

**North York Moors Disability Advisory Group**

**49th Meeting – Friday 1 December 2017**

**Present**

Danny Boyes (Chairman)  
Aileen Gatland  
Ian Lawson  
Anita Buttell

**Apologies**

Peter Scott (Moorswork)  
Denise Ross  
Sarah Oswald  
David Brewster  
Ann Boyes  
Debbie Trafford  
David Mennear

**In Attendance**

Joan Childs  
Tom Mutton  
Ian Nicholls

**1. Apologies**

The poor weather conditions on the morning of 1 December had resulted in several people not being able to complete their journey to Danby.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 September were noted and agreed.

**3. Matters Arising**

• **Tactile Maps**

To be carried forward as an agenda item for the next meeting.

• **Updates on the Easy Access Paths and Cinder Track**

To be carried forward as an agenda item for the next meeting.

**Action - Ian N to include on the April meeting agenda**

**4. This Exploited Land of Iron (TELol)**

Tom Mutton explained the background to the project which means that there is £3.8 million to spend on heritage and conservation in the North York Moors. He described the 3 key themes of history, environment and people together with some of the projects in each of these areas. The group welcomed this and made the point that such a significant amount of money should incorporate provision for disabled people.

Further information about the project is available via the link below;

<http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/looking-after/landofiron>

Four key elements were discussed;

- **Interpretation**

The story of TELoI would be told in a creative way that would use traditional interpretation, such as leaflets and information boards, as well as newer technologies for example, 3D modelling and the use of augmented reality. In addition, a refurbishment of the exhibition area at the Moors Centre was planned as part of the project. There was considerable discussion about how the various methods would work for people with a range of disabilities. Tom said that he was at an early stage of developing the interpretation plan and would come back to discuss proposals in more detail with the group at the next meeting.

- **Access**

The project was due to develop a series of walk and cycle routes with information being provided free of charge via downloadable leaflets and maps. Public access to some sites, such as the mines at Esk Valley and Warren Moors, would be promoted and made easy for the first time. More accessible routes were to be constructed at Bank Top Kilns, along the Rosedale Railway and on the Goathland-Grosmont rail trail.

Tom explained the major piece of work that had been done at Reeking Gill to drain the surrounding area to enable an accessible path to be established. Ian L raised the issue of parking at East Kilns and Tom said that the plan was for the improved access to encompass an out and back walk from existing car parking adjacent to Blakey Ridge. There was some discussion about whether it might be feasible to establish parking closer to the East Kilns site for those who didn't want to undertake such a long route.

- **Involvement**

Tom explained the ways in which the public were being encouraged to get involved in the project ranging from promotional events, guided walks, community archaeology digs, a wide range of volunteer opportunities and a community grant scheme. The point was made that in order to ensure that provision for disabled people was as good as it could be, advice should be sought from a range of people. Tom said that he would welcome further input from the Group and agreed to talk to Danny about the possibility of him joining the Project's Steering Group.

- **Learning**

The archaeological digs were providing a wide range of finds; people were also coming forward with photographs and other information. The intention was to collect all of this together to create an online archive as part of the ongoing legacy of the project.

**Action – Tom to come back to the next meeting in March to talk in more detail about the plans for interpretation.**

## 5. Out and About Guide 2018

Ian L had been working with NYM staff involved in putting the Out and About Guide together. The way in which wheelchair accessibility was promoted has been changed to be clearer and more positive. The 2018 Guide will also include a double page feature on accessible activities/sites within the National Park and surrounding area. Ian L acknowledged the work done so far to improve the information in this publication.

In response to comments at the last meeting that the 2017 Out and About Guide did not use any pictures of disabled people, new images (particularly from Wet Wheels) have been sourced which, it is hoped, will reflect a broader audience.

**Action – IN to ensure that a copy (or a link to the online version) is sent out with the next agenda.**

## 6. Volunteer Service

Danny welcomed Joan to her first meeting. Joan explained how the National Park Authority was engaging with volunteers and how the system of publicising volunteering opportunities was now easily accessible to a much wider range of people.

Established links with organisations such as Kirkleatham Special School were continuing and new relationships were being developed to provide opportunities for residents of Botton Village to get into the National Park to volunteer and for others to undertake voluntary work in the village itself.

Joan said that the Volunteer team now included a volunteer (who was disabled) and it was helpful to have this insight.

The group were keen that work was done to ensure that disabled volunteers continued to be offered opportunities to engage with work in the National Park and talked about the work done by Beyond Boundaries based at Comondale (<https://en-gb.facebook.com/beyondboundariesNYorks/>). Joan agreed to make contact with the group and explore opportunities for joint working.

**Action – Report back on progress following contact with Beyond Boundaries**

## 7. Access/Rights of Way Issues

In view of Debbie's absence from the meeting, most of the Rights of Way items were carried forward to the next meeting (see Matters Arising above).

It was noted, however, that the work had been done to complete a ramp from the Cleveland Way to enable access to the holiday park's facilities at Saltwick Bay. Ian L said that he had been in touch with Scarborough Borough Council to ask them to make some minor improvements to remove several kerbstones and establish two blue badge parking spaces in the car park turning circle.

Ian L said that he would contact Debbie direct to discuss potential improvements on the cliff top footpath from Abbey Plains to Saltwick Bay and on the path behind the pub at Runswick Bay

## **8. Moorswork**

Peter Scott was on holiday, but had sent an update regarding Moorswork's activities **(see attached)**

## **9. Seated Man at Westerdale**

Ian N had included with the agenda a copy of a letter from a disabled person who lives in view of the Seated Man statue. The letter was very positive about the statue and pleased that this gave so many people a reason to see the view over Westerdale and Danby Dale.

There was discussion about how accessible the path to the statue was. Ian N made the point that it was not on a right of way and that access was over private land. Members of the Group said that they would draft a letter to send to David Ross (landowner) asking him to consider making improvement to the access track.

## **10. Other Business**

Aileen asked who had responsibility for clearing up flowers left on seats and in prominent spots around the National Park. It was noted that this was a common problem and that, more often than not, these flowers were left as a memorial to a friend or relative. Technically, it was up to landowners to clear up unsightly litter, but all acknowledged that this was a problem significantly more widespread than just the North York Moors.

## **11. Time, date and location of next meeting**

Friday 6 April 2018 at the Moors Centre – 10.15 am

To: Donna Magson. ( d.magson@northyorkmoors.org.uk.)

Sorry I can't make the meeting on 1.12.17. - I am away on holiday

Update on the previous year. - Sept 2016 - Dec 2017.

Moorswork continues to progress. with more than enough work. in a large area. geographical area from Scarborough. in the North. to Kirby Underdale and Bossall in the South. and all areas of the AONB. in the West. When covering such a large area. a reliable Mini Bus is essential - this has been a problem for most of the summer. due to a major breakdown. with our bus. - We are now in the process of leasing a new one.

We have attracted one new client working two days a week. - Two clients have been fortunate to move into paid employment - one for two days and one for a day - both continue to work with us.

The future for Moorswork. looks very healthy.

Peter Scott.  
( Director Moorswork )