

Green Lane User Group Meeting Wednesday 15 January 2020

In Attendance: Alan Hardinge AH (DOI)
Richard Crane RC (DOI/4WD)
David Gooberman DG (MMBC)
Mark Kerruish MK (DEFA)
William McHarg WMc (DEFA)
David Leiserach (MFCG)
Trisha Sayle TS (MWT)
Sarah Hickey SH (MWT)
Adam Henderson AH (MMBC)
PC Claire Sproule-Craine CSC (WLO)
Erica Humphries EH (BHS)
Helen Goldsmith, Notes (HG)

Apologies: Tim Baker MHK (TB)
Julian Wood JW (ACU)
Walter Gilbey WG (MHC)
Graeme Watson (DEFA)
Shaun Gelling (DEFA)
PC John Hills JH (WLO)

Track Reports

Ballacomish, Arbory. Works completed.

Clarum to Glen Mona - In addition to previous meetings, water bars have been placed at the beginning of the Clarum and other works to be carried out during the summer months.

Donkey Track - RC to speak to the landowner and find out where we are up to with the Attorney General's office. On-going.

NarradaleEast Mountain Gate - Complete.

RC commented there are 70 additional tracks where he is carrying out general routine maintenance and it would be helpful if the Group can advise him of any areas of concern they may come across for him to investigate.

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.

Millennium Way - SH raised concerns regarding a trench under the boardwalk at Narradale that is destroying the peat and asked if it is possible to put dams in the drain cores so the water will flow into the bog. SH to send photographs and further information to AH. On-going.

Proposed Work

Sound Road, Dalby - DL asked when the new PROW will be ready. AH advised the new route needs more work where the landowner has put a fence in (on-going). The original PROW route will be open within the next 10 days.

Eairy Cushlin - The area is driveable and RC has been filling in some of the ruts. More work required. On-going.

Proposed Management Plan

Maps - Rural Signage Project. AH commented the project is designed to try and standardise all signage around the island and will chase an update. DL commented DEFA had re-signed the Millennium Way (but only with single sided signs) and put up mini-gateways along Raad Ny Foillan with A3 boards and 2 arrows (1 pointing left and 1 right). The A3 boards currently only describe the route in a clockwise direction and additional A3 boards describing the anti-clockwise direction are to be added. There is a mini gateway at Niarbyl with an arrow pointing down to the beach and this arrow needs to be removed.

Winter Closures - RC had nothing to report.

Illegal Riding/Access

WMC informed the group they have issues with motorbike users on the Baltic Road across Ballacob and upwards; if this persists the Department may possibly look at banning motorcycles on hills or limit access. It was noted that although DEFA/Police put messages out to the public and social media this has not proved to be a deterrent. CSC commented that from last week policing has started in rural areas and hopefully will assist with such matters. DG asked if contact numbers can be advertised on vehicles so that the public can identify and report such issues. DEFA to action.

DEFA commented there is still on-going off-piste motorcycle activity in Ballaugh Plantation as well as Arrasey, Earystane and Slieu Dhoo. Perpetrators are ignoring signage/barriers and therefore DEFA relying on the general public/police assistance for DEFA to apprehend offenders.

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 also look at the legislation.

Railway Lines chicane gates

The BHS have looked at the plans from Cornaa through to St Johns and have raised concerns about whether they leave a wide enough gap for horses to pass safely. BHS suggested either the chicanes need to be re-designed or drop gates/bollards erected.

EH not aware of any consultation with BHS and commented that the edging board needs addressing as there is a large drop which could cause an incident and during the summer months the verges would obscure the drop. EH to send information to AH.

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.

Any Other Business

AH circulated a draft copy of the Green Lanes User Group (GLUG) Terms of Reference which EH had kindly put together and asked the group for feedback.

Date for Next Meeting – **Wednesday 6 May 2020 at 5.30pm** in West 1 First Floor Sea Terminal