

Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum

Thursday 29th April 2010

Held at West Wales Centre for Crafts St Clears 6.00pm

Present:

Members:

Geoffrey Williams (GW) - Chairman
Karen Burch (KB) - Vice Chair
Chris Rankin (CR)
Mark Hadley (MH)
David Foot (DF)

John Hollies (JH)
Pauline Sykes (PS)
Glyn Evans (GE)
David Hunter(DH)
Roy Jones (RJ)

Enfys Stallard – Minute taker
Gary Carlsen (GC) Secretary
Eirian W James (EWJ) CCC
Ian Morgan (IM) – Coastal Access Officer

Apologies (Members)

Pat Arlett (PA)
Eric Jones (EJ)
Clive Scourfield (CS)
Keith Morgan (KM)

Rosemary Jones (RoJ)
Eric Davies (ED)
Llew Thomas (LT)

Advisors/ Observers/Members of the Public

Brian Phillips - Bronwydd CC
Jonathan Price (Forestry Commission)
Cllr Roy Llewellyn - CCC
Kevin Thomas - CCC
Alan Davies - Air Ambulance

Apologies (Advisors)

Phil Stone – CCW

	ACTION
Item 1 The Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting and reminded all to bring their copies of the ROWIP document with them to each meetings in future.	ALL
Item 2 Apologies were taken and recorded.	
Item 3 Minutes meeting 11th February 2010. Item 12 correct spelling 'hinges'. Item 7 Change LT to approach the group. Item 10 amend the text to 'Open Access land'. The minutes were checked, amended accordingly and accepted as correct.	
Item 4 Matters Arising Item 12 Brechfa Forest Wind Farm GW confirmed that he had received no details, DF confirmed that there had been another meeting – GW to write again to reaffirm contact. RJ had attended a sub meeting and confirmed that there were no further meeting planned until after The Election. Western area Advisory Forum – GW to send out docs to MH. 08/09 Annual report – GC confirmed that the report had been approved by Executive Board Member and is in the process of being translated it will be circulated to all and put on the web site soon.	GW GW GC

<p>GC to arrange a meeting with Mark James Chief Executive for the LAF chair to present the annual reports to the Council. –asap.</p> <p>News letter - GC asked all if members had any articles for inclusion into the news letter - if these could be submitted asap.</p> <p>item 6 12 month Annual Work Programme DF asked if the Chair had received any response, it was confirmed that KB had sent in a large list to be considered. – item to be carried to next agenda.</p> <p>Natural England Report/ Website - lost ways CR has brought this to the chairs attention - GW asked all to look at the report and he will take it to the meeting 20/5/10.</p> <p>Item 10 Dogs in the Countryside RJ thinks that the legislation as it stands is not sensible. GC said that the Farmers Union’s advice is to leave the dog go off the lead if attacked by cattle.</p> <p>Cycle tracks Llandybie KB asked for copies of the map – Phil Snaith to be contacted.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>GW</p> <p>ALL/ GW</p> <p>GC</p>
<p>Item 5 Multiuser Routes – presentation by Karen Burch</p> <p>Karen Burch presented Chris Rankin (BHS) and Alun Davies (Wales Air Ambulance) each with a cheque for £258 being the funds raised at the fun ride on 28th Feb at Pembrey Forest attended by 71 riders from around the county.</p> <p>In addition KB presented representatives of CCC (Cllr Roy Llewellyn) and Forestry Commission representative (Jonathan Price) with a painting and card signed by the riders thanking them for their contribution to the event.</p> <p>KB then made a power point presentation which raised the issues of multi user routes and that horse riders had become the forgotten vulnerable road user as a result of the walking and cycling strategy.</p> <p>KB requested that the LAF propose CCC implement a horse riding strategy (like North Somerset) whereby the needs of horseriders will be considered alongside the needs of walkers and cyclists in all planning decisions regarding roads and community developments.</p> <p>KB requested that the members be sent the strategy used by North Somerset.</p> <p>GW asked the forum if they agreed to the Multiuser policy being put forward by KB – All agreed that it should be worked into the ROWIP and Transport Policy.</p> <p>JH said that the routes should be promoted and identified fully to be useful to all users.</p> <p>KB handed out road safety leaflets to all to distribute.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>
<p>Item 6 Countryside Recreation & Access Unit – new officers and associated roles (EJ)</p> <p>EWJ presented a detailed report on the structure and realignment and subsequent appointment of 9 new staff. these results come as a result of a two and a half year long review of the service which has resulted in a completed change in business and operation and how the rights of way network will be managed especially in terms of maintenance programmes.</p> <p>EWJ suggested that a meet & Greet event will be held at Mynydd Mawr offices to be incorporated with the next LAF meeting - Ian Jones will also attend this meeting on 22nd July 2010, 4.30 pm start.</p> <p>The Chairman said that he would be abroad on the 22nd July and asked the vice Chair to Chair the</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>EWJ</p>

