Annual General Meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
To be held on Tuesday 28 January 2014
1.15pm at Yoredale, Bainbridge

Meeting to Commence at 1.15pm

1. Election of Chair
2. Election of Vice Chair
3. Welcome
4. Apologies
5. Approval of minutes, and matters arising (not on the agenda)
   - Turbary Road update
6. Public Question time – three minutes per speaker (those wishing to speak should make themselves known to the Secretary at the start of the meeting or in advance of the meeting)
7. Future Forum Meetings
   - Agenda Items
   - Dates
8. Review of nominated LAF members on groups linked to the Forum
9. Role of the Recreation Management Member Champion
10. Report back from Advisory Groups:
    - Crag and Cave
    - Access of Foot
    - Access for All
11. Woodland Creation (attached)
12. Fencing of Commons (attached)
13. Secretary's Report (Items for note and consideration by Forum Members)
14. Access for All (attached)
15. Update on members' activities (brief reports of activities relating to the Forum)

STANDARD PROCEDURES

SECTION 1: OFFICE HOLDERS

1.1 Chair and Vice Chair of the Forum

(a) The first and second items of business on the agenda at the Annual General Meeting each year shall be the election of a Chair and Vice Chair respectively for the ensuing year.

(b) No Chair or Vice Chair of the Forum shall hold the same office for more than four consecutive years (effective from 1st January 2003).

(c) The Chair will be an independent person appointed by the Forum and as such shall not also be a member of the 'appointing authority'.

(d) In the interests of balance, it is normally expected the Chair and the Vice-Chair to be drawn from members representing different categories of interest, and the Regulations require the Forum to take such steps, so far as practicable, to ensure this balance is achieved in the election of the chair and vice-chair.

1.2 Voting for Chair and Vice Chair

(a) Any candidate for the position of Chair or Vice Chair of the Forum shall be entitled to present an election address prior to the election process, the address to be either in writing (no more than one side of A4 paper) and/or verbal (to last no more than five minutes), followed by not more than five minutes of questions from the forum members. If verbal, the address will be given immediately after nominations are received and preceding the vote; if in writing, following nominations, preceding the vote and with Members allowed sufficient time to read the address.

(b) Candidates for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Forum shall be openly nominated, and recorded by the Secretary. In the event of there being more than one nomination for any position of Chair or Vice Chair, the election shall be by paper ballot. The standing chair and vice chair will announce their intentions to stand again, if they so wish, at least 30 days before the date of the annual general meeting.

The election procedure will be as follows:

(i) all Members present and eligible to vote will be provided with a voting slip on which they will indicate the candidate of their choice;
(ii) the Secretary will collect the completed voting papers, count the votes cast for each candidate and announce the result;
(iii) in the event of no candidate having an absolute majority, the candidate with the least number of votes will be removed from the list and a further vote taken until such time as one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

(c) On completion of the voting process, all ballot papers will be retained by Secretary, (who is appointed by the National Park Authority), but will not be available for inspection by Members of the Forum or by the general public.

DRAFT Unapproved Minutes

Meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Held on Tuesday 15 October 2013
Yoredale, Bainbridge

Present: Andrew Colley (AC), David Gibson (DG), Neil Heseltine (NH), Alex Law (AL), Stuart Monk (SM), John Richardson (JR), Jonathan Smith (JS), Sara Spillett (SS), Alistair Thompson (AT), Pat Whelan (PWh), Phillip Woodyer (PW).

YDNPA Officers present: Alan Hulme (AH), Rachel Briggs (RB) – LAF Secretary, Julie Barker (JMB), Tracey Lambert (TL), David Butterworth (DB), Peter Charlesworth (PC).

The meeting started at 1.20pm.

1. Welcome

PW welcomed David Butterworth, Chief Executive of the YDNPA, and Peter Charlesworth, Chairman of the YDNPA, to the meeting. PW then asked all members to introduce themselves.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Jon Beavan (JB), Jerry Pearlman (JP), Nick Thwaite (NT), Kevin Lancaster (KL) Jocelyn Manners-Armstrong (JMA)

3. Approval of Minutes

Page 5, item 12: JR asked that the initials JG be changed to JR.

Page 6, item 13: DG noted a spelling mistake in the third paragraph. The sentence should read 'to let your dog go when under attack'.

