It is likely that it would take a period of time to collate the inputs and information into a route but could be ready for the Spring/Summer.

4. **Financial and Budget Considerations**

- 4.1 There are low costs associated with this project. Signs for information/QR codes alongside staff time are the main resources required. The plan is to have historical information attached to a QR code in the vicinity or an online map.

5. **Recommendations**

- 5.1 That this Committee notes the report and considers approving a new route and shares ideas for other route options.