

MDC, Longshaw Estate – Wednesday 5th June 2019 (11:30am-4:00pm)

Present:

Bob Berzins (PLAF)
Chris Fry (MFFP)
Danny Udall (EMP)
Dave Aspinall (SCC)
Henry Folkard (BMC)
Jenny Parker (NE)
John Gilpin (SCC)
John Horscroft (RS)
Nabil Abbas (SRWT)
Rachel Bennett (NT)
Sue Fletcher (PDNPA)
Ted Talbot (NT)
Terry Howard (SR & SLAF)

Apologies:

Felicite Dodd (NE)
Louise Hawson
Mark Anderson (PDNPA)
Matthew Scott-Campbell (MFFP) – Chris Fry coming in his place
Sam Beaton (SCC)

Workshop 1. How we identify actions and take forward the recommendations in the 5-year review

- Asked each group to choose 3 recommendations to consider/work on, out of the 8 in the Review.

Item 1. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

- TH – There's still a push to look at all PROW and concessionary paths across the Peak, in anticipation of 2026. Would be favourable to involve the voluntary sector in helping with this, as they have a wealth of 'on the ground' knowledge. **ACTION** for Mike Rhodes & Sam Beaton to lead a workshop on access and access routes (in October time), to see where we are now and where we want to get to. This will help feed into land management and identify how to put in for a funding bid.

Item 2. Partner updates

John Gilpin (Sheffield City Council)

- Redmires Plantation – bit of herbicide works and fencing – still ongoing. Bike track an ongoing issue at the moment; John Horscroft has met with Sheffield Bird Study Group to see how to go forward. May go with a 'limited track'.
- Could be money to do some feasibility studies in Burbage. (Beavers) Would work better in the valley than the compartment.
- Having an overspill of camper vans currently, resulting in anti-social behaviour, littering etc. The Millstone and Norfolk Arms pub car parks will quite happily accommodate overnight campers.
- SCC to review whether there is still an appetite for a camper van site at Lady Cannings.
- Working with Yorkshire Water on to how to formalise access through Redmires Reservoir.

Nabil Abbas (Sheffield & Rotherham Wildlife Trust)

- Blackamoor doing a lot of survey work – woodland and bog condition surveys to inform a woodland restoration project this winter 2019.
- SLLP team now at full strength.
- Nationally, 30-days Wild promotion
- Lobby of 10,000 people to parliament on 26 June 2019 for a strong environment act.
- Few vacancies – new engagement and fundraising manager and land management officer. Will be on the website soon.

Peak District National Park Authority

Access - Sue Smith/Mike Rhodes

- **Keep on Track** – The National Park is developing a campaign this year with the support of the Green Lane Association for route users to keep to tracks to avoid damaging verges. At Houndkirk, this will build on and support the work being carried out by the Eastern Moors Partnership and Ride Sheffield. There will be a Peak District Local Access Forum (PDLAF) visit on 6 June 2019 to consider further.
- **Green Lanes Wardens** – Derbyshire Police are developing an initiative for people to report illegal activity on green lanes. They will be speaking at the PLAF meeting on 6 June 2019.
- **Miles without Stiles** – The NPA is undertaking condition surveys of the 20 Miles without Stiles easy access routes. Way marks are also being erected at the start of routes and at points where there may be difficulties in following the accessible route. Highway

Authorities and landowners will be involved. Works can be funded using the National Park's Access Fund with the use of volunteers, wherever possible.

- **Long Causeway** – proposed joint meeting with the PDLAF and Stanage Forum at Long Causeway to be rearranged to consider opportunities for the route as a future Miles without Stiles route.
- **Peak District Foundation** – the charity has now been set up and will be aiming to raise £70k in the 70th anniversary year of National Park legislation. Funding for benches on Miles without Stiles routes has been identified. Again, this will be with the involvement of landowners. Visitor Giving of 70p per donation has also been launched at the National Parks Visitor Centres raising £600 in the first 6 weeks.

