

Peak District Local Access Forum

Date: 14th March 2009

Item: 3b

Title: Vehicle Use in the Countryside Update

Author: Richard Pett

Purpose of the Report

To update members on progress with the Recreational Motor Vehicle Strategy

Report

Sustainability Plans

- Myself and Wayne Bexton accompanied a senior DCC Engineer onto the 8 management plan routes discussed by the sub-group. The engineer's observations have been fascinating and he is presently costing up potential works and proposals.
- This work will complete the paperwork for the management plans and the next step will be a meeting DCC will be organising to look into all the issues and come up with a set of recommendations.
- I have begun work on the next 8 routes so that when requested the PDNPA information required will be ready in a timely fashion.

Operation Blackbrook

- 3 more operations have taken place recently with 2 more scheduled for the near future.
- The police have commenced issuing 'Section 59' notices. These notices consist of a single warning attached to the vehicle and driver and if a second notice is issued the vehicle is seized and a release fee of over £100 is applicable).
- The PDVUG assisted the police on the operation of the 8th March with around 100 vehicle users spoken to, 3 section 59 notices were served. Lines of communication on site are good, with operations welcomed.

Signage

- Advisory signage is ready and samples available.

- These signs will be erected mounted on 10" timber posts, with wire rope inset, signs will also be inset.
- The first of these signs will be erected at Tideswell Lane Eyam and Long Causeway.
- The police have invited the PDVUG and PDNPA to take part in a photo-shoot, and the parish council will also be invited to publicise this important work.
- It would be great to see more of these signs up but there is a resource challenge.
- Section 59 warning signs are also now available for land where no rights exist.

Instant email alerts

- This service has now been launched, it will be invaluable in dispersing information quickly, such as for example if a route is damaged and needs urgent voluntary restraint.

Website Updates

- The Code of Respect will shortly have its own page and further information about Operation Blackbrook will be available

Dispersal Issues

- I have noted an increase in use on some routes (such as Bamford Clough) and whilst this may be seasonal we must also be aware that it could be the impact of restrictions, I will keep the LAF informed if this becomes a trend.

Restrictions

- Continue to be well observed at, for example, washgates and moss road

Houndkirk Road

- MJR to give verbal update under AOB