

**Countryside Access Group Meeting
Wednesday 8 February 2023**

In Attendance: AH (DOI), Chair
 FW (DOI)
 RC (DOI/4WD)
 DL (MFCG)
 YM (DfE)
 SM (MNH)
 HQ (BHS)
 LH (ACU)
 SC (MFU)
 SG (DEFA)
 MK (DEFA)
 GW (DEFA)
 AHen (MMBC)
 SW Wooden Spoon Wheelchair Sports Club (WSWSC)
 HG (Note taker)

Apologies: JW Visit Trail Riders, (VTR) (motorcycles)
 CSC (WLO)
 CW (Druidale Motor Club)
 TS (MWT)
 HA (MNH)

Item	Description	Who
1.	Apologies – noted as above	
2.	Minutes of the previous meeting - agreed as a true record.	
3.	<p>Actions from previous meeting held on Wednesday 7 December 2022.</p> <p>4. Proposed Work LH informed the group that the end of the lane on Ballacotch needs sorting (opposite Mount Murray's crossroads). In-hand.</p> <p>YM (DfE) will attend future meetings and introduced herself to the group. AHen (MMBC) had not attended meetings for a while and re introduced himself and his role.</p> <p>SG had a couple of alterations from the previous meeting under 4. Proposed works and 8. Under any other business which are to be amended on the previous meeting before circulating on the DOI CAG minutes website.</p>	
4.	Proposed Work	
	<p>Raad Ny Foillan works to be carried out in the new financial year.</p> <p>Couple of closures during the summer:- a) Lower Billown – issue with bridge b) Foxdale – the steps up to the old railway line has a step missing and both the Commissioners and Highways (joiner) have visited the site and the area is now closed.</p>	

4.1	PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PLAN	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A skeleton Management Plan is in place and FW to look at how it goes over the summer months. 	
4.2	WINTER CLOSURES	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DC reported closure on Castle Lake track possibly due to Landowner getting stuck with vehicle and caused an issue. DC suggested appropriate signage to stop 4WD and motorbikes going down the track and it was agreed for DC to erect voluntary restraint signage. Landowner on Dalby Mountain has asked for winter closure and FW advised this is a highway. DL commented that there is no sign posted from the Northern end and FW to action. RC to provide additional winter closures to FW. DL asked to add the railway track at Curragh Wildlife Park (towards Sulby) condition very poor. FW to action. 	FW RC FW
4.3	ILLEGAL RIDING	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MK reported fairly quiet. 	
4.4	MAP MY RIDE	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing to report. Next Map My Ride meeting to be held on Wednesday 15 March 20 2023. 	
4.5	'REPORT A PROBLEM' SYSTEM	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted the system was not working from a PROW point of view but from a user point of view very good. 	
4.6	IOM MOUNTAIN BIKE CODE OF CONDUCT (MBCC)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AHen asked why we are introducing the English Countryside Code of Conduct (ECCC) and not the Scottish Code of Conduct. FW informed him this was due to a majority of users utilise the ECCC and are signage is also similar to the UK. It was agreed we need to look into cycle/horse signs and DL commented that the Millennium Way could do with being signed. 	
4.7	APPROVAL OF NEW MEMBERSHIP TO REPRESENT ACCESSIBILITY	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None 	
5.	GRASS CUTTING	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be removed from Agenda. 	
6.	Consultation on proposed coastal footpath legislation	
	FW informed the group consultation still ongoing. SC to arrange an unofficial pre consultation meeting with the Environmental Land Committee (ELC) at the end of March and to invite FW.	SC
7.	CAG minutes and website	
	FW has the DoI the website up and running and gave a brief overview of the site. Any amendments/comments to the information provided to contact FW.	

<p>8.</p>	<p>Letter to DoI/DEFA Greenway and Hill damage and possible measure</p> <p>SG summarised key points raised by a member of the public in correspondence sent to the DoI and DEFA Ministers. The correspondence also contained two suggestions to try and address the points raised. These suggestions were briefly discussed and it was decided to circulate a redacted version of the correspondence to CAG members in order to have a more detailed discussion at the next CAG meeting.</p> <p>Following on from this LH circulated a notice from JW that has been circulated on social media regarding visitors planning a trip to the Island to ride or drive the Green Lanes. The group all agreed it was a good message from JW. LH asked the group to contact JW should they have any further input.</p> <p>SG commented the need to make maps visible/supply for sale on the boat again and if the new boat can supply wi-fi. RC advised the need for a re-run of the Green Lane maps. FW to speak to our cartographer. FW/YH to action.</p>	<p>FW/YH</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>SC commented on organised walking groups and where we can put a structure in place to keep them on designated paths to stop disputes with landowners. It was noted that all organised groups have their own insurance/liability and are liable for any mishaps. GW commented there is a large dog walking business and DEFA do make sure they are properly insured. SC commented on the risk to landowners and their stock; SC meeting with the Blue Badge Group and will provide them with fact sheets etc to make them aware and prevent anything going wrong. YH to introduce the appointed Walking Champion for DfE to SC. GW to discuss the matter further with SC and provide more information on legal implications.</p> <p>LH on behalf of JW asked if we got any further with Glen Mona track (to open Baldrick side) FW advised it will be left off the next closure until 8 May.</p> <p>RC commented on Restriction on Green Lanes 4WD and adhering to the permit system on liability and landowner side. The 4WD volunteer to host any individual/group that come to the island and apply for their permit. As more people are coming over and cannot find anything on line unhelpful it then takes a lot of RC's time to assist/apply and this needs to be addressed.</p> <p>SG asked the minutes to be supplied in draft to the group before they are put on the website.</p>	
<p>10.</p>	<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 7pm and the date for the next meeting to be held on Wednesday 19 April 2023 at 5.30pm in the Boardroom, First Floor, Sea Terminal Building.</p>	