North Lees/Stanage - Chris Bray/Mark Anderson

- Farm tenancy has been advertised and viewing day for prospective tenants next Saturday. Early indications are of lots of interest.
- Options appraisal for longer term management being prepared by consultants.
- Continuing with the work outlined in the CS scheme. But looking at a new woodland management plan for the estate to mirror the conservation work and a long-term vision.
- Traffic signage being trialled at busy period, this will be a long-term project along with some other measures which are currently in preparation.
- Small fire on Stanage around the Cowper stone area – Fire brigade attended and quickly extinguished – school kids allegedly started.

Visitor Management - Sarah Wilks

- Event Management - from a meeting held with stakeholders in the current Event Notification System on the 31st May 2019 - Following the workshop in January and the work of a National Park Management Plan sub group (confirmed by the Advisory Group) we are suggesting stopping the current system and replacing it with the below. This was supported at the meeting. *A notification that the current system will be replaced at the end of 2019 will be placed on the PDNP website.*
 - Guidance for Event organisers – based on the size and or impact of the event – including an ask for donations as we currently do.
 - A voluntary code of conduct for event organisers to 'sign' up to
 - A self-serve/monitored calendar of events (for those who have signed the code of conduct)
 - Possible site guides for key locations

The meeting highlighted the successes and limitations of the current system and felt we had learnt a lot by trialling this.

PDNPA other – Sue Fletcher

- Moorland issues and recent Chatsworth Moorland Management Meeting.
 - Visitor management – Countryside Code & suite of supporting signs – workshop planned for the 11th July 2019 at the ABC. The final agenda will be sent out early next week – anyone who doesn't have a save the date invite already and would like to attend let me Sarah Wilks (PDNPA) or Helen Wright (NT) know this week.
 - Moorland birds – 2018 survey completed, and analysis being carried out before results will be available in September/October. Indications are good so far. Birds of prey Initiative building on improved relationships between keepers and raptor groups. There are still concerns from the moorland community re Upland Skies, moorland owners and managers have been asked how they would like to engage.
 - Sustainable & Resilient Moorland Management Group (SRMMG) – clarification of the impact of Natural England's position statement on burning is being provided. Concern over fuel load in terms of vegetation and the short to medium fire risk until re-wetting takes effect.
 - FOG Sub Group has developed ideas for fire prevention and mitigation – support given for a piece of work on a strategic PD approach with a timescale for completion of January 2020.
 - Rural, heritage and wildlife crime – increase in staffing – 9 officers in the rural crime team – being recruited now. Contacts made with South Yorkshire as well as Derbyshire.
- Bids
 - Ravine woodlands LIFE bid – NE have led the bid supported by PDNPA, Chatsworth, FC and others. Rejected at full application stage.
 - PDNPA White Peak Pilot Ideas for a new Environmental Land Management Scheme has been accepted by Defra for part of their phase 1 testing. Still waiting for final confirmation. Defra has asked for a 2nd phase to look at this approach in the DP and SWP.

Chris Fry (Moors for the Future Partnership)

- Focus works on fire sites as they emerge.
- Comms team still doing work with the Bogtastic van.
- PhD research on peat pipes.
- Pursuing a UAV.
- Catchment on heather domination.

Jenny Parker (Natural England)

- Felicite has now moved on to a new role and NE has undergone a lot of restructuring changes at the moment. There's an area delivery unit that now takes on all enquiries relating to HLS.
- Felicite Dodd to work on the environmental bill.
- ***Further updates to follow from Jenny and Felicite.***

Ted Talbot & Rachel Bennett (National Trust, Longshaw)

- Very wet but very successful celebration of the 'Spirit of Kinder' Countryside Act over Easter. Which has now launched our Peoples' Landscapes project. Jarvis Cocker is involved in curating a walk.
- Operation Pitchford works underway, every Saturday, joint between NT and EMP. Will be working with SCC and SRWT to hamper raves that are being pushed to the fringes through Operation Pitchford.
- Karis joined as joint NT & EMP ranger, who will be out on the sites engaging with visitors, events organisers and school groups.
- Boundaries and footpath works underway during bird breeding season.

