

## Green Lane User Group Meeting Wednesday 17 February 2021

In Attendance: Alan Hardinge AH (DOI)  
Richard Crane RC (DOI/4WD)  
David Leiserach DL (MFCG)  
David Goberman DG (MMBC)  
Erica Humphries EH (BHS)  
Helen Quillin HQ (BHS)  
Trisha Sayle TS (MWT)  
Helen Goldsmith, Notes (HG)

Apologies: Tim Baker MHK TB, Minister (DOI)  
Julian Wood JW (ACU)  
Mark Kerruish MK (DEFA)  
Graeme Watson GW (DEFA)  
Shaun Gelling SG (DEFA)  
William McHarg WMc (DEFA)  
Adam Henderson AH (MMBC)  
PC Claire Sproule-Craine CSC (WLO)

### Matters Arising

AH informed the group that unfortunately Mr Gilbey has decided to resign from the group and for the group to consider (EH is looking at this) as to whether we have another representative from the Manx Horse Council (MHC). The group were sorry to hear of Mr Gilbey's decision; however they fully understand his reasons to reduce the number of activities he is involved with and wish him all the very best for the future.

### Track Reports

Clarum to Glen Mona - All in an okay condition. On-going.

RC reported the Ohio plantation has been trimmed back and that he is continuing to address water issues during the wet days. Other tracks in the area were also the subject of targeted trimming.

Glen Dhoo track. TS reported they have had an incident where a vehicle (tractor) had a puncture and asked RC to take a look at the track. There used to be a footpath before it got washed out and if it can be reinstated. Group discussed the possibility of a foot bridge and RC suggested stepping stones; AH to ask Land Drainage section to look at area. RC has database for tracks and to include Fords.

Donkey Track. DL asked for an update and AH responded that the Department are in the process of appointing an Inspector for a public enquiry to take place.

### Proposed Work

RC commented that there was nothing significant to report.

Eairy Cushlin. RC visited the other day from the top of the Sloc and informed the group that water is now flowing off the track and the rest is settling down well.

Carnane Track. DG commented the central bit is well used and RC to fill main ruts with stone. This was to take place once the ground had dried up.

### **Proposed Management Plan**

AH asked for comment regarding his email sent to the group back in August 2020 regarding the request by the DOI Minister Mr Baker to review the makeup of the group with a view to widening the scope; some suggestions were made with regards to representatives from the Manx National Heritage (MNH), Department for Enterprise (DfE) the visit team, Manx National Farmers Union (MNFU) to have a seat at the table.

EH asked about strategic focus and what do we want to achieve and how we prioritise tracks. AH will resend his email to the group regarding the proposed Management Strategy and Terms of Reference and asked the group for their comments and a suggested new title (must include the word access) no later than Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021.

### **Winter Closures**

RC commented that Ballacobb has cattle roaming over the tops causing some damage to drainage off track.

### **Illegal Riding/Access**

TS reported that there has been a large volume of off-track mountain biking and asked how we spread the word that off-track riding is prohibited. DG suggested TS to contact DEFA. Discussion took place regarding legislation i.e. Green Lane is legal and highways driven, however PROW legislation is different and there would be conflict between the two. DL gave an example on the Heritage Trail where cyclists are using the footpath between Chasms and the Sound where a member of the public could be seriously injured. AH commented that the Heritage Trail is being looked into by the Department. EH suggested contacting the AG's office for clearing the element of ambiguity and for the group to have a clear framework of what is required. AH asked for suggestions into promoting the group and bring any issues we have to the public's attention.

RC commented of the 2 4WD incidents, one had been fined £500 and is now a member of the club.

### **Map my Ride Exercise**

This is an on-going practise.

### **Railway Lines chicane gates**

The previous notes dated Wednesday 12 August 2020 should have read *EH informed the group an accident occurred between Douglas to Carnane Lane (not Cornaa) where a pony came down completely off track due to a cyclist.*

EH commented from the Farmers Arms side towards Peel the pipework over the bridge on left hand side is fairly low (by the lost wife of Ballaleece) and asked AH if there could be any potential to build up with some fencing on that side. AH to speak with the design engineer to take a look at the area to see what can be done and any cost involvement. DL reported there are only walker/rider signs in this location and nothing to discourage motor vehicles i.e. no signs or barriers.

## **Report a Problem Facilities**

DL commented that the system works okay but you cannot attach a photo over 5mb and there is no feedback on system. RC responded that the system does send out an acknowledgement and AH commented that this facility is set up for safety critical defects. RC recommended using the what3words app.

## **Any Other Business**

None.

Date for Next Meeting – **Wednesday 19 May 2021 at 5.30pm** in West 1 First Floor Sea Terminal