

MINUTES of the meeting of the **DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM** held in Committee Room 3, County Hall, Matlock on **Friday 30 September 2016**.

PRESENT

Chris Allen, Councillor Rob Davison, John Disney, Marilyn Hambly, Vivyan Lisewski-Hobson and Brian Nicholls.

County Council Officers:

Claire O'Reilly (Senior Project Officer Pedal Peak II) and Steve Cresswell (Volunteering Officer, Countryside Service)

City Council Officers:

Ray Brown (Senior Planning Officer, Planning Division, Communities and Place).

34/16	<p><u>Apologies</u> Apologies for absence were received from Claire Brooks, Geof Cole, Richard Curzon, Ian Else, Darran Hawkins, Chris Page, Gill Millward (Countryside Access Improvement Officer) and Richard Taylor (Head of Countryside Service).</p>	
35/16	<p><u>Quorum</u> The Secretary advised the Chair that the meeting was not quorate and decisions could not be made on any matters which required this. Members discussed the position and it was agreed that the meeting would go ahead on the understanding that any recommendations from this meeting would have to be ratified by a quorum of Members.</p>	
36/16	<p><u>Appointment of Chair</u> Marilyn Hambly agreed to stand as Chair of the Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum and stated this would be her last year as Chair. No other members wished to stand for election to the position.</p> <p>It was agreed that Marilyn Hambly be declared elected Chair of the Forum for the ensuing year, subject to ratification at the next quorate meeting.</p>	
37/16	<p><u>Appointment of Vice Chair</u> In his absence Ian Else had indicated to the Chair his willingness to stand as Vice Chair of the Derby and Derbyshire Local Access Forum. No other Member wished to stand for election to the position.</p> <p>It was agreed that Ian Else be declared elected Vice Chair of the</p>	

	Forum for the ensuing year, subject to ratification at the next quorate meeting.	
38/16	<u>Constitution</u> No amendments were currently proposed.	
39/16	<u>Appointment and Review of Sub Groups</u> Members were asked to consider joining at least one sub group. Vivyan Lisewski-Hobson agreed to join the Rights of Way Improvement Plan Sub Group for the County Council and the Public Rights of Way, Open Access and Unrecorded Lost Ways Sub Group. The HS2 Sub Group has been re-established and a meeting had been held on 23 September 2016.	
40/16	<u>Meeting Dates for 2017</u> The meeting dates below were agreed subject to venue availability:- Friday 17 March 2017. Mini meeting and Lost Ways Event. Friday 16 June 2017 – County venue Friday 22 September 2017 – City venue Friday 8 December 2017 - County venue It was suggested that the event at the 17 March 2017 meeting could be a joint event with the Parish Councils along with representatives of user groups. It was suggested and agreed that the Public Rights of Way, Open Access and Unrecorded Lost Ways Sub Group should meet before the December 2016 meeting to discuss the content of the event.	GM/GC
41/16	<u>Minutes</u> The Minutes of the meeting held on 17 June 2016 would be confirmed at the next quorate meeting of the Forum. Claire O'Reilly would be added to the attendance.	
42/16	<u>Matters Arising from the Minutes and Action Sheet</u> Minute 68/15 (DADLAF meeting on 4 December 2015) – Brian Nicholl stated that the mapping layer on the County Council's Countryside map required separating. This would be investigated and training provided for LAF members if required. Minute 77/15 (DADLAF meeting on 4 December 2015) – It was requested that the Ploughing and Cropping leaflet makes reference to the requirement for landowners to ensure that hedges were cut back to allow access to footpaths. This should not be done in the nesting season, however it was felt that this was often used as an excuse to leave the overhanging vegetation. The leaflet and press release would be forwarded to members. For	GM GM

