

Signing Audit NCN 43 from Swansea to Clydach

Introduction

The purpose of this audit is to identify locations for permanent signs and suggest what form they should take. To achieve this photos of existing signs have been taken and relevant ones included in this report. This information is intended for Swansea Council to enable them to provide and install the signs. It has been prepared by David Naylor (Sustrans Liaison Ranger for Swansea County) in collaboration with other local rangers and *Wheelrights* members.

This report starts at the Sail Bridge to include the riverside section past Sainsbury. It finishes south of Clydach where the new Connect 2 section will begin.

It is one of three covering Swansea County. The other two cover NCN 4 from the Loughor Bridge to the County easterly boundary on Fabian Way.

The captions with the pictures include recommendations. Destination distances in () are miles.

1. Sail Bridge (GR 662929)

These signs are located on either side of the west abutment.

Recommendation

None: the signs serve their purpose.



2. New Cut Bridge (GR 661932)

2a: looking north across the Toucan over Fabian Way on the west side of the bridge.

2b: start of off-road section at middle of bridge.

Recommendations

2a: none: these signs serve their purpose.

2b: replace stick-ons and finger sign with fingers showing destinations and distances, ie Clydach (6½) and Pontardawe (9).



3. Below Pentre Chwyth Rd (GR 663946)

The S bend: 3a looking north; 3b looking south.

Recommendation

Replace signs in 3b by a sign near bike to make it clear route is to left and not straight on. Also repaint ground arrows.



4. Car park by Cross Valley Link roundabout. (GR 663949).

View approaching car park from south.

Recommendation

None: signs serve their purpose.

Note: NCN 43 is due to be re-routed alongside the river so that the signs along Brunel Way (5 & 6) will become redundant.



5. Brunel Way junction. (GR 667952).

Path leaves Brunel Way to right (SE).

Recommendation

None: signs serve their purpose.



6. Morfa car park. (GR 665955).

6a is on north and 6b on south side of Brunel Way, 6c is looking east across entrance to car park..

Recommendation

None: signs serve their purpose.

7. Start of NCN 43 east. (GR 664955).

7a & b are on east side of path, 7c is on west.

Recommendation

If the east route remains an NCN alternative (See 9. below) replace stick-ons 7b & c with a finger sign: "NCN 43 east" pointing up path probably on post 7b



8. Start of NCN 43 west. (GR 663955).

8a: The liberty stadium is behind sign.

8b: across path from 8a.

Recommendation

Replace stick-on signs with a finger sign "NCN 43 west" pointing up path. Need sign on both sides of a post which could be on either side of path.



9. Mannesman Bridge (GR 666963)

9a: looking south, bridge is to left.

9b: close up of sign on post in background in 9a. (Not the sign in foreground.)

9c: looking east across bridge. Sign on far side points to right thus identifying the east route.



Recommendation

Review with Sustrans whether the east route should be designated as an NCN 43 alternative or be a local cycle route. If the latter NCN 43 finger signs should be provided on post 9b pointing both ways. A sign pointing across the bridge to the Enterprise Park would also be appropriate, either on 9b or on the foreground sign in 9a. The sign on the east side of the bridge would need replacing.

If it is decided to retain the east route as a NCN 43 alternative then it would need to be signed.



10. Beaufort Br. (GR 671971)

10a: looking north from Beaufort Road; bridge is off to right.

10b: east side of bridge; the path goes to the left.

10c: east side, looking south.

10d: by bridge east abutment.

Recommendations

West side: replace stick-ons in 10a with finger signs: one pointing to the right and the other south down Beaufort Road.

East side: Provide new post where starred in 10c with fingers pointing both ways on new post to replace stick-on in 10b. This would replace the stick-ons in 10b, c & d.



11. A48 underpass
(GR 674979)

11a & b: underpass from south. 11a shows link to A48.
11c: access to north side from A48. (Road on left leads to A48.)

Recommendations

Replace stick-ons at the top of the A48 links (11a & c) with fingers signing the NCN link, also provide signs at the bottom to indicate the two exits to the A48. On the south side this will probably require a post at the starred location in 11a. This post should also hold destination fingers to Morriston (½), Clydach (3) and Pontardawe (5½).
Repaint the “43” on the ground on north side (behind barrier in 11c,)



12. Tircanol Underpass (GR 676988)

12a: link to path on north side.
12b: same lamp post looking east.

Recommendation

Replace stick-ons with two finger signs on same post: one to Llansamlet (1) and one, pointing to NCN, to Clydach (2½).



13. Ynystawe Bridge (GR 682000)

13a: bridge is to right and finger points to NCN along which the man in 13b is walking.

Recommendations

Replace stick-on on left in 13a with finger sign: Swansea (7). Remove stick-on in 13b and replace finger in 13a with one signing: Clydach (1½) and Pontardawe (4)



14. South end of Connect2 route (GR 682000)

The existing route bears left whereas the new one will go straight ahead up onto the old embankment.

Recommendations

None given in this report. Hopefully this is covered in the Connect 2 plans.



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