

Green Lane User Group Meeting Wednesday 12 August 2020

In Attendance: Alan Hardinge AH (DOI)
Tim Baker MHK TB, Minister (DOI)
Richard Crane RC (DOI/4WD)
Julian Wood JW (ACU)
David Gooberman DG (MMBC)
Mark Kerruish MK (DEFA)
Erica Humphries EH (BHS)
Jorell Scarrott JS (BHS)
Trisha Sayle TS (MWT)
Helen Goldsmith, Notes (HG)

Apologies: David Leiserach DL (MFCG)
Walter Gilbey WG (MHC)
Graeme Watson GW (DEFA)
Shaun Gelling SG (DEFA)
PC John Hills JH (WLO)
William McHarg WMc (DEFA)
Sarah Hickey SH (MWT)
Adam Henderson AH (MMBC)
PC Claire Sproule-Craine CSC (WLO)

Track Reports

Clarum to Glen Mona - RC not been up for about 6 weeks and will check out works. JW commented bottom right hand corner very boggy and AH informed him a pipe has now been put in. DEFA had reported big dip on the Clarum end and RC has this in-hand and looking to fit pipe.

On the Clarum (Black hut area) there is a road closed sign and JW asked if this is closed to all traffic? MK not aware of any road closures and will make enquiries and get back to JW.

Donkey Track - Volunteer work has begun on clearing track and Department progressing with moving the obstruction.

RC has identified up to 80 concrete water bars on additional tracks.

Pipeline Track - DL concerned about the condition of the track and should we consider vehicles being removed from this location. RC commented that Phase 1 has been completed in the rebuilding of 4 water bars and Phase 2 will be to fill in the ruts. Monitoring/On-going. **Problem during winter months and will take a look in the Autumn.**

Millennium Way - RC met with SH on site regarding trench under the boardwalk at Narradale where we identified problem and sourced some heather bails to catch future deposits of silt. JW confirmed that he rode the boardwalk on Tuesday and no issues.

Proposed Work

Sound Road, Dalby - Lack of signage. RC to visit top route and check for any obstructions and place signage.

Eairy Cushlin - JW up there on Tuesday, bad on corner plus a deep gully at top end which needs attention. RC to action.

Proposed Management Plan

Donkey Track. RC Looking into getting the track open.

The Dowse. JW holding up well. RC looking at getting horse route up there and EH commented it would help to display signage. At present the stone is too big and a gravel or medium stone would be acceptable for horses. The higher ground is fine. JW commented that at 7 gates they have marked the route as cautious and noticed a lot of horse riders using the route this past 6 months.

Rural Signage. DEFA carrying out trials on Heritage trail from St Johns to Peel.

It was noted the new cycle route at Kirk Michael was developed more for public safety and not for horses.

Review on bridal way. See Alan's email from Tom.

EH commented would be helpful to have equestrian graphics on signage.

A3 boards on Raad Ny Foillan are now corrected.

Winter Closures – pick up at next meeting.

Illegal Riding/Access

MK reported there has been 1 isolated 4 wheeled-drive incident on Slieu Vane during lockdown. Green Lanes been quiet and generally okay.

There has been an explosion in Mountain Biking and DEFA recognising issues with amateur riders on Green Lanes. It was suggested to look at reinforcement through social media, clubs to try and identify users.

TB suggested that we should consider expanding the group to include other interested parties i.e. a representative of private land owners and other sporting organisations. It was agreed that the group review the make-up of the group and review the existing Management Plan and make recommendations for deliverables. It was also agreed to review the Terms of Reference and that all members to send feedback to AH. TS commented that the user part of GLUG is recreational and from a wildlife perspective there interested is with any Green Lane issues.

AH to circulate the Management Plan and Terms of Reference to group.

JW commented on the eco system the group to take into consideration all heritage locations around the island.

TB commented he was very supportive of the group and going forward will provide the opportunity to encourage local residents and promote off island visitors.

It was agreed that we need to look at what group was originally set up to do and be open/transparent via Highway/DEFA social media. RC to approach the Para glider organisation and see if our group meets their purpose.

Lack of bins – JW identified a lot of litter and dog foul dumped in certain areas and asked for bins to be placed.

Map my Ride Exercise

The BHS has been asked to identify routes on the Map my Ride and EH circulated the map at the meeting highlighting the routes marked in orange are inaccessible and the routes marked in pink useable. EH now asked where they go with the possible locations highlighted i.e. DOI/DEFA to open up the Green Lanes. Discussion took place regarding 'easy wins' to just lock gate or the possibility of opening bridle path? EH commented that the Keys question from D Caine regarding road users on the Green Lane and Mr Baker's request for the Group to consider the best way to address the points raised has helped as part of this exercise. DOI/DEFA to set up a meeting to discuss the locations highlighted and check legislation. **EH to put on digital and liaise with JW.**

Railway Lines chicane gates

EH informed the group an accident occurred between Douglas to Cornaa where a pony came down completely off track due to a cyclist. The vegetation has also grown considerably and requires attention. EH asked about having gates put in and AH confirmed that the Department are putting in staggered gates and EH to liaise with officer direct.

EH asked that from the Farmers Arms towards Peel, can the bridge sides be raised. EH to contact officer direct.

Report a Problem Facilities

BHS is providing an info graphic advising how problems relating to on and off road routes can be progressed to relevant Government Departments and EH asked where they go other than DOI. EH commented there is nothing on system at footpath level nor mapping layer for footpath. DL will have look at what is available on the system. Contact for any road/driving incidents to be reported to Police Control and EH to publish on the BHS Facebook page. **Carry over to next meeting.**

Any Other Business

None.

Date for Next Meeting – **Wednesday 2 December 2020 at 5.30pm** in West 1 First Floor Sea Terminal