

Countryside Access Forum West Sussex

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Held on Friday 26th September at 10.30 p.m. at Buchan Park, Horsham Road, Crawley

ATTENDEES:

Tricia Butcher -Chairman
Peter Brown
Nigel Sloan
Elaine Seear
Richard Mercer
Clive Grumett

Jane Noble – WSCC Officer
Nick Scott - WSCC Officer
Heidi Brunsdon
Phillip Coote
Andrew Brock

1. INTRODUCTION:

- (a) An introduction session was carried out at the request of Tricia Butcher. Attendees introduced themselves and the interests they represent.

2. CHAIRMANS ELECTION:

- (a) Peter Brown stated the group needed a chairman. Tricia Butcher was proposed by Richard Mercer and seconded by Elaine Seear the nomination was supported by the group. Tricia Butcher was duly elected Chairman of the CAFWS sub-forum.

3. CHAIRMANS SYNOPSIS:

- (a) Tricia Butcher outlined the progress to date. The first part of the exercise was our aspirations in what we wanted. This has successfully achieved the production of the 'project log' with 97 ideas (Access Plan (Rights of Way Improvement Plan) – List of ideas). The next step is to prepare an Action Plan and the objective of this meeting is to plan what actions we need to take to achieve this.
- (b) Copies of the Access Plan (Rights of Way Improvement Plan) – List of ideas (Project Log) to date were distributed to the attendees.
- (c) Copies of the West Sussex Rights of Way Improvement Plan – A Strategic Framework 2007-2017 were distributed to the attendees.

4. DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION:

- (a) There was considerable discussion on how to approach the next steps, which included path creation/upgrading, permissive paths, G roads, cycling improvement ideas (missed from the project log), and how to tap into the knowledge of the group. General areas of consensus were:-
 - (1) Going for top projects that will add value to the network and starting work on them
 - (2) The need for a ranking system (traffic lights, matrix, etc.) to enable the group to get to the top projects.
 - (3) That each attendee should identify their top projects, e.g. 2 or 3 .
 - (4) Criteria for the ranking matrix should address
 - (a) Feasibility on the ground
 - (a) Achievability in the short term
 - (b) High priority for the local network
 - (c) User balance, walkers, equestrian, cyclist, disabled, and carriage drivers where appropriate
 - (d) Geographic balance
- (b) It was agreed a matrix should be developed with criteria by which to evaluate the projects and once this is available the attendees should evaluate their projects against it, identify the top 2/3 4 and to have completed this before the next meeting in January.

5. ACTIONS

- (a) Re-order the project log by Parishes and send out to the attendees. Action Jane Noble
- (b) Attendees to identify those Parishes they are taking on and inform Tricia Butcher. Action: Attendees
- (c) Develop a matrix with criteria to map the projects against. Matrix to be sent out to attendees when ready. Action: Jane Noble
- (d) Attendees to evaluate their projects against the matrix and identify their top 2/3 4. Communicate the results of this exercise to Tricia Butcher by Friday 9th January to allow collation before the next meeting. Action: Attendees

Other projects to be retained on list for future consideration, except those which are identified as not worth/necessary to pursue, or not feasible.

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Friday 23rd January 2009 at 10.30 am
At Buchan Country Park, Horsham Rd., Crawley