

NORTH YORKSHIRE
LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

19 MAY 2011

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY
RT ROAD RECORDING PROJECT - AN UPDATE

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update to members on progress on investigating the status of the Priority 1 RT routes.

2.0 PROGRESS

- 2.1 Four volunteers have been appointed to examine the 17 Priority RT routes. The volunteers have been allocated a number of routes each and have surveyed all of the routes, making notes and providing a photographic record in each case. None of the routes examined presented any problems for the surveyors, each route being openly available to users without any hindrance or suggestion that the route was considered to be private.
- 2.2 Archive research has commenced at Northallerton and Wakefield Archive offices on most of the routes, initially collecting copies of old Ordnance Survey maps, Tithe Award and Enclosure Award documentation and estate plans.

3.0 FUTURE TIMETABLE

- 3.1 On the basis of the work undertaken so far it seems more hopeful that we will be able to arrange Creation Agreements with some of the landowners. As previously described, the lead officer will arrange a consultation with the landowners, either direct, or by letter, explaining the circumstances and the aims of the project, and sharing with them the information gathered so far, requesting the views of the landowner. These consultations will be undertaken during the next 2 months.
- 3.2 If the landowner is willing to dedicate the route, the formal process will be undertaken by Definitive Map Officers. If the landowner is unwilling to dedicate the route at a status that will match any connecting and dependant recorded public rights of way, the volunteers will commence a more searching programme of research into the route as described in their guidelines.

- 3.3 It is intended that 4 DMMOs per year will be processed to record those routes where there is no opportunity to enter into an Agreement with the landowner. It will be necessary to gather sufficient evidence to support the making of an Order, those cases that are the most strongly supported will be considered first. It should be remembered that although it may appear that it is clear that a route should be recorded as a public right of way, it is not always straight forward to prove that rights exist.

4.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 To receive the report for information

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