

# Black Harry Trails Project

Improving the bridleway network on Longstone Edge



December 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 Longstone Edge and includes Stoney Middleton and Calver which is identified as a priority area for funding under the Derbyshire Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund. An application for funding was 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 County Council, under the aggregate levy scheme, have offered £12,869 to fund the works on the proposed Coombs Dale concessionary bridleway, Darlton Quarry bridleway and Black Harry Unclassified County Road.

Further contributions totalling £5000 have been offered towards signage and interpretation/promotion and which can be used towards the project area as a whole. There are also offers of practical help which are being co-ordinated through Peak Park Conservation Volunteers for two working weekends in February.

There have been many expressions of support and involvement from residents, users, businesses and organisations. A public meeting was held at the end of November 2010 for those wishing to hear more about the works, be involved in the project, or have any suggestions as to how the project could develop.

The works have not commenced yet as we are still liaising with contractors and drawing up specifications following the input from residents and users. Agreements are also being finalised with the landowners and the funding body. The works to the three identified routes are due to be completed by March 2011.

Further updates will be provided.