Page 6, item 13: AL asked that the minutes to be amended to read that it was AT who had concluded that the YDNPA were doing all they could.

Page 7, item 15: AC asked that the minutes be amended to read 'AC attended a local Parish Council meeting in Threshfield'.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record of the meeting.

Matters Arising from the Minutes

SS apologised that she hadn't had chance to amend the woodland creation guidelines as discussed at the meeting in June. However, she did circulate a reworked document and asked that this be taken up at the next meeting when members had had chance to read it. SS added that this would be her last meeting and, therefore, she would not be present to lead on the discussion. DG agreed to take the paper away and bring it to the January meeting as an item for discussion.

4. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

5. Future Forum Meetings

Dates of meetings

Dates for meetings of the YDAF during 2014 are as follows:

Tuesday 28 January 2014, 1.15 pm @ Yoredale, Bainbridge
Tuesday 20 May 2014, 1.15 pm @ Yoredale, Bainbridge
Tuesday 30 September 2014, 1.15 pm @ Yoredale, Bainbridge

Future Agenda Items

Suggested future agenda items put forward by members include:

- Definitive map for North Yorkshire.
- Woodland creation guidelines.

6. Chairman's Feedback

PW informed members that RB would be leaving on maternity leave in a weeks time. RB's replacement has been appointed. His name is Mohammed Dhalech (MD) and he has a background in equalities and youth work. He is also a member of the Lake District LAF. Mohammed starts work in post on 21 October 2013 and his email address will be Mohammed.dhalech@yorkshiredales.org.uk

PW thanked DB and PC for coming along to the meeting and told members that the purpose was to improve relations between the YDAF and the YDNPA. PW asked both to give some idea as to how they saw relations between the two.

DB explained to members that he had had a meeting with PC, PW, AT and officers from the YDNPA to discuss the matter and that it had been useful to have such an open and frank look at relationships between the YDNPA and the YDAF. His understanding was that the issue had come to a head due to the incorrect consultation with the YDAF on the

Cam Woodland planning application where the YDAF's views were not considered correctly at Planning Committee. His view was that the YDAF's view should be part of the deliberation on planning issues concerning access and that the role of the YDAF should be clear to both Planning Committee and the full National Park Authority. DB added that he would be giving feedback on the issue to members at next full Authority meeting in December. He thanked members for inviting himself and PC to the meeting and thought it was a positive step in establishing a more informal level of communication between the two and asked members to let him know if they felt the relationship breaking down in the future.

PC endorsed all that DB had said and stated that the key factors were communication and consultation. He added that he will continue to attend meetings where he can.

There was then a discussion on the consultation with YDAF members on planning applications. TL informed members that a mechanism was now in place whereby planning officers identified those applications that contained access issues and then RB determined whether they needed to be circulated to members.

DB said that there was also a mechanism in place whereby members of the NPA who sat on groups were to report back to the full Authority by way of a report. He added that in the YDAF's case, the member champion Nick Thwaite, should be carrying out this duty. JS said he was unsure what the role of the member champion was and asked for this to be confirmed. DB suggested that this be an agenda item at the next meeting of the YDAF.

The role of the Recreation Management Member Champion on the agenda of the next meeting of the YDAF.

DB and PC were thanked for their contribution to the meeting.

7. Feedback from the Recreation Management Member Champion

NT was absent from the meeting.

8. Report back from the Yorkshire Dales Advisory Groups

Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group

AL presented the minutes of the Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group. He said that the group appeared to be focussing on equestrian use of the network in the northern dales and that more mountain bikers were needed to keep the balance. SM said he may have a contact and said he would pass it on to AL.

Access for All Advisory Group

PW presented the minutes of the Access for All Advisory Group and added that it was a positive meeting.

There was a discussion with regards to the Wensleydale Railway as the accessibility of Aysgarth had been a topic of discussion at the meeting. AL suggested a way to open a further stretch of the railway would be to purchase one of the redundant bridges from the old A1. DG thought this was a great idea and suggested writing to the Wensleydale Railway to make the suggestion and to let them know that the YDAF supported the wider work they are doing.

PW to write to the Wensleydale Railway to support their work on opening up the railway and to suggest the purchase of redundant bridges from the old A1.

