

CASE STUDY

The Waddesdon Greenway Project



Creating a safe, sustainable, and attractive traffic-free path for pedestrians and cyclists.

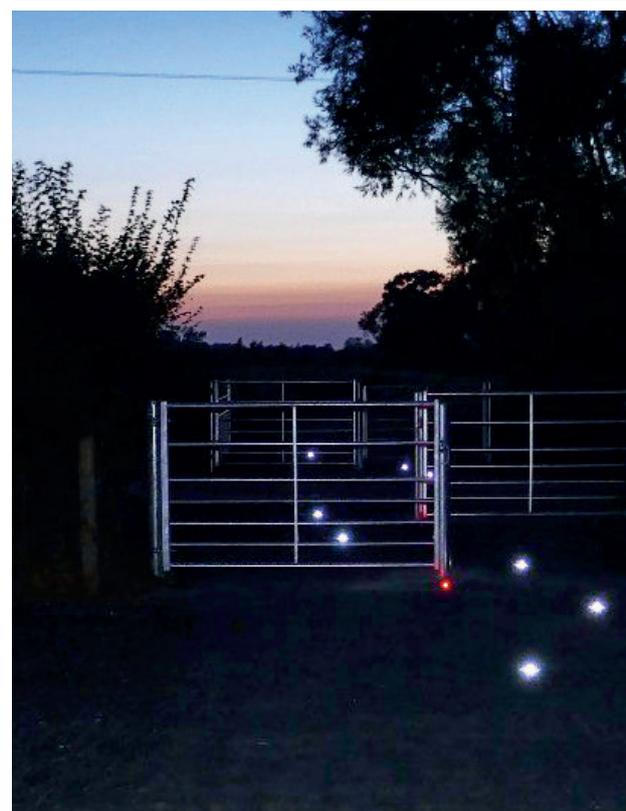
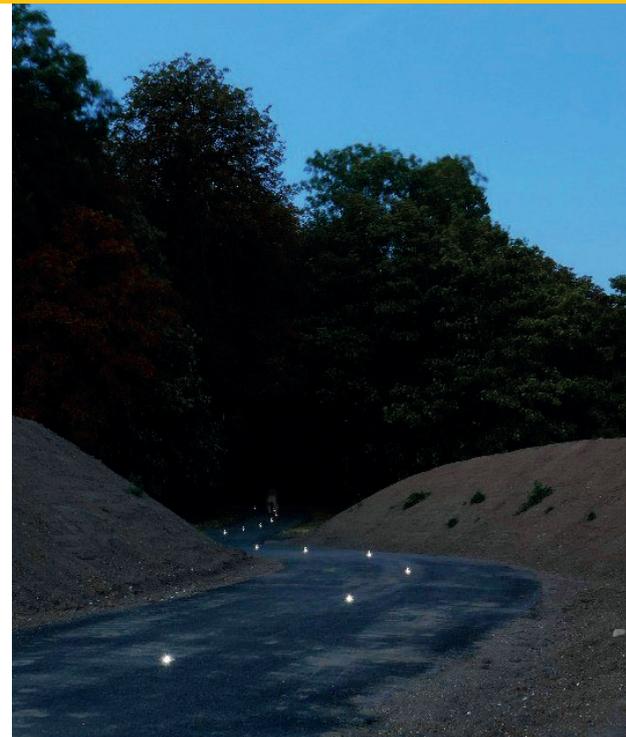
Waddesdon is a village six miles West of Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire. The village is home to the beautiful Waddesdon Manor, a National Trust property which attracts over 400,000 visitors a year. Despite Aylesbury Parkway Train Station being a stone's throw to the National Trust Property, most visitors opted to travel by car, mainly because the busy A41 presented a barrier to those wishing to cycle or walk to the station.

Greenways and Cyclerooutes is a charitable community benefit society who aim to create better walking and cycling routes for the community. The charity's objective was to create a safe, sustainable, attractive and traffic-free path for pedestrians and cyclists well away from the busy A41.

THE CHALLENGE

To make cycling and walking a more attractive option, Greenways and Cyclerooutes knew they had to design a sustainable and safer access route and therefore proposed constructing a new 4km path along an old Roman road. This new path was to be called the Waddesdon Greenway. Volunteers helped to build bridges, fill and lay sandbags, build benches and plant hedgerows and trees.

