

Green Lane User Group Meeting

Wednesday 26 April 2017

In Attendance – Alan Hardinge (DOI)/ Shaun Gelling (DEFA)/Graeme Watson (DEFA)/ Kath Keyes (BHS)/ David Leiserach (MFCG)/Walter Gilbey (MHC)/Julian Wood (ACU)/Julie Colquitt (DED) David Gooberman (MMBC)

Apologies – Chloe Keegan (DHA) /Jade Foster (DED)/Richard Crane (4WD)

Track Reports

Castlelake Road - RC inspected the area recently. Very overgrown and gorse could do with being cut back. Area also requires a pipe installing to drain the area. Richard & Alan to meet on-site

Spooyt Vane - Questions of the condition and need for a single gate (needs to be horse friendly) on the South end only. General discussion to the future obligations following a review in legislation soon to be implemented. AH outlined changes in legislation for Public Rights of Ways (PROW's) not applicable to green lanes.

Kerrowgarrow - A section from Jacksons Yard up to the corner needs further inspection as it has been washed out – No action required at present.

Ballacuberagh - JW, RC & AH met on-site, work in progress.

East Mt Gate - SG confirmed that further work is required as there is some erosion of track near bog area. It was noted that the boardwalk and in particular the wire anti-slip requires prompt attention. AH to action.

Snaefell Mines Road - Some of the rails erected post TT 2016 have been damaged and DEFA will repair. DEFA have instructed a contractor to erect some additional fencing in order to keep the public safe from unstable buildings. Shaun to action. Julian asked if considered. SG suggested that it would be difficult to create a sustainable route between the Mountain Road and Snaefell Mines or the Glen Mona track. SG to liaise with JW and possibly meet on-site to look at alternatives.

Glen Mona - A number of culverts known to be blocked on the north side and could do with clearing. Excavator, banksman required. Work still required including a number of culverts requires cleaning.

Donkey Track - Work still required Anna agreed with landowner reference supplying fencing, tenant keen for work to be completed. AH to arrange a site meeting with JW and landowner.

Baltic Road - Road closed notice still in place – AH to action

Sound Road, Glen Maye - A neighbourly dispute between local landowners appears to have spilt over and is affecting the long standing access across Dalby Mountain.

Old Douglas Road - Work still required

Proposed Work

Dowse – Site meeting required – Action AH, KK asked for consideration could be given more widely to the use of material i.e. certain size stone is not good for horses, DL also advised it's not good for walkers either.

KK distributed BHS leaflets on surfaces suitable for horse riding.

Proposed Management Plan

Maps - A draft 4th edition prepared by Rob Clynes (RC) is ready for review and included mountain bike information. JW made several amendments to the guide, DG to feedback reference mountain bikes to RC.

Signs - New signage discussed and agreed that a very wide difficult area to agree and progress. RC volunteered for himself and JW to make a start for the next meeting, looking at a wider picture and referring to UK signage. DL also suggested that he could make some enquires through his contacts in the UK, which the group agreed was a positive move. If some consistency of signage could be achieved that would be a positive move.

Volunteer Wardens/Adopt a Track – JW confirmed a local trail bike guiding company had changed hands and the new proprietor was well respected.

DL raised an issue with regards signs that had appeared "Pilgrimage Way" does anyone know if permission was granted? It was advised that this was a walking app supported by Rushen Heritage Trust; however no consultation appears to have taken place prior to signage being installed.

Winter Closures

The Slieau Dhoo Link remains closed. JW confirmed that he had walked the track and no misuse appears to have taken place. SG commented that DEFA are considering remediating some of the vehicles/water erosion now that this track is closed.

Ballacob to be closed for the winter only one UK team used it.

Illegal Riding/Access

SG and GRW noted that a minority of off road motorcycles are still causing issues for DEFA staff and other DEFA estate users.

AOB

JW confirmed that leaflets and maps had been circulated ahead of TT to road & track and other companies.

JC asked whether DOI could use spoil from Douglas Promenade/Foxdale for the Heritage line. AH confirmed that works will be taking place to make good certain areas of the track this summer. JC confirmed 10,000 hits on website from potential walkers showing interest.

SG mentioned the confusion with the Pound Road Santon recently had been caused by incorrect wording stating the track was being extinguished had caused confusion.

SG suggested that it would be desirable to have a separate meeting to discuss the use and management of the former railway lines. This was thought to be a good idea as the "old lines" are often discussed at GLUG meetings even though they are not legal highways.

It was agreed to consider a press release to advise the public what the group has achieved to date and what its intentions are. Also discussed was to invite the Highways Minister to obtain his views and support moving forward.

Date for Next Meeting – **Wednesday 28 June 2017** in West 1 First Floor Sea Terminal