DG noted that Threshfield Quarry was to be an agenda item at a future meeting and asked if the Access for All Advisory Group needed any help from the Access on Foot Advisory Group. PW said that the route was already open to those on foot and that the issues were more toward those with mobility issues. AC said that he was a member of the Threshfield Quarry Trust and that he would raise the access issues with them.

AC to speak to the Threshfield Quarry Trust about the access issues at the site.

9. Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy

RB presented the Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy (CCAS) and asked for comments.

AC thought that there were some good ideas within the strategy and added that it needed to be open due to the potential cuts.

AT wondered if the figures within Part 2 of were achievable. AH said that they had been worked out very carefully and that the three Authorities were confident that they could be achieved.

DB added that Cumbria County Council are becoming more interested in the work of the YDNPA and that he would be attending a meeting to discuss shared areas of work. He suggested that any further comments be passed to RB/MD so that these could form part of the discussion.

10. Boundary Review

DB gave a verbal repost on the Yorkshire Dales National Park boundary review.

He told members that he had attended the public enquiry earlier in the year and he found it fascinating. The advice of the inspector has now gone to Owen Patterson, Secretary of State, and once the advice has been taken, it will become public. A decision is expected by the end of the calendar year.

DB added that the future funding for the boundary review has not yet been decided but that it was not feasible to continue with the extended area on the same financial settlement.

AL asked what the opinion was of the landowners in the proposed new area. DB said that the general consensus was positive apart from in the Barbondale area where there is strong opposition from landowners.

JS wondered if anything had been mentioned about the name as many people see it as an important issue. DB said that it hadn't been part of the public enquiry but he agreed the National Park needed to branded accordingly.

PW thanked DB for his informative presentation.

11. Tour de France

TL gave members an update on the Tour de France.

SS said, from what she has seen and heard, the coverage on the National Park's input has been really positive and urged officers to 'keep up the good work'. She added that she had heard about a ladies tour the day before the race and asked if this were true. TL said she had heard nothing on this but that she would find out.

TL to find out if there is a ladies tour planned prior to the Tour de France

12. Secretary's Report

RB presented a report of items for Members' consideration and information. These were:

- Authority Meeting Dates and Venues.
- Meetings of the YDAF for 2014.
- YDAF membership.
    - RB added that this would be the last meeting of SS and thanked her for her work over the past three years.
- Appointment of YDAF members.
    - SS said that the advert for new members should go on the YDNPA's website under recruitment. RB agreed to add this to the web page.
    - DB added that the YDNPA would be looking for new members at the end of the year and that one area that was lacking was members with access and recreation interests.
- Meeting of the Yorkshire and Humberside Regional LAF
    - RB asked for two members to attend the meeting in Leeds on 21 March 2014.
- National Trails.
    - AH gave an update on the review of National Trails. He told members that the YDNPA and the North Pennines AONB had bid to be the lead partner for both the Pennine Way and the Pennine Bridleway.
- Fencing on Bluecaster and Grisedale Common.
- LARA – Byway Code.
- YDAF Annual Review.

  - RB told members that the YDNPA would no longer be producing an old style annual report and that this was the preferred reporting method by Natural England.
- Letter to LAFs from Richard Benyon.

Any other business

Turbury Road

SM raised an issue with an unclassified unsurfaced road (UUR), Turbury Road, which was currently blocked and was displaying a misleading sign. The landowner thinks the route is following the wrong line and the matter has been raised with NYCC.

SM asked NH, as a landowner, if farm payments are affected when routes of access are poached. NH said that payments would be reduced but that there was a real need to establish the rights and wrongs of the situation before discussing single farm payments.

AH said he had been in the loop on this issue and that he had had a response from Doug Huzzard of NYCC. The route is a UUR with a minimum access right on foot. Higher rights need to be proved. AH then asked what the YDAF would like to happen on the issue.

SM said the next meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Green lanes Advisory Group (YDGLAG) was not until mid 2014 and that he felt the issue needed to be resolved before then.

NH suggested he look at the route with SM and bring it back to the next meeting of the YDAF. AC thought this was a good idea but though it would be better to ask NYCC to verify the correct route and status before any site visit.

AH suggested the YDAF write to NYCC to establish the route and status, the result of which may require a site visit by NH and SM who can then establish whether or not a special meeting of the YDGLAG is required.

