
Staying on the Right Track

Vehicles in the Countryside in the Peak District National Park



Update – November 2011

Review of Strategy for Managing Recreational Motor Vehicles

As you may be aware, at the July meeting of the Audit, Resources and Performance Committee, members of the authority decided to establish a working group to:

- review the existing Strategy and Policy, (including procedures for consulting and making Traffic Regulation Orders where these are required) and;
- to consider increasing the resources available for implementing the strategy, building on the existing partnership work with Highways Authorities and the police and extending the work across the whole of the National Park area.

This review is now complete and a decision on whether to adopt the changes will be taken at the full Authority meeting on 2 December 2011.

Anyone with comments on the revised strategy and policy will have the opportunity to speak at the meeting. In the meantime the drafts can be seen in the Management Strategy update section at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/vehicles

Derbyshire County Council consultation

Derbyshire County Council will also shortly be consulting on its new draft policy about this issue.

Details are not available yet but will appear on their website at www.derbyshire.gov.uk in the public consultations section called Have Your Say.

Stories from the National Parks

We hope you saw the recent BBC4 programme about the work we and our partners are carrying out in relation to the whole issue of the use of green lanes with the Peak District National Park. The documentary produced by Richard Macer was given unrestricted access to our work in the field and if you missed it there are clips available on the BBC i-player (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b016psp6>).

We would like to thank people who took the time to contact us with their views on the programme.



Repairs to Washgates



As part of our ongoing programme officers continue to work on routes identified as having management issues. Washgates is an unclassified road on the Staffordshire-Derbyshire border. The lane crosses a narrow stream via a Grade II listed packhorse bridge and also crosses a remote and beautiful valley.

The lane has some outstanding examples of old stone pitching in the area near the packhorse bridge and this has been severely damaged over the past few years.

The first picture shows the lane as it was a couple of months ago before Dave Cramp, the Peak District National Park Authority's Conservation Volunteer Officer, began work on restoring the pitching with the aid of several conservation volunteers and the crucial assistance of local farmer Steve Wardle.

A section of the pitching has now been repaired by the group, who will observe how their work fares over the winter period, after which Dave and his volunteers will return to carry on the job of restoring the lane to its former state.

The lane itself crosses the packhorse bridge, which at its widest point is less than 4'6" wide, and is therefore unsuitable for wider vehicles.



Close monitoring of the route is continuing to take place and we are very concerned of reports of motorbikers driving in nearby streams. If you see any such illegal action please report it to the local police; as ever this illegal activity is noted and acted upon. Such damage will not be tolerated.



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