

Sheffield Moors Partnership Meeting Minutes

Longshaw Estate – Wednesday 15th November 2017 (2:05pm to 4:05pm)

Present:

Danny Udall (EMP)
Helen Armstrong (NT Longshaw)
Henry Folkard (BMC & PLAF)
John Gilpin (SCC Woodlands Team)
John Horscroft (Ride Sheffield)
Nabil Abbas (SWT)
Sam Beaton (SCC)
Sue Fletcher (PDNPA)
Ted Talbot (NT Longshaw)
Terry Howard (Sheffield Ramblers, PLAF & TOC)

Apologies:

Matt Buckler (MFTF) – update pending

Helen Armstrong discussed Longshaw NT Hub development plans

- Architecturally it's fine and fits in. Toilets and kitchen should be reversed, so that the public can access through the courtyard. Helen explained it's difficult to achieve this layout.
- Opportunity for an exhibition space would be useful and would reap income generation. Also option for local artists and artisans to showcase their work for sale in the café, and could allow NT to take a % commission from sales.
- Accessibility from the car park to the café area is particularly difficult at present, and should be factored into the forthcoming plans. Helen explained improvement of accessibility is on the radar. Drop-off point could be considered.
- Useful as a hub for the Sheffield Moors to provide vital information on events, public rights of way, code of conduct, etc.
- Longshaw has often been invisible in the landscape due to tree cover. There should be a balance of views out, and views in.

Matters arising from minutes of September 2017 meeting:

- May be a potential to claim rights of way. Need to have a strategic and modern approach. Could look at concessionary rights of way, as it's a lot easier to do from a land management point of view
- Anti-social behaviour at Lady Cannings, managed to get intelligence on who was raving. Obtaining number plates etc, eliminated this.
- Motorbike use across the city as well as Grenoside. Have managed to access youth clubs to communicate the problems the behaviour can cause.
- Lady Canning's has proved more popular than initially thought, and need to assess the environmental impact the influx of visitors has caused. Important to have a place where you can take a dog off a lead, and Cannings is a useful place for this to happen. Further enforces the necessity to then take the lead once dog walkers approach the moorland.
- To be visible is to be vulnerable.
- Archive research and display facility for the G. H. B. Ward material that was salvaged is now in Sheffield Museums permanently, there will be a big display next year that could potentially move sites to be displayed elsewhere. There's several stories that could also be told - how the people of Sheffield clubbed together to purchase Longshaw, how the ramblers association started here, the formation of the Peak Park and the Kinder story.

- Public consent and involvement of the people is essential to move forward post-Brexit with countryside management.

Partner updates and priorities for next year:

DANNY UDALL (EASTERN MOORS)

- New 5-year Management plan is due out in April, and had three successful Pathfinder meetings (Wildlife, Heritage and People) which will feed into the upcoming Management Plan.
- Recruitment underway for Warden and Assistant Warden posts.
- Maintenance winter this year - Woodland creation grant on Sheephill road, deer count, and catching up with access points.
- Recent amendments to the website to include information on events and licensing on public rights of way, with a view to also include the completed code of conduct.
- Code of Conduct is currently underway and due for completion in time for the next SMP meeting. Useful to distribute to tourist information centres.
- SMP line to explain how farming is represented, how people with disabilities are represented and how horse riders are represented. Big, open annual meeting (which was in the original design) would extend to anybody and everybody and allow their voices to be heard.
- Record of condition underway by Chris and tells a story of the visitor impact on the landscape around Oxstones.

JOHN HORSCROFT (RIDE SHEFFIELD)

- Ride Sheffield been quiet during the interim.
- Ride Sheffield do at the Lescar on the evening of Saturday 2nd December 2017.

HENRY FOLKARD (BMC & PEAK LOCAL ACCESS FORUM)

- John Horscroft and Henry are discussing the potential of an informal volunteers group which could work together on projects of common concern, for example the cairn track.
- 2pm at House of Commons?
- Eastern Moors Pathfinder meetings have been a paradigm. Imperative to have that holistic approach to managing the landscape
- Thursday 30th - Hathersage Memorial Hall, 4pm-9pm drop in to say farewell to Bill Gordon and Flo.

SUE FLETCHER (PDNPA)

- Restructuring within the PDNPA has been continuing.
- National Park management plan review underway focusing on 8 areas of impact. White Peak is 94% privately owned, and the area faced with the most potential change post-Brexit with the impact on countryside stewardship schemes.
- Miles without Stiles – The Peak District Local Access Forum meeting in September received a report on project and route details with input from LAF Members on aims and aspirations. The afternoon involved looking at a possible route at Longshaw which was very well received. This was followed by a meeting to discuss details of the route. The presentation can be found at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/lafmeetings. Details of the work can be found in the Parklife magazine.
- Moorland owners/keepers/agents meeting at Chatsworth led by the Moorland Association raised 4 key issues: visitor management (PDNPA taken papers to LAF), fire planning (championed by PDNPA), resilience and sustainable moorland management, and moorland birds issue (championed by moorlands association.)
- Brian Taylor doing a lot of work on recreational hubs.
- Bill Gordon is retiring. Going through recruitment process for a new full-time Ranger. Countryside stewardship scheme for North Lees/Stannage has been completed and submitted.

- Changes to car parking fees have gone out.
- Meeting to be held to discuss a possible concessionary bridleway along the public right of way from Millstone to Brunts Barn.
- Cattle Incidents – reports have been received of 2 incidents with cattle at Baslow Edge which are with the police.

TERRY HOWARD (SHEFFIELD RAMBLERS & PEAK LOCAL ACCESS FORUM)

- Rambler's AGM upcoming next year in Rotherham, and John Horscroft has agreed to give a presentation on access and cyclist use – opening the dialogue between both user groups and to determine how walkers would like to be approached by cyclists, etc. Sue Fletcher – could be useful to involve horse riders.

JOHN GILPIN (SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL)

- Burbage – done more planting of seeds and pulling of pine. Checking and maintaining the fencing.
- Redmires – due to be planting 34,000 trees (mainly oak and birch, with a shrub layer.)
- Sheffield Lakes project looking at the prisoner of war camp (has a strong local cultural following, has its own Facebook page.)

SAM BEATON (SCC PROW)

- Minutes to be forwarded by Sam.

NABIL ABBAS (SHEFFIELD & ROTHERHAM WILDLIFE TRUST)

- Sheffield Lakes partnership project underway, will be submitting for lottery funding in early 2018. Will be a 4-year delivery plan.
- Recruited two new members of staff delivering practical work on the ground, Morwenna Egan and Mikael Trewick.
- Winter works – rhododendron and scrub birch control, maintaining public rights of way, and may be looking at wader scrapes pending Natural England's approval.
- Countryside stewardship scheme planned for Blackamoor.
- Two pairs of flycatchers spotted and have made a new discovery for the Sheffield area; a scale insect that lives on sphagnum moss.

TED TALBOT (NATIONAL TRUST LONGSHAW)

- Ted discussed the Pollinators in the Peak project.
- Magnificent meadows.
- Bidding to extend the Badger edge vaccination project (which started at Edale) to Longshaw and the wider area.

Discussion on potential future funding bids and joint working for next year:

- Southwest peak.
- Timing and relevance for bids is imperative.
- SMP could fit a landscape scale partnership application, should dovetail in with the final year of the Sheffield Lakeland bid.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 14th February 2018, 2pm to 4pm at MDC, Longshaw.
Meeting ends

Partner updates to be received prior to cut down on meeting time, so that funding bids can be discussed in detail at the next meeting