	<p>landowners in the stewardship scheme these conditions were rigorously enforced.</p> <p>Minute 83/15 (DADLAF meeting on 4 December 2015) – Chris Allen had attended the Woodland Festival. It had been challenging and difficult to engage people about the Local Access Forum. It was easier to generally promote access to the countryside. The stand was again located in a difficult position.</p> <p>It was agreed that the facilities at the Woodland Festival should be discussed at the DADLAF meeting on 16 June 2017 well in advance of the festival in September and that members should offer to provide general support for the Countryside Service to promote access to the wider countryside rather than focus too much on promoting the LAF itself.</p>	<p>GM</p> <p>LAF Secretary</p>
<p>43/16</p>	<p><u>Countryside Service Draft Policy for Working with Community Groups</u></p> <p>Steve Cresswell informed members that the public consultation on the Draft Policy for Working with Community Groups would commence on 10 October 2016 and run for 6 weeks. Comments from the LAF could be sent via the Chair or to Steve directly.</p> <p>The document covered types of community groups; working with groups; overview of the working arrangement; responsibility and accountability; work programmes and action plans; insurance cover; risk management; training; use of power tools and plant; underground services; use of ordnance survey mapping; equality and diversity; confidentiality and data protection; and publicity and promotion.</p> <p>Chris Allen asked how much support would be provided to new groups and Steve expected this to be between 1 and 2 years, depending on the groups' leadership and the resources the County Council has to provide support.</p> <p>Brian Nicholls asked if the document was available in other languages, however this service could be requested via the County Council's website.</p> <p>It was suggested that commonly adopted policies of multi-agency group working should be looked at together with agreements with charities of voluntary groups to provide services. It was agreed to include this suggestion in the response to the draft policy. The County Council does have Service Level Agreements with other organisations such as Groundwork Creswell with a view to generating additional volunteer engagement. These arrangements were additional to this policy. Steve agreed he could make reference to this form of working within the final Policy.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Policy and this minute be circulated to members requesting comments with a view to submitting a</p>	<p>LAF Secretary/GM</p>

	<p>DADLAF response as soon as possible. Members were also encouraged to comment individually on the Policy and inform other groups within their own respective networks.</p>	
<p>44/16</p>	<p><u>Derbyshire County Council – Rights of Way Improvement Plan Update</u></p> <p>Claire O'Reilly presented members with an update on progress towards delivery of Derbyshire's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP).</p> <p>The main work in progress was as follows:-</p> <p>Aim 1 – path condition surveys were continuing with 25 new volunteers. The survey in May returned a 64.2% pass rate and overall performance depended on the second survey in November. This was not a statutory requirement and no target rates were set. Funding was still available for roadside signposting and contracts have been set up for path furniture. Drainage and surface improvements funded through the Local Transport Plan (LTP) continued for several green lanes and prioritised public rights of way. Consultations were underway on Brampton Bridleway 73 and Crich Footpath 42.</p> <p>Aim 2 – the backlog of legal orders continued to be dealt with, 18 cases have been reported to committee, 6 progressing to order making and 8 have been brought in to effect. The charges associated with the promotion of public path orders have been considered by Committee. Digital mapping continued to be updated and could be viewed on the Derbyshire Mapping Portal.</p> <p>Aim 3 – 13.75km of new Greenway routes were provided in 2015/16 and 8Km of Greenway has been targeted for delivery in 2016/17. 1.6km of the Pennine Bridleway National Trail near Charlesworth had been completed. Maintenance continued on the Pennine Way with LTP funds. Projects completed included the Chesterfield Station Link, part of the Erewash Canal towpath and the Clowne connectivity scheme. Information on Pedal Peak II was regularly updated on the County Council's website. The County Council had responded to the Department of Transport's Draft Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy and continued to develop its own Key Cycle Network. Information has been contributed to the new Derbyshire Infrastructure Investment Plan. LTP capital funding of £1,883,000 has been secured for access related projects. External sources of funding were also being explored. Bids had been submitted for public health monies but these had not been successful, however bids would continue to be submitted.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Key Cycle Network should be considered as an agenda item for the next meeting in December.</p> <p>Aim 4 – The Countryside Events programme for 2016 marked 50</p>	

	<p>years of the Countryside Service in Derbyshire. Countryside Service staff were involved with Eroica Britannia and Derbyshire Woodland Festival, also with a DADALF presence. Approval has been given to enter into legal agreements with British Canoeing to enable/promote greater access to the Chesterfield and Cromford Canals.</p> <p>Aim 5 – Work continued on the draft policy for working with community groups and new Service Level Agreements with Groundwork Creswell. Volunteer days in 2015/16 amounted to 4,816 at an estimated value of £1million.</p> <p>Restructuring of the Countryside Service was the subject of reports to the County Council’s Cabinet. It was highly likely that staffing cuts would have an impact on the level of service offered.</p> <p>The ten year review of Derbyshire’s Rights of Way Improvement Plan was progressing and as part of the review the County Council would be required to make a new assessment to what extent local rights of way meet the present and likely future needs of the public. Officers would work closely with the Local Access Forums and the joint Sub Group to inform the review.</p> <p>Resolved to note the progress report for delivering Derbyshire’s Rights of Way Improvement Plan.</p>	
45/16	<p><u>Joint RoWIP Sub Group with Peak District LAF</u> The notes of this meeting would be circulated to members by email.</p>	GM
46/16	<p><u>Derby City Council – Rights of Way Improvement Plan (a) 2015/16 Annual Review</u> Ray Brown presented an update on Derby City Council’s Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2014-2017 and how actions have been implemented in 2015-16.</p> <p>Inspections of the city’s paths, upgrading surfaces and furniture and the removal of barriers were carried out as part of the duties of the highways maintenance division. Where practical, consideration was given to the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <p>The main concentration of work had been working to achieve publication of the Definitive Map. A draft Statement of Priorities has been produced, which would be considered by the Derby RoWIP sub group. Most path orders have been recovered. Progress was being made to include path data on the City Council’s online mapping portal and the National Land and Street Gazetteer.</p> <p>Application forms and guidance for the making of Definitive Map Modification Orders and Public Path orders have been updated and would be revised when the Deregulation Act 2015 changes were</p>	

