



CORDITE WAY: A NEW FOOTPATH IN SANDFORD



The Cordite Way, Phase 1, was officially opened on 29th March by local MP Vikki Slade, who said: 'This is a special place and a significant contribution to providing access to green spaces for wellbeing and health. I look forward to its continued development to support local active travel'.



A new footpath with a unique history

The Cordite Way runs from Sandford, via Holton Heath station and the Holton Heath Trading Estate, along a new footpath with wonderful views over Poole Harbour. It includes information boards as well as seating to enjoy the Harbour views.



The Cordite Way is named after the Royal Naval Cordite Factory (RNCF) at Holton Heath and the Admiralty railway line that linked it to Rockley Jetty for transfer of Cordite by sea to Gosport and Chatham. Cordite was the propellant used in naval shells during the two World Wars.



Walk the current path

The new footpath begins at the roundabout at the north-east end of Holton Road and heads through the industrial estate entrance gates and down the pavement towards the Jade-Aden building on the right (located at <https://what3words.com/sunset.leans.royal>).

The footpath continues to the left of the Jade-Aden building as an unsurfaced path that runs for 0.9 km through varied woodland and countryside with glimpses of the Harbour.

At the eastern end of the path are two viewpoints with glorious views across Poole Harbour to Arne peninsular and the Purbeck Hills. These offer seasonal sightings of birds, including osprey, white tail eagles, ravens and waders.

Future development



The Admiralty bridge over the main line was demolished in 2022. The current path to the missing bridge forms **Phase 1** of the Cordite Way. Subject to further development and funding, **Phase 2** would take the path over the main line railway to Rockley Jetty, and Phase 3 would establish a shared path over the Lytchett Bay entrance to Hamworthy.

With **Phase 3** complete, the Cordite Way would form Walk 5 in the set of **Poole Harbour Trails** around the Harbour, providing a safer, shorter active travel route for all between Poole, Wareham and Purbeck.

For Further Information and how you can support and develop the Cordite Way, please see: www.pooleharbourtrails.org.uk/corditeway.html
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