<p>meeting.</p> <p>GW asked for a map detailing the ranger areas.</p> <p>DH asked if each area was linked to a community – EWJ confirmed that each area was a different size and not linked to community patches as they are worked out on equal length of routes to maintain for each ranger.</p> <p>MH asked for a copy of the staffing structure- who does what - this will be cover in the meet & Greet also.</p> <p>GW asked if any one had seen the Wales Outdoor recreation Survey – EWJ confirmed he had a copy, the chairman asked for a copy of this document to be supplied to him.</p>	<p>EWJ</p> <p>EWJ</p>
<p>Item 7 ROWIP Implementation Update (EJ).</p> <p>EWJ updated that he had received a last minute email on 31/3/10 confirming 2010/11 funding of £99,185 grant support, but that there was also a new clause that included Biodiversity – WAG new funding stated that work schemes should have a public understanding of Biodiversity.</p> <p>GW reported that many authorities were behind on implementing their ROWIP plans.</p>	
<p>Item 8 Wales Coastal Access Improvement Programme – Ian Morgan - update</p> <p>IM presented the quarterly position update, in the usual W to E order: a written hand out was distributed to all out at meeting. IM also brought with him the detailed Coastal Path map showing all the route and this was displayed to all.</p>	
<p>Item 9 Meet & Greet meetings – planned between the Countryside Recreation & Access Unit and LAF representatives with Town and Community Councils – (GE/EJ)</p> <p>EWJ presented a detailed document showing areas for the 6 propped Meet and Greet presentation with Carmarthenshire Town and Community Councils events which will cover the County.</p> <p>The format for the presentation will need confirmation but it will include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A presentation by EWJ for Countryside Recreation & Access Unit • A presentation by LAF members • Q & A Session • NERC duties presentation by Isabel Macho <p>Each area was looked at in detail and volunteers were agreed to present the LAF presentation :-</p> <p>Lot 1 Central to be held at Bronwydd with Glyn Evans and David Hunter Lot 2 West to be held at Laugharne Millennium Hall with John Hollies Lot 3 North to be held at Llanpumpsaint Church Hall wit Glyn Evans Lot 4 South East to be held ? Geoff Williams and Karen Burch Lot 5 South to be held at Tumble Hall with Karen Burch Lot 6 North East to be held at Cwmifor hall with David Foot</p> <p>All the above venues are subject to booking and availability and some may have to be changed.</p> <p>Further details ongoing to be arranged.</p>	
<p>Item 10 AOB</p> <p>LAF conference 20/5/10</p> <p>GW confirmed that all chairs have been asked to submit a short report on the ROWIP Implementation Plan and the position to date – EWJ advise to refer to the pages of actions in the report and to respond to these.</p> <p>Gating of Alley ways will also be discussed GW to present a paper</p> <p>DH asked how are multiuser and cycle way created – EWJ said that they are sourced through Policy created by Street Scene Dept there are then issues cycle ways on ROW with regard to the financing of maintenance and up keep of repairs in the future.</p> <p>It was noted that the Amman Valley Walk Way is not actually a walk way</p>	

Tread Lightly -update

A meeting was held on Wednesday 27th April between Mr Workman Director of Technical Services, the British Horse Society, CCC Rights of Way Department, CCC Highways Department, and Mark Hadley (4x4 Rep LAF) where Mark Margetts one of the founding members of Treadlightly presented what the project is about and asked whether or not CCC would be interested in becoming a partner to the scheme. Treadlightly is currently aimed at users of Recreational Motor Vehicles (RMV's) in the countryside with its goals being to educate users into responsible use of their vehicles in the countryside, assist local authorities with carrying out repair works to routes and to assist local authorities and the police with enforcement programmes to ensure illegal MRV users are stopped. Those attending the meeting thought the scheme could be very beneficial and discussed a number of issues that would need looking into in more detail before adopting Tread Lightly within Carmarthenshire.'

New LAF Secretary

The new Principal Rights of Way Officer, Jonathan Tudor will be taking up his post from 10/5/10.

KB proposed a vote of thanks to Gary Carlsen for the work he has undertaken for the LAF Forum over last 7 years.

This was seconded by ALL.

Nant Gronw – Update

CR updated that ether was still no sign there , the tarmac looked fine, the gate chain was draped in a way that made it look like it was locked but it was not, the car park looked fine, but some areas were over grown, the routs going in had large grave stones and sharp rocks this made it very difficult for the horse to use and one of her horses took a week to recover form walking on the surface. it was confirmed that this was the Forestry Commission path.

GC to get a copy of the agreement.

GC

**Item 11 Date and Venue Next Meeting 22/7/2010 Meet and Greet event at Mynydd Mawr offices
Tumble and then relocate to Tumble Hall for the remainder of the meeting.**