

North Yorkshire County Council**North Yorkshire Local Access Forum****10 April 2019****Management of Unsurfaced Unclassified Roads (UURs) in North Yorkshire Update****1.0 Purpose Of Report**

- 1.1 To purpose of this report is to provide a progress update following the transfer of management responsibility for UURs from Highways & Transportation (H&T) to the Countryside Access Service (CAS).

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Following the successful completion of a pilot project between 2016 and 2017 the transfer of management responsibility for UURs within North Yorkshire took place on 1 July 2019. With this came a budget of £150,000 that included the costs associated with a dedicated member of staff.
- 2.2 Under this arrangement CAS took on the responsibility for the maintenance of the entire UUR network within North Yorkshire County Council, including the two National Parks.
- 2.3 H&T retain responsibility for Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders, Route Status and Route Alignment on the UUR network.
- 2.4 The reciprocal transfer of responsibility for urban metalled public rights of way from CAS to H&T will proceed once a definitive list of routes has been finalised and agreed

3.0 Partnership Working

- 3.1 Picking up on the approach that was taken under the pilot project, CAS has worked closely with both the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Park. Both National Parks have taken on the role of delivery partners and helped to focus resources on priority UUR routes within their areas.
- 3.2 Each National Park Authority (NPA) were allocated a fixed budget and, with the agreement of the NYCC UUR Officer, have delivered a work program that met their priorities for access and recreation. Any UUR issues within the National Park that fall outside of the priorities of the NPA are picked up by NYCC.

- 3.3 Over the year there have been regular update meeting between the NYCC UUR Officer and the National Park Ranger Teams, as well as site visits to look at various maintenance proposals. This partnership approach has resulted in the delivery of an extensive program of work to the UUR network across the county. See section 5.
- 3.4 CAS have continued to work closely with the colleagues in H&T as part of the UUR transfer, and have benefitted from the extensive historic knowledge that is held within the local Area Offices, and the Asset Management Team.
- 3.5 Meetings have also been offered and taken place with the AONBs to assist in identifying any access management issues and priority routes within the UUR network in their area.

4.0 User Group Liaison and community engagement

- 4.1 CAS have made every effort to engage with many of the user groups with an interest in the UUR network. Meetings have taken place with the Trail Riders Fellowship, the Green Lane Alliance, as well as Ramblers and Bridleway groups. These meetings were intended to identify specific priorities for each group and help to foster a close working relationship based on trust and understanding.
- 4.2 Following the UUR transfer; the existing 6 monthly User Liaison Group organized by CAS to discuss issues relating to Public Rights of Way has been expanded to include representatives from the TRF and GLASS.
- 4.3 Representatives of CAS delivered a short presentation at the Western Parishes Forum within the North York Moors National Park. This was to address concerns relating to vehicular access to UURs with the National Park, and to explain the recent changes to the management of the UUR network.

5.0 Volunteering

- 5.1 CAS are well placed to utilise assistance from volunteers in monitoring and maintaining the UUR network. There have been a number of offers of support from various user groups; and discussions are underway between the UUR Officer and Volunteer Coordinator regarding the best way to proceed with this.

6.0 2018-19 Work Programme

6.1 The table below details the work that has been completed on the UUR network since July 2018.

UUR Code	UUR Name	Location	Description	Area
U7057	Coleson Banks	Battersby	Surfacing and drainage	NYCC
U7050	Percy Cross to Lonsdale	Kildale	Surfacing and drainage	NYCC
U7094	Demesne House	Fylingdales	Stone drop for residents.	NYCC
U7010	Jagger Lane	Gilling with Hartworth	Clearance	NYCC
U238	Brown Howe Rd	Stape	Sufacing	NYCC
U7011	Low Wood Lane	Leyburn	Sufacing and drainage	NYCC
U2333	Seggimire Lane	Ugglebarnby	Fallen Tree - Obstruction	NYCC
U7010	Jagger Lane	Melsonby	Clearance - Obstruction	NYCC
U1584	Back Lane	Husthwaite	Drainage and surfacing	NYCC
U2345/1/30	WY150 Stainsacre Lane (Track)	Hawsker cum Stainsacre	Path restoration and surfacing with associated drainage works as necessary. Cutting back of encroaching vegetation prior to ground works.	NYMNP
U7102/9/50	Plum Tree	nr Danby Botton, Scarborough	Surfacing, repair collapsed ditch, crush and relay stone surface.	NYMNP
U32	Rudland Rigg (Turkey Nab)	Ingleby Greenhow	Surfacing and drainage	NYMNP
U8147	Givendale to Cockmoor	Troutsdale	Surfacing	NYMNP
U2293	Coverdale Lane	Runswick Bay	Clearance and drainage	NYMNP

