

Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum

Thursday 13th November 2008

Held at Civic Hall, Llandeilo, 6.00pm

Present:

Gary Carlsen (GC) – Secretary

Members:

Geoffrey Williams (GW)
Cllr Clive Scourfield (CS)
Karen Burch (KB)
Keith Morgan (KM)
David Foot (DF)
Mark Hadley (MH)
David Hunter (DH)
Pauline Sykes (PS)
Llew Thomas (LT)
Roy Jones (RoJ)
Pat Arlett (PA)
Eric Davies (ED)
John Hollies (JH)
Eric Jones (EJ)
Glyn Evans (GE)

Apologies (Members)

Chris Rankin (CR)

Advisors/ Observers/Members of the Public

EW James (EWJ) Carmar CC
Ian Morgan (IM) Carmar CC

	ACTION
Item 1 The Secretary welcomed those attending the first meeting of the new forum and its membership and made a note of Apologies received. No apology was received from Rosemary Jones.	ES
Item 2 The 15 members each made a short presentation to the forum outlining their qualifications, background interests and main areas of countryside access that they are interested in.	
Item 3 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair persons Geoff Williams (GW) was nominated as candidate for Chair. The members voted unanimously in favour of his appointment. Karen Burch (KB) was proposed and seconded as Vice Chair. She asked for time to consider. Following his appointment GW took over the duties of the chair from the Secretary. GW stated that he wanted copies of the 'Terms of Reference' to be sent to all members and he also distributed a questionnaire to members seeking their views on the effectiveness of the LAF. He wanted replies prepared for the next meeting in January 09.	ALL
Item 4 Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes were checked and amendments were noted for the following item. Page 4 item 2/9/08 agreed to strike out the line " <i>CS said that he would also raise this at</i> ".	ES

<p>Item 5 Matters Arising</p> <p>3/1/08 Gating Orders GC reported that no meeting had occurred in September and therefore no report had been produced.</p> <p>6/5/08 DF enquired if any progress had been made on the obstructions on the Towy Trail at Gelli Aur College and Gronger Hill. EWJ had no progress to report but would chase up with Rangers and report on progress by next meeting.</p> <p>2/7/08 Cambrian Mts. GC confirmed his report had been approved by the Exec Bd Member. GW asked for a copy of the report to be provided to all members. PS asked for all reports to be put on the CCC website. CS advised this was not feasible. DF asked for a copy of the LAF's comments on the CMPP consultation document to be provided to all members.</p> <p>2/9/08 LTP & LDP Phil Snaith could not attend the meeting due to ill health. GW requested that he be invited to attend the next meeting.</p> <p>8/9/08 (2) Insurance GW had no reply from his enquiry with RA Cardiff. He agreed to raise the issue at the next NAF meeting.</p>	<p>EWJ</p> <p>GC</p> <p>GW</p> <p>GC</p> <p>GW</p>
<p>Item 6 LAF Sub committees KB, KM and DH were appointed to the sub committee which GW will Chair. Other members with specialities, expertise or specific knowledge on topics being dealt with by the sub committee will be asked to sit on the sub committee as and when required.</p>	
<p>Item 7 Wales Coastal Access Improvement Programme IM introduced himself as the recently appointed Project Officer. He outlined his qualifications and experience that he was bringing to the post. He briefed the meeting on the progress made so far and his proposed priority of work which included addressing the missing links in the route, many miles of which are already in place. KB asked if he would be addressing multiuser needs. He informed the forum that once he'd achieved agreement with landowners on the principle of creating the missing link he would then push for multiuser status. IM asked if any members had proposed routes for multiusers to contact him and he would consider/pursue. GW requested reports from IM to include Kms created/provided, Kms of route outstanding. DH asked if UCRs on the route would be improved. EWJ confirmed. DH also asked if footways would be provided on sections of tarmaced highways that are part of the route. EWJ confirmed yes, wherever possible.</p>	
<p>Item 8 Future Meetings Venues The members discussed the 2 options of holding all meetings @ one venue or a different venue for each meeting around the County. Opinions were divided but a third option to have different venues for the Spring/Summer meetings incorporating site visits, and a fixed venue for the Autumn/Winter meetings was agreed on. GC requested members to suggest site visits for the meeting on the 7/5/09.</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Item 9 Disability Provision in Carmarthenshire JH presented a short paper to the forum who discussed the contents and the issues JH raised. JH praised CCC for the innovative approach on the route created in Laugharne. He asked all the</p>	

<p>members and CCC to identify potential routes which could be assessed and classified/graded by a 'professional disabled assessor'. He also proposed that the potential routes identified could be included in a register of disabled routes and a booklet containing information on their suitability (classification) produced to promote those routes. EWJ informed the meeting that JH and the Ranger Service had recently identified 14 potential routes in the Laugharne/Llansteffan areas and had allocated £20K to address as many of the 14 as possible. GW proposed a grading system for the routes which was supported by the membership. To promote the Laugharne route and CCC's work in providing such routes, JH would write a short article to be published in the next edition of the 'Community News'.</p>	JH
<p>Item10 Annual Report 2006-07 GC handed out copies of the report and apologized for the delay in production.</p>	
<p>Item 11 CCW Survey of LAFs (ROWIP process)</p>	
<p>Item 12 LDP & LTP GW informed the members that he, on behalf of the LAF had advised the planners that the draft LDP had no mention of the ROWIP. GC informed the members that he and EWJ were due to meet with the forward planners to discuss the ROWIP and DDA in relation to the LDP. EWJ/GC to report to next meeting</p>	EWJ/ GC
<p>Item13 Countryside Recreation & Access Unit – General Update Nantgrynw – EWJ to write up Greenspace Assessment – The study will be complete by June 09. A report will be published. ROWIP – A printed copy will be given to each member at the next meeting in January. Walks & Trails – EWJ to write up Convergence Funding - EWJ to write up</p>	
<p>AOB KB confirmed her acceptance of the role as Vice Chair.</p>	
<p>Date and venue of next meeting 15/01/09 @ 18.00hrs in Carmarthen Leisure Centre.</p>	