

NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

REPORT on NORTH YORKSHIRE GREEN LANES LIAISON GROUP

Background

You may remember that at the LAF meeting of 3rd September 2003 it was agreed that the LAF wished to be consulted on the proposed discussions between NYCC and various other interested bodies on different techniques to manage green lanes in North Yorkshire.

At our last meeting on 5th August it was agreed that I should report back to the LAF on the newly constituted North Yorkshire Green Lanes Liaison Group (NYGLLG) which had just been convened and was to hold their first meeting on 6th August.

Meetings

There have been three meetings of the NYGLLG so far, 6th August, 1st October & 5th November, together with two sub group meetings to discuss green lanes on Blubberhouses Moor on 16th September & 5th November. I am writing this report on 1st November, so I will give a verbal update on the 5th November meetings at the LAF meeting 11th November.

NYGLLG of 6.08.04

The **remit** for the group was agreed – it will be to advise NYCC on managing green lanes with respect to use by off-roaders throughout all North Yorkshire, including both National Parks and the AONBs.

Membership was agreed –

Originally - Councillor Irene Greaves (chair), NYCC officers, YDNPA, NYTMAG, YDGLA, Police, YLCA, RA, BHS, CTC, NFU, CLA, YDS, LARA, EN, All wheel drive club, TRF, To which were added – NYMNPA, Nidderdale AONB, Disabled rep, & the 3 LAFs.

The **objectives** of the group were discussed and agreed –

- a) identify and be clear about the problems
- b) consider the options available for management
- c) to create a system of participant, agreed, authority approved, jointly applied, trail routes. Use management practices that are flexible and responsive enough to control and anticipate a changing situation
- d) to establish dynamic management process where review is an inherent feature, which accommodates the views of other users and interests
- e) develop, educate and inform users by way of information/booklet

First actions agreed were for members of group to list their worst 6 routes, and prepare one page of bullet points to state their view of the problems.

Agreed to set up a **working party** to deal with the problems on green lanes on **Blubberhouses Moor**. I volunteered for this group as a representative of the RA.

NYGLLG of 1.10.04

There was a joint presentation on the experience of managing green lane issues in the LDNP by David Robinson (Trails Adviser) & Geoff Wilson (LARA), which was a report on the Lake District Hierarchy of Trail Routes Initiative from 1994 to the present.

Identification of problems – papers by NYTMAG & YDGLA were tabled and debated, but they were really proposals for management rather than just problems.

Maintenance of green lanes – NYCC tabled a map & schedule of their UCR(G)s which are the unsealed routes in NYCC on which their green lane maintenance budget can be spent (currently £90k to end of year)

Blubberhouses Working Party of 16.09.04

Membership – NYCC officers, NAONB, EN, Police, Yorkshire Water, Land Agent, YDNPA officer, RA, BHS, LARA, TRF

Presentation by NAONB on history of problems with recreational motorised vehicles causing damage to the moor, both on and off the lines of the numerous green lanes.

Paper and photos presented by **English Nature** on the special qualities of Blubberhouses Moor, and the unacceptable levels of damage that has been caused. It is the worst damaged moor in the country and urgent action is required.

Following other points made by members on the level of damage and disturbance, it was agreed that a **zonal TRO** should be made prohibiting all motorized vehicles for at least 2/3 years. This will need to be supplemented by other management such as monitoring, notices, education

NYGLLG of 5.11.04

Verbal report to be given at meeting

Blubberhouses Working Party of 5.11.04

Verbal report to be given at meeting

Further meetings of both groups

Is the LAF happy that I represent the LAF at future meetings of the NYGLLG?

If so, are there any points or comments that the LAF wish me to make at future meetings of the NYGLLG?

Max Grant
11th November 2004