

Sheffield Moors Partnership Meeting

29/03/2017

Moorland Discovery Centre – NT Longshaw Estate

Welcome and Apologies

Present

Danny Udall Eastern Moors Partnership

Felicite Dunn, Natural England

Ted Talbot & Rachel Bennett, National Trust (Chair & Mins)

John Horscroft, Ride Sheffield and Stanage Forum

Suzanne Fletcher, PDNPA

Henry Folkard, PDLAF

Apologies from.

Sam Beaton, John Dallow, John Gilpin, Richard Harris, Stella McGuire, Mike Rhodes, Sheff Wildlife Trust, Louise (BMC) Terry Howard (Ramblers).

Minutes of last meeting agreed as true record.

TT Proposed that we make a “**capture list**” of specific issues that SMP should focus on (to avoid duplication with the separate site management meetings) This would then SMP plan and take action on these “landscape scale” issues at an appropriate level – (plan to do this at next meeting !?)

SMP Wbsite: Action All to send website changes to DU to put on website. Still can be done – please check website.

Facilitating the Partnership – admin & meeting support is falling to Danny & Ted at present – we need to find better ways to support more sustainable & better administration & governance of the partnership.

Ongoing Review of SMP action plan items -

The PHD by Debbie Collwell done for the PDNPA again was discussed

Action: RN was to chase up with Sarah Proctor to the outcome of this study. – SF to now pick up?

Managing Visitor Behaviour in the Countryside

Group Recognized this issue is an important focus for the joint work of SMP again based on last notes (eg: Dogs on leads, conflict between user groups & disturbance to wildlife etc., flytipping & raves etc.)

What powers do we collectively have? How do we collectively manage & influence visitor behaviour? These need further discussion.

Danny & Rachel – to be tasked with re-establishing operational links again & for working group to look at this through **SMOG**.

Partner updates:

PDNPA : Just coming out of reorganization & still in transition, recognition that Living Landscapes & Partnerships are important – RN is leaving the authority, but may go independent & have some work as farm advisor.

Have trialled predator control fencing in some areas & it is working.

Have some grant cash available for PAWS restoration.

PEDAL PEAK business – accreditation for cycle friendly businesses – grants, support for B&Bs etc. to develop cycle friendly facilities.

SF – will remain key contact with SMP but this may change and or other staff may need to be involved (eg Sarah Wilkes – Ranger Manager)

SCC : Going through restructuring & redistribution of responsibilities. Dave Aspinall, is now - Countryside, Woodlands & Rangers & PROW lead (TBC?) Officer contacts remain the same?

Burbage focus will remain on re-establishing native trees to the old Plantation & some of the regen areas. Deer have been noticed.

Lady Cannings plantation work is ongoing & new MB loop is going in off the back of the first route. Car park now needs extending – dumping & fly tipping & some off road issues still present.

Redmires Reservoir area – a lot of windblown trees (Storm Doris) – having to be cleared, has had some landscape impact. As well as the SMP this area links into the “Sheffield Lakeland” LS partnership bid area, so needs to be considered in both areas.

Flooding strategy – proposals for bunds across Porter & Rivalin valleys are still ongoing, need to keep abreast of these developments. Impact of managing the catchments & uplands better may not have been fully considered?

The Northern Forest – concept being developed by all remaining Community Forest network (Despite South Yorks Forest having folded last year) This DOES cover the Peak District & is linked to the Northern Powerhouse. Kirklees Council – (Guy Tompson?) & Woodland Trust appear to be the lead.

NE – Jenny Parker remains area officer but Felicite will come to meetings. North Lees agreement – CS/Higher Tier is being looked at. Region will have a reduced budget but this area is part of the Dark Peak Focus area (one of 3 areas in Peak)

Peak BMC – LAF are looking into issue of “lost ways” - deadline of 2026 to get them on the definitive map. Need to prioritize this work to open access land.

Ride Sheffield – New “Be nice – say hi” signs are up & being used. Aimed at using in areas we know are “recreational conflict” areas. TT to give John H - David Bocking & Rolly Smith`s contact details. John is very keen to help with any opportunities to promote responsible visitor behaviour more. Danny to put John in touch with Kathy Clarke at EMP, to explore learning from the Take the Lead campaign. There are clear parallels in trying to manage visitor behaviour in this Landscape.

Plan for new cycle track at Redmires – is being looked at, however, parking at Redmires is an issue, especially at the road end. SCC hope to look at this with Yorks Water and part of Sheffield Lakeland bid.

Did a work day – 8 people out , at Blackamoor – team were wheelbarrowing in a lot of stone, have asked for sponsorship & help from private sector (outdoor firms). Opportunity to match fund with Sport England .

May be parallels with BMC Mend our mountains scheme?

Suggestion that we have a workshop on Visitor payback schemes for interested user groups, like BMC & Ride Sheffield. Needs to have a clear operational niche & be part of the jigsaw of new funding post Brexit! We need a funding strategy!!

We agree to explore this as an SMP workshop on funding potential!?! (needs organizing)

EMP – end of woodland planting works within masterplan. Molinia management ongoing. Predator control is now happening as part of the Curlew trial management.

2 pairs of Ravens are nesting in the area & on eggs. Partnership working here is important, Millstone ones are near the car park, which may be an issue.

Monitoring work & empowering volunteers is being well received – Ring Ouzel training rolling out.

Burbage & Stanage edge area – Ring Ouzel, Curlew & Windchatt all bucking national trend & stable or increasing.

2023 is the last year of Agri envi schemes so future plans beyond this need developing..

Team at EMP is changing – will be several leavers & new starters this summer, team to start new Management Plan this year.

EMP/NT will look to support SMP admin support this year, however there will be an ask of all partners to contribute to an “SMP co-ordinator post” some- time this year or look for an opportunity to do this through existing staff with spare capacity from one of the partners.

2 big issues to solve on Burbage:

- 1) **Houndkirk road route**, fly tipping, dogs off leads & inappropriate 4X4 use.
- 2) **Big Events issues**, permission (lack of joined up thinking going on at present) – PDNPA system still developing, Howard Simpson is SCC events management person. NE permissions is still an ongoing issue. Risk mitigation measures around impact to other users, archeology & wildlife is the key challenge for staff.

SF to contact Andy Farmer – on events notification plans

NT Longshaw – draft of Longshaw countryside management plan is ready to send out for final comment.

Longshaw Visitor Hub – new developments are being planned for new Ranger work base, café & visitor hub/toilets area.

Ecological monitoring work is starting. Repeat Woodland birds survey from 2011 one. Fungi & adders.

Proposed SMP meeting & proposed focus - dates:

14th June – “catch up”

13th September – Funding & facilitating contributions?

15th Nov - Events & Access

AOB:

Requests for Millstones for general public to buy/take!? Policy is that they are part of cultural & historic landscape & should be left in place.

Parking on verges & car parking enforcement issues are still a problem in the SMP area – PDNPA now appear to be enforcing parking charges? Support Stange Sticker – is being changed to a Park Wide sticker for £40.

Can we look at an SMP wide sticker? Emma Stone is the contact in PDNPA?

All partners to update partnership on their “car parking policy” in SMP area at Sept meeting?.