PW to write to Doug Huzzard from NYCC to establish to the route and status of the Turbury Road before deciding on where a site visit by NH and SM is required and/or a special meeting of the YDGLAG is necessary.

15. Update on members activities

Members had nothing to add.

The meeting closed at 3.55pm

Yorkshire Dales access forum

Mr Doug Huzzard
North Yorkshire County Council
County Hall
Northallerton
North Yorkshire
DL7 8AD

7 November 2013

Dear Doug Huzzard,

The Yorkshire Dales Local Access Forum at its meeting of the 15 October 2103 was informed of an access problem over a right of way in the Parish of Thornton in Lonsdale at one end of the Turbary Road, Kingsdale.

In order to be more informed about this issue and to be in a position to offer advice we would like to know what in the Highway Authorities opinion is the legal status of Turbary Road? In addition what is the exact line the right of way takes and at what point (Grid reference) it enters the last field from Bull Pot Bank.

We would also appreciate your comments in relation to the blocking of a gateway with large limestone boulders which depending on the line of the actual route may be blocking the right of way.

We thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Phil Woodyer
Chair Yorkshire Dales Access Forum

Secretariat:
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Item No. 8

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 28 January 2014

Review of nominated LAF members on Advisory Groups linked to the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum

Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to:

(a) remind members of the advisory groups that the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum (YDAF) are asked to contribute towards, through a representative(s) of the YDAF attending meetings, and

(b) seek representative(s) from the YDAF on these groups for the current year.

Background

There are several different types of meeting where the YDAF are asked to provide a representative. These can be:

- Meetings looking at a specific project or idea,
- Meetings looking at specific recreation activities with user groups,
- Meetings with other organisations eg the Highway Authorities.

Other groups and meetings also require members from the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum. A full list of YDAF representatives on each group can be seen in the **Appendix 1**.

At the meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum on 22 May 2007[1] a paper was discussed on the formation of Advisory Groups. The remit of these groups is to:

- exchange information, and provide a formal mechanism for communication and raising issues of concern;
- advise on the management of specific matters.

There are currently seven Advisory Groups:

- Access on Foot Advisory Group e.g. open access, footpaths.
- Bridleway and Restricted Byway Advisory Group e.g. bridleways, restricted byways.
- Air Sports Advisory Group e.g. paragliding, hang gliding.
- Water Sports Advisory Group e.g. canoeing, sailing.

[1] http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/lookingafter/caringfor/managingaccess/ydaf/ydlaf-meetings/ydlaf-archive/ydlaf-may2007

- Cave and Crag Access Advisory Group e.g. caving, climbing.
- Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group e.g. recreational motor vehicular use of green lanes.
- Access for All Advisory Group e.g. access for people with limited mobilities.

Who should represent the YDAF?

The Annual General meeting of the YDAF gives members of the forum the opportunity to revisit who sits on each group and decide whether representation should be changed in any way. This is to take into account new members of the Forum, together with any vacancies that may have occurred due to members resigning from the Forum.

Ideally, where more than one member is required on a group, YDAF membership to the groups should be balanced. That is to say, if there are three vacancies for members, one should be a user, one a landowner and another to represent those with other interests - as far as practical. This ideal situation may not always occur as members are volunteers and cannot always commit time in this way. The reality is that the YDAF may wish to consider appointing a representative based on their ability and willingness to attend a meeting rather than the particular interest they represent.

Vacancies during the year

The list of groups and membership will be brought to the Forum once a year at the first meeting of the year. If any vacancies arise during the year, these will be considered in the Chair/Secretary report as appropriate.

Action for the Forum

The Forum is asked to nominate and agree a representative(s) for membership of each of the groups listed in the **Appendix**.

