



North York Moors

Local Access Forum

North York Moors National Park Authority, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate,
Helmsley, York, YO62 5BP

Public Minutes of the meeting held at The Old Vicarage, Helmsley on Tuesday 5 Dec 2017

Present: Val Arnold, Les Atkinson, Mike Conlon, Catriona Cook, Catherine Cussons, Alison Fuller, Helen Gundry, Peter Hutchinson, Muriel Mitchell, Terry Ratcliffe, John Richardson George Winn-Darley.

Apologies: Cath Bashforth, David Brewster, Shelagh Holyoake, Neil Leighton (NYCC)

Officers in Attendance: Vanessa Burgess, Briony Fox, Naomi Green, Richard Gunton, David Shaw, Debbie Trafford.

Copies of All Documents Considered are in the Minute Book

Richard Gunton welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Debbie Trafford.

Richard Gunton thanked Catriona Cook for all her hard work in chairing the LAF over the last few years. Catriona Cook thanked Vanessa Burgess for her secretarial support.

15/17 **Election of Chair**

John Richardson was elected Chair.

16/17 **Election of Deputy Chair**

Catriona Cook was elected as Deputy Chair

17/17 **Public Minutes**

All Members agreed the public minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 13 June 2017**, these were then confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

18/17 **Matters Arising**

Alison Fuller updated members on two outstanding matters:

Permissive Access Licence – Negotiations are ongoing. Authority Officers are due to meet with the relevant parties after Christmas to hopefully progress.

Sustrans/Cinder Track – SBC held a meeting on 13 Sept, a task group is to be set up. Richard Gunton updated members regarding recent site visit meetings which he and Elspeth Ingleby had attended. Two further meetings are planned.

Action: Richard Gunton to keep LAF members updated on progress

George Winn-Darley informed members on the probable increase in barrier usage and traffic congestion at Malton station, due to bridge building, saying that a proper bypass was needed to aid traffic flow.

Mowing Grass Verges – After some discussion members agreed that this item should be followed up with Neil Leighton (NYCC) at the next LAF meeting in June 2018, plus that NP Officers should raise awareness of the issues with local land/home owners by:

- Writing an article to go in Moors Messenger
- Adding info to the NP's website
- Writing an article on Conservation Dept's blog in Spring 2018

Action: David Shaw to speak to Nina Beadle, Communications Officer and Rachel Smith, Conservation Administrator to arrange.

Polyhalite Sub Group – Helen Gundry informed members that the Sub group had met with Briony Fox to discuss a number of issues raised as part of the first sub group meeting which took place on 5 June 2017. The main points discussed included:

- Biosecurity – NP's role/support to other organisations such as Forestry Commission
- Creation of a public or permissive bridlepath – NP agreed to further investigate, map and cost out
- Funding to further improve walking, horse-riding and cycling routes – possibility of future grant programme to tap into, plus Sirius Foundation money
- Moorsbus – Helen Gundry to work on a proposal for possible S106 funding

Action: Briony Fox – to investigate creation of public/permissive bridlepath

Guidelines for the organisation of recreational events – George Winn-Darley informed members that having reviewed the current document some elements of the document were in need of a refresh. Debbie Trafford informed the group that she was about to undertake some work on the document herself and welcomed input from members. Alison Fuller reminded the forum that a request made to Karl at a previous meeting to include the MPV's still needed doing.

Action: Debbie Trafford to liaise with George Winn-Darley and John Richardson to progress. Any draft document to be shared with LAF members for comment. Current guidelines can be viewed on the NP's website:

<http://www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/visiting/enjoy-outdoors/organising-events/Guidelines-for-the-organisation-of-recreation-events.pdf>

19/17 **UURs and TROs**

Debbie Trafford reminded the group that the responsibility for UUR and TRO work sat with NYCC highways dept and unfortunately Neil Leighton was unable to attend the meeting to discuss any member concerns. Debbie did advise the group that positive things were happening and the NP had a good working relationship with the NYCC highways team. The Countryside Management team were to take on a member of staff to handle strategic UUR work across the County, plus the NP were to offer NYCC highways guidance on how/where money should be spent.

20/17 **LOST WAYS (2026 deadline) / Future of white roads sub group**

Terry Ratcliffe updated members on the issues surrounding RT roads and asked that a map with RT road information on be shared with all LAF members. As indicated in his report Terry asked that the LAF send a letter to NYCC highways requesting that they review the resources, priorities and progress with regard to the discovery of forgotten historic footpaths and bridleways and subsequent DMMOs. Richard Gunton

advised members that the information from the work of the URMAG group had been sent to NYCC, to help inform them in their work when allocating funds.

Action: Vanessa Burgess to e-mail RT map to LAF Members

Action: Richard Gunton/LAF Chair to draft a letter to be sent to NYCC highways.

Action: Terry Ratcliffe to send Debbie Trafford a copy of Craven, Harrogate and Selby report

21/17 **Update from Disability Advisory Group** – David Brewster was unable to attend the meeting so his update was rescheduled to June 2018.

Action: Vanessa Burgess to send LAF members the DAG notes from the meeting on 1 December

22/17 **Future funding for farmers – inc payments for public access**

Catriona Cook declared an interest as a Farmer

Catriona Cook updated members on discussions at the last RAF, saying that a letter was being sent to Government lobbying for landowners payment.

David Shaw informed members that the NP's was looking at the issue and working with other NP's, especially Exmoor NP. The NP would be engaging with Farmers, Landowners and other groups such as LAF in due course.

23/17 **Regional Access Forums – Natural England withdrawing support**

Brief discussion took place on current situation re: Natural England's resourcing issues and the fact that they are no longer able to offer secretarial support to the RAF.

24/17 **Ryedale Cycle Forum/Moorsbus Update**

Val Arnold declared an interest as a member of the funding committee

Helen Gundry, gave members a handout at the meeting, updating them on recent Moorsbus work. Moorsbus facilitated 10,000 passenger journeys this year, but more work needs to take place re: funding and promotion.

Helen informed the group of the initial bid success re: the Malton to Pickering route, and that the next stage of the bid was due in in February 2018. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of extending the route to include Kirkbymoorside and Helmsley.

25/17 **Update on climbing community initiatives**

Mike Conlon updated members on two recent climbing community initiatives – repairs to an entry footpath and the introduction of a stile on land near Bilsdale Hall. Mike praised the support of NP Rangers, saying they were a valuable source of advice and expertise.

26/17 **Items for future meetings**

Cinder Track, Mowing of Grass Verges, Bio Security, Polyhalite Update, DAG Update, Moorsbus/Ryedale Cycle Forum

27/17 Any Other Business

Alison Fuller raised the issue of the white roads/yellow roads work which had been carried out by herself and Terry Ratcliffe and passed on the Karl to send off to OS, to update future maps. Debbie Trafford informed the meeting that draft maps had recently been delivered for checking by the rangers. Once that work had been done Debbie said she would be happy to arrange for Alison to view the maps to check the updating had taken place.

Action: Debbie Trafford to liaise with Alison Fuller to arrange map viewing

Naomi Green, gave members a short presentation, including slides showing recently completed works in the Sneaton Forest area.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 13 June 2018 to include lunch and an afternoon site visit

..... (Chair)
13 June 2018