

Black Harry Trails Project

Improving the bridleway network on Longstone Edge



September 2010

Background

The Black Harry Trails Project seeks to improve and create routes for horse-riding and mountain-biking and to increase recreation opportunities for the less able, elderly and those with young families in an area affected by mineral working.

The project aims to:

- Enhance the existing bridleway network with new link routes.
- Improve surfacing and gates to enable a wider range of opportunities and different users.
- Use specially developed signs to give users greater confidence in the new network of routes.
- Bring about better management of recreational motor vehicles which can deter other users
- Develop knowledge and respect for the routes and other users by volunteer and community involvement
- Enhance the environment and reduce the impacts of quarrying

The project area covers Stoney Middleton and Calver which is identified as a priority area for funding under the Derbyshire Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund. A bid for funding has been made towards the project's anticipated cost of £34.4k. There may be potential for this project to develop in the future to include the worked out quarries and mineral workings in the area.

Update

Derbyshire Environmental Trust have just announced a grant offer of £12,869 to fund the works on Coombs Dale concessionary bridleway, Darlton Quarry bridleway and Black Harry Unclassified County Road. We will be looking to complete these works by end February.

This is a successful first step to enable us to carry out some of the works identified in the original project plan. In addition, we will be seeking to identify alternative means of progressing improvements in this area. Some of this will be by match-funding, including using volunteers

A key part of this project is the involvement of the public, local communities and user groups. There have already been many expressions of support. Now that we know that we are able to proceed with the project, and we are clearer about what can be achieved, we can discuss the project more widely with those who have an interest in this area.

We will be updating everyone that has been involved so far and holding site meetings prior to the work starting later on this year.

Thank you to everyone for their interest and involvement.