

Improving Rights of Way Group Draft Minutes

Notes from the meeting held 24th January 2008 County Hall

Attendees from Local Access Forum: Allan Aspden (Chair), John Taylor, David Gibson, Rachel Connolly, Edward Dennison

Attendees from North Yorkshire County Council: Iain Burgess and Aidan Rayner

Apologies: Tony Turner, Paul Tibbatts and Diane Baines

In the absence of Tony Turner Iain Burgess agreed to take the notes of the meeting.

1. Attendance at Meetings

A concern was expressed that attendance was not as high as it should be. members attending felt that it was vital that absent member of the Improving Rights of Way Group made every effort to attend as without this support it was unlikely the group would be as successful as it could be.

2. Matters Arising from previous meeting

Nothing raised

3. Matters Arising from previous LAF Meeting

Nothing Raised

4. Engaging with Parish Councils

The group spent time discussing the issues: -

Large county over 700 parishes – some may need to group together.

The group thought a scheme similar to the Parish Path Partnership would be a good idea.

The group felt there was a lack of information available to parishes – NYCC needed to promote its work.

Need to differentiate between maintenance and Improvements – Parishes can raise precept to cover costs of maintaining rights of way.

Nidderdale AONB operate a Parish Caretaker scheme – where the AONB, NYCC and the Parish work together, with the caretaker carrying out some work on ROW. It was felt the work of the ROWIP could be used to prioritise improvements to the network.

Agreed NYCC should consider how better it should engage with Parish Councils – IB to look at ROWIP layer feed back at next meeting.

5. AOB

Edward Dennison gave his new email address as info@crowtreefarm.co.uk

A discussion was had around the use of volunteers – NYCC are currently writing a Volunteer Strategy that will look at how the service should be developed over the coming years.

Areas of Interest for the group were discussed – It was felt that there was some crossover between this group and the definitive map group on Diversions and Extinguishments – It was agreed that large schemes would come to this group for comment.

It was also felt that the work of the Unsurfaced Unclassified Road Group would overlap with this group Rachel agreed to feedback, as she is the LAF representative.

NYCC introduced a proposal for a number of Diversions / extinguishments and creations on the Croft Estate – It was agreed that the group would be happy to attend a site visit – but thought the invitation should go out to all LAF members.

Site Visit to take place on the 13th Feb – Allan Aspden to feed back to next full LAF meeting.

6. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 17th April 2008