

Report to Local Access Forum 21 March 2013 John Thompson Item 8
Peak District Cycle Summit - 'Moving up a Gear'

09:30 – 15:30, Wednesday 27 February 2013

[Thornbridge Outdoors](#), Great Longstone, Nr. Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1NY

I represented the Local Access Forum after we looked at the scope for work towards a Cycling strategy and Action Plan for the wider Peak District working with the Peak district NPA officers and constituent Highway Authorities, building on the excellent work done on Projects - notably the Monsal Trail. Delegates included Adje Last from Thornbridge Outdoors (where 800 metres of trails link onto the Monsal Trail) who is also a LAF member, Andrew McCloy (PDNPA) a former LAF member, Geoff Nickolds (PDNPA) also a former LAF member, Jim Dixon (Chief Exec, PDNPA), Jim Seymour (Derbyshire C.C.) and Matt Easter from Sustrans who did a presentation to our LAF in December.

Around 70 delegates attended from a good variety of authorities and organisations and interests. It was a very good event with clear ideas and great enthusiasm for future action, including bidding into a Dept. of Transport Fund of £12 mill for National Parks (by end of April), and some scope to work with adjoining urban authorities in making their separate bids (e.g. links from Sheffield).

Event objectives

By the end of the event we will have:

1. Explored our shared ambitions for cycling in and around the Peak District;
2. Helped identify the gaps within the current Peak District cycle network;
3. Started to develop some potential big ideas for cycling in the Peak District;
4. Found out how your organisation can take part in and/or benefit from the September 2013 Peak District Cycling Festival.

I have copies of key slides from the presentations electronically if anyone wishes to see them.

Agenda

Time	Session
09:30	Arrival & registration – tea & coffee served
10:00	Welcome , Roger Clarke, Member, Peak District National Park Authority - aim to make the Peak District No 1 Cycling Destination benefitting visitors and local people with cycling being a good and sustainable way to enjoy the National Park. Need an improved network for leisure, shops, schools and work. Wider Peak district approach is vital
	From the Sustrans perspective... Matt Easter, Regional Director, Sustrans Who did a presentation to our LAF last December - emphasised the need for a Plan to get DoT money and should map where to go and how to get there. Referred to some progress on the White Peak loop and benefits to health and the economy.
	Shaping habits, creating change , Adrian Lord, Associate, Arup - stressed the importance of People - Place - Purpose and the importance of commitment to a partnership approach so people benefit and enjoy the environment. Suggestions made for colour coding routes and provision of distance counters
	Break & networking
	Identifying the gaps – spotting the opportunities - a very worthwhile session in groups looking at maps of existing routes in different areas in and around the National Park and suggesting priorities for filling gaps.

Time	Session
12:45	Lunch & networking – <i>light buffet provided</i>
	Developing the next 'big ideas' for cycling - another excellent workshop session looking at ideas for future improvement of opportunities for cycling and assessing which would best fit the criteria for bids to the "Funding Pot" for National Parks. The importance of good management and maintenance were also stressed
	2013 Cycle Festival – making it work for you - Carol Parsons (PDNPA) highlighted details of the first Cycling Festival to be based at Thornbridge Outdoors from 7 - 15 September, 2013. They are seeking sponsorship of £5K to produce 20,000 leaflets. Also referred to Eroica (vintage cycling event) this year, and Tour de France visits to parts of the National Park in 2014.
	<p>Where to from here? Rachel Gillis (Head of Policy at the PDNPA) - Next Steps are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring together identified opportunities (by deliverability criteria) and make available to you • Form a steering group • Identify the potential components of an ambitious bid • Submit bid by 30 April to DfT towards £12m funding for National Parks. (I offered a letter of support from LAF) • Dovetail with related work e.g. review of Peak District Tourism Strategy, Greenway Strategies, ROWIPs • Consider further consultation needs e.g. economic partners • Draft plan for further consultation by September 13 (we could look at this from LAF point of view and advise)
15:30	<p>Depart / Optional Cycle Tour</p> <p>This event was externally facilitated by Pete Spriggs & Mandy Sims</p>