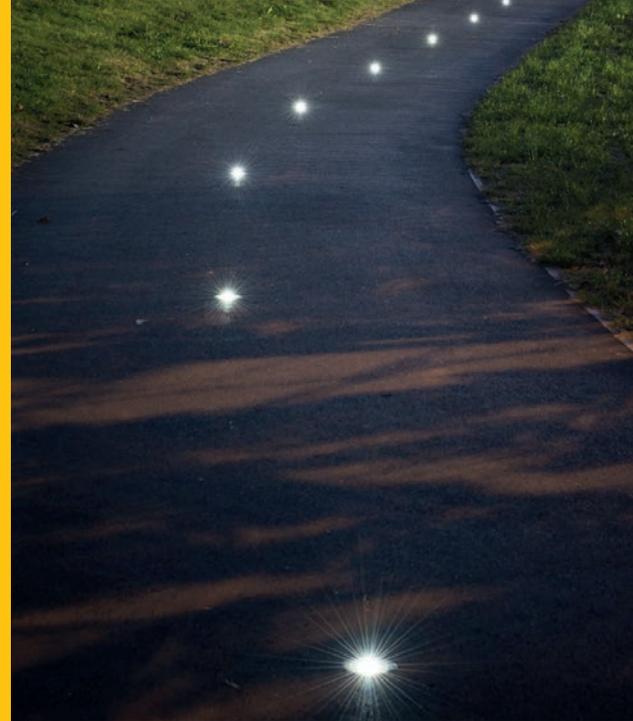
Initially, only a small amount of lighting to highlight unexpected bends, gates and bollards along the path was intended. The charity originally thought that lighting the whole path would be detrimental to the local environment and biodiversity of the area. However Greenways and Cyclerooutes later made the decision that given the rural location of the path, low level lighting was required for safety reasons and sought to find a lighting supplier that had an environmentally friendly option.



THE SOLUTION

Greenways and Cyclerooutes approached Solareye to provide a sustainable lighting solution that required little maintenance and with the help from volunteers, installed 162 solareye80 solar ground lights.

In addition to the solareye80s, Greenways and Cyclerooutes also installed Bat Hats, a conservation-friendly version of the solareye80 which reduces upward light spillage by 98 per cent, but appears indistinguishable from the side profile. Bat Hat lights were installed through conservation areas of the site in order to minimise the lights' disruption on the local wildlife. In addition, Greenways and Cyclerooutes used red flashing solareye80s to highlight obstacles on the path such as gates and bollards.



THE BENEFITS

Designed in the UK, solareyes provide a way-finding glow, which is not only pleasing to the eye but also provides a sense of safety and security.

Solareyes are constructed from industrial grade polycarbonate which has been compression tested to 55 tonnes, certifying the ground light with an impact rating of IK10 and ensuring maximum protection against physical damage.

Solareyes are also fully waterproof (IP68 certified), skid resistant, cheap to install and require virtually no ongoing maintenance.

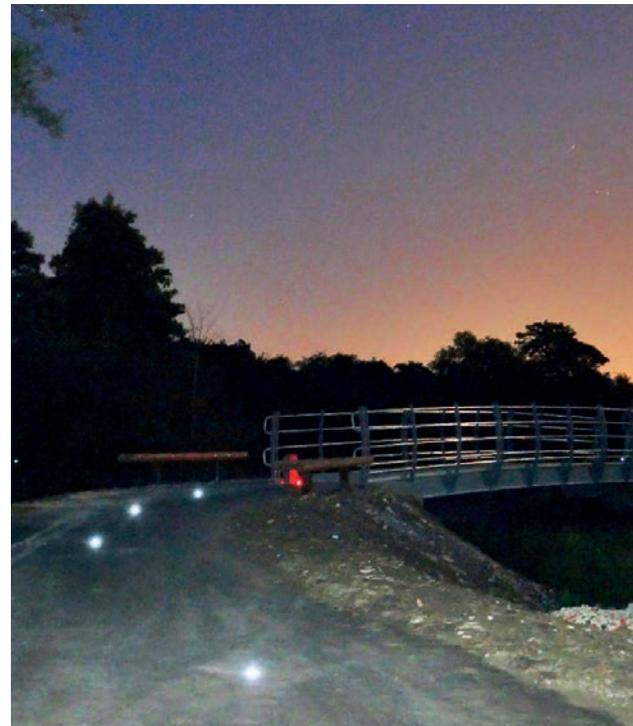
A WORD FROM THE CUSTOMER

“ We chose Solareye because we needed a specialist supplier who was supportive of our work, their commitment and enthusiasm shone through the project. The solar lights have become a noteworthy element of the overall route, and if we had more funds, we would have installed more. ”

- John Grimshaw CBE & Project Engineer

John Grimshaw also noted numerous additional benefits of the solar ground lighting, including:

- They provide a low-level lighting solution that limits the effect of light pollution on open countryside.
- At the same time, solareye80 provides suitable lighting for pedestrians and cyclists at night.
- An economical, low maintenance lighting option that is visually appealing and highly effective.



About Solareye

Solareye is a family-owned company and one of the UK's leading suppliers of high-quality outdoor solar lighting.

We have over 30 years in the traffic, cycle and pedestrian safety industries and a history of product design, sourcing and accreditation.

We're proud of what we do and how we do it; making roads, cycleways, pedestrian walkways, and public amenities safer for people to go about their daily business or enjoy the things they love.

