

One step closer to viaduct footpath

By Jenny Brown

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THE creation of a public footpath over Carlisle's Waverley Viaduct is another step closer to becoming a reality.

Carlisle City Council has agreed to progress with a Public Path Creation Order (PPCO) for a public right of way on a small area of land north of the River Eden.

Carlisle Waverley Viaduct Trust (CWVT) was granted planning permission and listed building consent in April but a PPCO was needed in order for the project to be delivered, as one of two private landowners objects to the footpath being created.

Yesterday the council's development control committee agreed the order could progress on the condition that CWVT covered all costs, which could be anything between £2,000 and £15,000. This needed to be a written agreement.

Trustee Stephen Crichton said: "It's official recognition.

"It was unanimous that this is a worthy cause and is in line with what the city council wants to achieve."

With its discretionary power to make a PPCO, the council must be satisfied there is a need for the new public right of way and that this would add to the convenience



CWVT DIRECTORS: From left, Stephen Crichton, Barry Maxwell, David Ramshaw, Richard Bain and Julie Bowman

and enjoyment of the public.

It must also consider the effect it would have on the rights of those interested in the land crossed by the public right of way.

Councillor Anne Glendinning said: "The benefit to the public to join up these footpaths far out-

weighs the detriment to the land owner."

The council will publicly consult on the proposals for 28 days. If it is uncontested it can confirm the PPCO. If objections are received, the matter may be referred to the Secretary of State and a

public enquiry would be held.

The trust is confident it has the support of the public and said the PPCO will propel its fundraising efforts, meaning they can access more funding streams. To donate visit mydonate.bt.com/charities/carlislewaverleyviaducttrust