Danny Udall (Eastern Moors, NT & RSPB)

- Bulk of time being spent on moving EMP management plan forward. Now at the mapping stage.
- Small fire behind Surprise View a day or so after the one at Stanage.
- Trying to resolve a few conflicts currently – working with recreational community to focus on events (predominantly on Burbage) and school groups. Working with school groups, etc. will be a big part of Karis' new role as joint EMP/NT ranger.
- Map zoning underway to help provide suitable, alternative routes to school groups and events.
- EMP starting to engage with Sheffield aeromodellers following incidents of flying over ring ouzel nests.
- Compliance works around UKWAS (RSPB) and BPS (NT).
- Joint working with NT and Rural Crimes Team on Operation Pitchford, tackling raves and anti-social behaviour in the Peak.
- Rebecca Speight is the new CEO of RSPB. She's a strong advocate of partnership working and was in full support of the SMP during its conception.

John Horscroft (Ride Sheffield)

- Efforts continue to find a way to deal with concerns about the proposed bike track at Redmires. To that end we had a very fruitful meeting with members of the Sheffield Bird Study Group up at Redmires. It very quickly became apparent that the SBSG were not anti-bike and that the Ride Sheffield volunteers present were pro-bird! Clearly, there are concerns over level of use and possible effects on the nightjars, but we are committed to finding a workable solution.
- The national campaign group Trash Free Trails organised a litter pick at Lady Cannings Plantation with Ride Sheffield. There was an excellent turnout and probably the most important statistic was that 244 dog-poo bags were picked up! Trash free trails – visit on Thursday 18th May 2019.

Terry Howard (Sheffield Ramblers & Sheffield Local Access Forum)

- About 400 people in attendance on the Spirit of Kinder day. Special thanks to the young people who had designed patches, badges and flags for the day – really uplifting and encouraging.
- Footpath project through SLLP is progressing well. Issues with a badger sett that was adjacent to a stile.
- Would be nice to consider a project looking at Sheffield's plantations, how they were formed and where they're at now.

Henry Folkard (British Mountaineering Council)

- APPG scheduled to visit Cut Gate in September and see the Mend Our Mountains project there.
- Carey Davies moving on to The Great Outdoors magazine.
- Used BMC's own social media outlets to raise awareness of the risk of wildfire.

Bob Berzins (Peak Local Access Forum)

- PLAF members involved with the events side of the PDNPA management plan. Next area for members to contribute towards will be the Countryside Code.
- Working with Kathy Clarke (NT Edale) on website information regarding events licensing etc.
- PLAF concerned about land disposals.
- Planning application on enforcement actions on the track that's been constructed on Strines Moor. Case been ongoing for 5-years since the track was first constructed.

A.O.B.

- Working with Matt Croney as a contractor on the 5-year review was a very positive experience. Would like to provide some continuity by working with Matt and could potentially work with him on a future (HLF) funding proposal. SF – be mindful to consider where the initial funding would be coming from (i.e. key partners.)
- *John Horscroft requested partners to discuss Redmires.* As a partnership we are sympathetic and supportive of the principle, however haven't had enough time to consider the proposal to reach a unanimous decision. BMC agree. PDNPA support, subject to planning. SWRT may have to investigate as they may have reservations.
- Rewilding and eco-tourism AND nature recovery network and areas – to go on the agenda for future SMP meeting (requested by Dave Aspinall.)
- Celebration in Autumn time (mid-October – Wednesday 16th October), along with an SMP meeting and the EMP management plan reveal.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 4th September 2019, 2:00pm-4:00pm, at MDC, Longshaw Estate.

Meeting ends

ACTIONS

- Celebration in Autumn time (afternoon of Wednesday 16th October), along with an SMP meeting and the EMP management plan. CEO of RSPB to be invited. Think of other 'celebrities' to invite.
- All SMP minutes to be sent to PDNPA members – cc Sarah Wilks, Mike Rhodes, Sue Smith, Chris Bray, Mark Anderson.
- Mike Rhodes & Sam Beaton to lead a workshop on access and access routes (in October time), to see where we are now and where we want to get to. This will help feed into land management and identify how to put in for a funding bid