U1899/9/30	Windy Pike Lane	Hanlith	In-house surfacing & filling of pot holes/ deep ruts. Drainage works to include ditching & culverts. Landowner consultation required.	YDNP
U2279/2/80, U2279/2/60, U7028/9/90	Black Hill Road/ Forest Road	Pockstones Moor	In-house surfacing & filling of pot holes/ wet areas. Consultation required	YDNP
U7028/9/90	West Cam road	Ten End	Contractor, track re-org, stone crushing, drainage and surfacing	YDNP
U2710/1/40	Widdale Foot	Ling Beck	Contractor, track re-profiling and ditch maintenance	YDNP
U429/9/40	Fremington Edge	nr Quarry	Contractor, water management - installation of cut off drains, side ditches, minor surfacing.	YDNP
U9120/1/30	Richmond Gate	Richmond Gate	PC consultation required - possible in house, removal of encroaching vegetation / hedge, surfacing works	YDNP
U919/1/30	Nipe Lane	Nipe Lane	PC consultation required - possible in house, removal of encroaching vegetation / hedge, surfacing works	YDNP
U814/9/70	Dale Head	Dale Head	in-house, surfacing and filling of pot holes/wet areas	YDNP
U814/9/30	Goat Scar Lane	Goat Scar Lane	in-house, surfacing and filling of pot holes/wet areas	YDNP

6.2 Additional works have included:

- Preliminary surveying of the UURs around Blubberhouses Moor in the Nidderdale AONB. This was in response to the request put forward by the LAF for Permanent TROs removing vehicular rights to be considered on these routes.
- Surveys have taken place to a number of the UURs in the Troutsdale area of the North York Moors National Park. These were undertaken with the assistance of the CAS Volunteer Coordinator with a view that these surveys may be picked up by volunteers in the future.

7.0 Example UUR Projects

7.1 U7057 - Coleson Banks, Battersby, North York Moor National Park

Coleson Banks is a steep UUR that leads from the village of Battersby up onto Battersby Moor and links to a bridleway section of the Cleveland Way National Trail. The route had been closed for many years as a result of serious water damage that had left it in a dangerous condition. As well as reinstating the surface of the path, it was vital to address the drainage issues on the route to ensure that any work carried out would be sustainable.

This route was highlighted as a priority within the network by the Ryedale Bridleway Group as well as the TRF. The completion of the work brings an important recreational link back into use.

Before





After



7.2 U7050 – Percy Cross to Lonsdale, Kildale, North York Moor National Park

Percy Cross to Lonsdale is another steep UUR within the North York Moors National Park. Like Coleson Banks, this route had been closed for many years as a result of serious damage that had left it in a dangerous condition for all users. This was another major project that required extensive drainage work in order to protect the sandstone surface that has been reinstated.

This route was also highlighted as a priority within the network by the Ryedale Bridleway Group and the TRF. The essential maintenance to this route, coupled with the repairs to nearby Coleson Banks, reopens an important link in the recreational network within this area of the National Park that had been missing for many years.

Before



After



7.3 U1584 – Back Lane, Husthwaite, Howardian Hills AONB

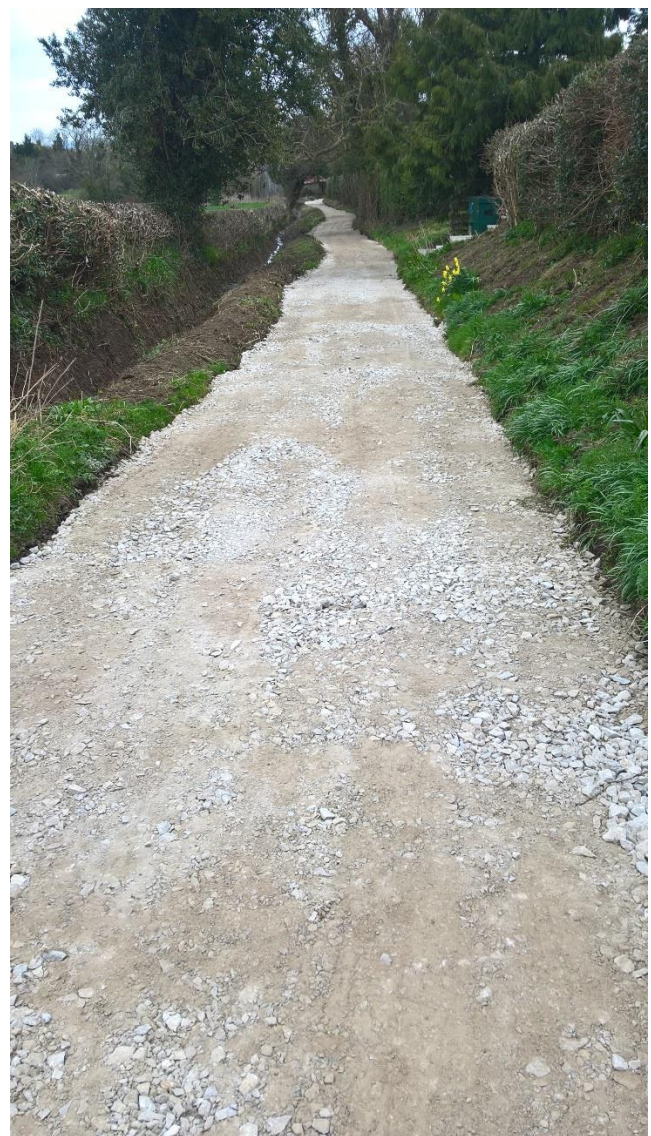
This short UUR within the village of Husthwaite forms a popular walking route for local villagers but had become out of repair due to failed and damaged drainage. The route has historically been a stoned track, and this was reinstated along with the creation of new drainage alongside.

This issue was reported by the Parish Council and the work has brought a popular local route back into use.

Before



After



8.0 Recommendation(s)

8.1 It is recommended that North Yorkshire Local Access Forum members take note of the content of the report.

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Background Documents:
None