	<p>introduced.</p> <p>The Rights of Way and Highways Development Control Services commented on all major development proposals, where appropriate referring to links to the local path network and sympathetic construction.</p> <p>The Rights of Way service continues to work with the Council's neighbourhood officer teams to pass on information and gain feedback.</p> <p>The Walks and Activities programme was not continued in 2016 and online subscribers were directed to the Parks Services' Leisure Events programme. Work continued with Volunteer Groups to provide events and routes. There were no current plans to add to the 10 circular routes on the City Council's website.</p> <p>The Riverside Path was on hold pending the completion of the Our City Our River flood protection scheme.</p> <p>Use of the City Council's social media would be assessed in the future.</p> <p>Resolved to note the report.</p> <p><u>(b) 2016/17 Progress Report</u></p> <p>Ray Brown reported on progress on the most important actions to date for 2016/17.</p> <p>Work continued with the highways inspectors to resolve complex path maintenance issues.</p> <p>The Council's Planning Control Committee has determined the only outstanding application for a definitive map modification order at Brook Farm, Chaddesden and this would be added to the definitive map. Two public path orders have been confirmed and two others were being considered. The 'working definitive map' public path data has been uploaded to the City Council's online portal.</p> <p>Work continued with National Rail to try and resolve rights of way issues on the pedestrian level crossing at Megaloughton Lane, Spondon and illegal off road biking at Chaddesden Sidings.</p> <p>Electronic information on rights of way and external link sites continued to be made available.</p> <p>Resolved to note the report.</p>	
47/16	<p><u>Sub Groups – HS2</u></p> <p>The HS2 sub group met on 23 September 2016. This followed the announcement on the change of route for the northern part of Derbyshire. There was a proposal to create a spur onto the</p>	

	<p>Midland Main Line which would serve Chesterfield and Sheffield. Implication of this proposed change and its effect on the Chesterfield Canal was the subject of a seminar being held today by the Chesterfield Canal Trust.</p> <p>Three of the four proposed routes for the Nottingham tram extension to Toton ran along the bed of the Derby and Sandiacre Canal. The canal society was protective of this line and it was expected that these routes would be contentious.</p> <p>It was expected that proposals for Phase 2 of the HS2 route north of Birmingham would be announced in November/December 2016. If information was received before the next meeting in December it would be circulated to members.</p>	
48/16	<p><u>National Trust's Proposed Outdoor Hub Development at Calke Abbey</u></p> <p>John Disney informed that meeting that the National Trust was proposing to create a new outdoor hub at Calke Abbey. The new hub, consisting of a new building with café toilets an cycle hire, new car park, footpaths, cycle routes and outdoor recreation areas. It would be located between park entry and the main site.</p> <p>The National Trust provided information on this proposed development on the website, however although Calke had a one way traffic system there was little reference to traffic management. It was expected that the village of Ticknall would be most affected by any increase in traffic to Calke Abbey. It was noted that a number of bus service pass close to Calke Abbey and the use of this public transport should be encouraged by the operator and the National Trust.</p> <p>The next step for the National Trust was submission of a planning application to South Derbyshire District Council and DADLAF would look to submitting comments on this.</p>	
49/16	<p><u>Consultation on the Derby and Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030</u></p> <p>The Chair reported that a letter had been sent in response to the consultation on the Derby and Nottingham Metropolitan Strategy 2030 due to the closing date of 19 September 2016.</p> <p>The letter stressed the importance of access to green spaces and traffic free routes and requested that DADALF be involved in future consultation on this matter.</p>	
50/16	<p><u>Public Parks Inquiry</u></p> <p>A response to the Public Parks Inquiry by the Communities and Local Government Committee had been prepared by Ian Else on behalf of the DADLAF. The response was attached to the Agenda.</p> <p>The closing date for comments was today, 30 September 2016 and</p>	RB

