

**LAF Green Lanes Sub-group  
Aldern House  
7 February 2013**

**Attendees:**

John Thompson (Chair), Edwina Edwards, Henry Folkard, Richard Entwistle, Charlotte Gilbert, Sue Weatherley, James Kellie, Richard Peart for part Mike Rhodes, Sue Smith

**Apologies:**

Mike Johnson, Terry Howard, Clare Griffin, Adge Last, Richard Pett

**1. Matters Arising**

John Thompson has had discussions with Peter White at DCC. Peter was unable to be present at this meeting but would attend a future meeting of the sub-group. Edwina to pursue the concerns raised over communications, involvement of DCC and the impact on the NPA.

**Action:** Edwina to pursue with Nicola Turner in the first instance.

**2. Chapel Gate TRO Consultation**

In light of the extension to the deadline for providing responses, the afternoon's site visit, and communications with DCC, LAF members were asked to consider whether any amendments to the drafted response were required. It was considered that a replacement response would be provided.

Edwina was unable to attend the afternoon's site visit but relayed her observations about the overall good condition of the route with the exception of rutted and boggy sections. Other members raised concerns about the robustness of the gully repairs and the opportunity for maintaining these through managed use. The line of the route at the puddle was unclear.

Members sought confirmation that the route was closed. It was felt that DCC should be encouraged to undertake further works as part of the current scheme and closure. However it was noted that the submerged section was not part of the section of the route currently closed.

There was agreement from all members that unrestricted use was not possible. The afternoon's site visit would therefore focus on the type of restriction.

**3. Update on TRO Consultations**

Sue Smith reported that the Long Causeway and the Roych responses were currently being analysed and that additional support had been taken on to assist with this. The requirement to respond individually to objections raised was also being addressed. At this stage not able to commit to a timescale for reporting to committee.

Members also raised queries about the proposed works by DCC on Long Causeway and whether these would be in keeping with the original structure. Concerns were expressed about delays which have helped contribute to the

potential irreparable damage. The requirement for relevant authorities to have regard to NP purposes was noted.

#### **4. Route Management Reports**

Draft route summary reports were provided for the final 8 routes in Derbyshire showing details of use, condition and consultations. The Forum's comments were reviewed for each of these routes:

Clough Wood – Works are required on the steep downhill section. Mike Rhodes confirmed that this has been flagged up with DCC at the liaison meetings. The rest of the route is in decent repair. Clarified that there should be mention to historic features instead of historic surface, and that the paving should be maintained as part of the character of the route. Refer to NPA archaeologists for a walkover survey.

**Action:** Sue Smith to refer to NPA Archaeologists.

Derby Lane – Clarification needed as to the line of the route on the ground. The gates are poor. No monitoring has been undertaken which is required to establish a baseline. The condition may worsen as a result of increased use.

**Action:** Rich Pett to install vehicle logger.

Hay Dale – The best flora may not be included in the current verge nature reserve. Refer to NPA ecologists. The surfacing undertaken has changed the character of the Dale.

**Action:** Sue Smith to refer to NPA Ecologists.

Hurstclough – Members enquired whether the woodland was encompassed by the Natural Zone designation. Discussions took place as to whether a one-way system downhill would be the most appropriate management option for this route. It was considered that voluntary restraint could be largely effective but would not help with the degradation of the route and there would still be no room for other users to get out of the way unless these were also subject to the one-way system. An exception would also be required for agricultural vehicles. Management revolves around whether the issues were conflict and/or degradation and a one-way system for vehicles would be unlikely to address this.

**Action:** Sue Smith to investigate NZ status of woodland.

Minninglow & Gallowlow Lane – The grassy character of the route is important. Need to fill in the ruts, as distinct from surfacing the route, and to address the poor drainage. Previous action has shown that repair and then seasonal restriction can be effective.

Nether Bretton – Works were required to fill in potholes and ruts.

Riley Lane – Sue Smith reported that the Inspectors decision following the Public Inquiry means that the route is now effectively a cul-de-sac subject to the final resolution of status. Members considered that the problems of the

illegal use in the woodland and the condition of the track in the woodland needs to be kept under review.

Sough Lane – Mike Rhodes reported that DCC are considering doing some works on this route.

### **5. Priority Routes**

Sue Smith tabled a paper listing the priority routes within and outside Derbyshire and which showed which routes were subject to repairs and legal status changes. Information from DCC on their schedule of repairs for 2012/13 was also provided.

In relation to the 12 routes outside the Derbyshire part of the NP, it was noted that at Wetton the use has increased and it is vulnerable. At Hollinsclough an urgent review of status by Staffs CC as the Highway Authority was required.

It was also noted that an approach had been made to add another route to the priority list. Mike Rhodes reported that the NPA was not intending to review the priority list and that the sustainability analysis was robust. For routes where there's been deterioration since the time of the analysis, then there may be issues to be addressed by the Highway Authority and as in this case DCC would be the relevant contact.

**Action:** Invite the 2013/14 work programme from DCC and a programme for works on unclassified roads.

### **6. PDNPA and DCC Resources**

A draft letter to the NPA was tabled by John Thompson. This had been circulated to all LAF members prior to finalising at this meeting.

A discussion took place on the role of the NPA as distinct from the responsibilities and duties of the Highway Authorities (HAs). The role and resources of the NPA were limited and it was important to note that others should fulfil their duty to have regard to NP purposes. It was suggested that a Memorandum of Understanding with all the HAs in the NP could set this out.

**Action:** John Thompson to send a letter to Jim Dixon, NPA on resources and to provide feedback at the March LAF meeting.

### **7. AOB**

New arrangements with respect to public participation at committee meetings were now in force. It was unclear whether the LAF were statutory consultees for the purposes of public participation.

**Action:** John Thompson to enquire of Democratic Services, NPA whether the LAF will have an automatic right to speak at committee and to report back to the March LAF meeting.

### **8. DoNM**

To be advised.