	<p>John Disney reported that the Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust was looking for people to be a part of a new charitable trust to help deliver a 10 year vision and plan aimed at attracting more visitors, increasing income and protecting Elvaston's Heritage.</p> <p>If any members were interested in applying the information could be accessed on the County Council's website.</p>	
55/16	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u> The next meeting will be held on Friday 9 December 2016. Agenda items would be required by Friday 18 November.</p>	
56/16	<p><u>Draft Stanton Regeneration Site Supplementary Planning Document</u> The closing date for comments on this document was 24 October 2016. It was therefore suggested that the comments previously submitted on the Stanton Regeneration be resubmitted with a covering letter indicating DADLAF's request to be kept updated and informed.</p>	GM
57/17	<p><u>Presentation on DerwentWISE</u> Tania Pells from the DerwentWISE project attended to provide a presentation on the background and work of the project.</p> <p>DerwentWISE was a five year (2014-2019) Landscape Partnership with 15 partners, over 60 projects with a value to £2.5million. The project was hosted by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust.</p> <p>The project area was 24km long with a diverse range of landscape character types. It was within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site which had a plethora of scheduled monuments, listed buildings, ancient woodland, SSSI's and RIGS and Biodiversity Action Plan species including water vole, otter and woodland birds.</p> <p>The four core programme areas were conserving and restoring; community participation; access and learning and training and skills. The project assists the Biodiversity Action Plan and contributes strategies promoted by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Derbyshire County Council, Derwent Valley Mills and Derwent Valley Cycleway. Traditional craft and habitat skills were also supported.</p> <p>Tania provided details on Lea Wood Knoll and the work undertaken by Trent and Peak Archaeological Society and volunteer field surveys. The site has 485 features to be listed but there was no evidence to the significance of the boundary.</p> <p>Forest schools were provided using Shining Cliff Woods and suitable clothing and footwear was provided. This morning it was reported that bluebells, buttercups and conkers were being removed for the Oxford Children's dictionary.</p>	

	<p>DerwentWISE, the County Council and Accessible Derbyshire were working together to assess the standard and accessibility of the Heritage Way.</p> <p>Further information can be found on the DerwentWISE/DVMWHS website – www.derwentwise.com and Tania Pells can be contacted via email - tpells@derbyshirewt.co.uk</p> <p>Members asked questions relating to the lessons learnt following the Limestone Journey project and promotion of linear routes linking Derbyshire’s Industrial past. Tania responded that planning had commenced earlier for the legacy after this scheme finishes, with a Partner Legacy Group and Action Plan. The East Midlands of for HLF always considered impact and connectivity in project areas.</p> <p>The Chair on behalf of members thanked Tania for the presentation.</p>	
58/16	<p><u>Presentation on Derwent Valley Cycleway</u></p> <p>A presentation was given by Ian Dent on the Derwent Valley Cycleway. This was a project to develop a safe and family friendly, traffic free, multi user route from Derby to Matlock following the route of the River Derwent.</p> <p>The A6 was not cycle friendly and existing cycle routes were poor or non-existent. This project would fill a gap in the National Cycle Network, provide links to the White Peak Loop, extend tourists cycle usage outside the Peak Park and provide opportunities for tourism. Belper and Duffield were within the cycle commuting range for Derby and would assist the Derby 2020 Clean Air Zone.</p> <p>Positive responses have been received from the Local Authorities and regional and national organisations, however funding the project was a concern. The project could be divided into three phases, Derby to Belper, Belper to Cromford via the DVMWHS. Cromford to Matlock, with a feasibility study for each.</p> <p>This presentation formed part of awareness raising for the project. Ian stated that it needed to be included in the Derbyshire Strategic Network Plan.</p> <p>Chris Allen asked if any of the route was privately owned and Ian confirmed that some of the route was, however a positive response has been received from the estate owner but tenant farmers were not so enthused. There was also a squeeze point in Matlock Bath and consideration was being given to the construction of cantilever decking from the rock face. Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has also mapped out ‘no go’ protected area.</p> <p>The Chair on behalf of members thanked Ian for his presentation.</p>	