Mohammed Dhalech
Access Development Officer
January 2014

Appendix

Forum Members Attendance at Other Groups and Meetings

WHAT?	WHEN?	WHO CURRENTLY?	REPRESENTING?
Access on Foot Advisory Group	Twice a year	Neil Heseltine Heather Thomas-Smith Alistair Thompson Andrew Colley	Landowners Other interests Other interests YDNPA Member
Access for All Advisory Group	Twice a year	// // Andrew Colley Pat Whelan	 YDNPA Member Landowners
Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group	Twice a year (evenings)	Alex Law // // Heather Thomas-Smith	Landowners Other interests
Air Sports Advisory Group	When an issue arises	Jon Beavan //	Other Interests
Water Sports Advisory Group	When an issues arises	// Andrew Colley	 YDNPA Member
Cave and Crag Access Advisory Group	Once a year	Jon Beavan //	Other Interests
Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group	Once a year	// Pat Whelan Jon Beavan David Gibson	 Landowner Other Interests Users
Dales Tourism Steering Group (to bring a broad recreation perspective)		//	

Item No. 9

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 28 January 2014

Role of Member Champion - Recreation Management

Purpose of the report

To inform the Local Access Forum members about the Member Champion Initiative and more specifically the role of the Member Champion for Recreation Management.

Background

The Member Champions Initiative was first developed in 2006 and was a result of the publication of the National Park Authority Performance Assessment (NPAPA) report in January 2006 which highlighted the need to widen and strengthen the role of Members in the governance of the Authority.

The idea of the Initiative was to create a more 'hands-on' role for Members and represented one of the major cultural shifts in the way in which the Authority wanted to carry out its business on a 'day to day' basis.

A review was conducted in 2012, and was reported to the Authority. This found that the initiative worked well. As part of this review Members made it clear that they expected the Member Champions to "step up to the plate" in helping to deal with the loss of staff resources and funding.

Principles

There are a number of principles that are applied to the Member Champion roles (see **Appendix B**) the key principles are:

- Member Champions are appointed by the Authority for three years.
- They need to be committed and enthusiastic about the area of work in question.
- Member champions are not policy makers, executive members or a cabinet, nor do they direct staff.
- There are eight Member Champion roles currently:
    - ❖ Natural Environment
    - ❖ Cultural Heritage
    - ❖ Recreation Management
    - ❖ Promoting Understanding

- ❖ Development Management
- ❖ Sustainable Development
- ❖ Corporate Management
- ❖ Climate Change

Role of the Champion

The role of the Champion is to:

- To assist officers with the implementation of the Authority's policy. To develop future policy proposals for consideration by the Authority and its committees
- To champion the service within the Authority
- To represent and champion the service externally
- To report back to the Authority and its Committees on their brief.
- To act as a `sounding board' for senior officers regarding the discussion of new ideas and initiatives for which they are expected to bring the `member perspective' to these discussions.

Officers are expected to consult champions regularly, but particularly on difficult or sensitive issues where they are taking decisions under the Authority's delegation scheme. This consultation with member champions is in addition to, not instead of, existing consultation with members as a whole.

A Role Description (**Appendix A**) and guidance note has been produced to clarify the role and expectations of the Member Champions (Guidance **Appendix B**) and others, including the 'standard' time commitment and update the individual Role Descriptions.

Conclusion

The establishment of member champions for each of the Authority's main areas of responsibility has proved a genuine and exciting way of improving the performance of the Authority and takes full advantage of the skills, experience and expertise that members of the Authority possess across a wide range of issues.

As many LAF members will be aware the Recreation Management Member Champion has an important role in ensuring a good relationship between members of the Authority and the LAF.

Action for the Forum

The role of the Member Champion for Recreation Management be noted.

Alan Hulme
Head of Ranger Services
30 December 2013

APPENDIX A

RECREATION MANAGEMENT MEMBER CHAMPION

Authority programmes covered

- Volunteers
- Rights of Way
- Car parks and toilets
- Green Lanes
- Open access
- Countryside Skills and training
- Recreation
- Ranger Service

Current representative roles

1. Chair of YDNPA Green Lanes Advisory Group
2. Yorkshire Dales Access Forum;
3. Attendance and speaker at Annual Dales Volunteers meeting;
4. Cumbria Access partnership;

Current Issues

1. Fostering a good working relationship between the Local Access Forum and Authority;
2. Management of recreational vehicular use of unsealed routes;
3. Management of CRoW Open Access Areas and restrictions and exclusions;
4. Three Peaks Project and user pay-back;
5. Establishing the new Pennine Way and Pennine Bridleway National Trail Partnership
6. Pennine Bridleway National Trail route crossing at Long Preston;
7. Establish ways of engaging with new volunteers who do not fit the traditional pattern of volunteering, e.g. the young, the less able;
8. Potential for Dales Volunteers to support community projects
9. Tour de France Grand Depart through the Yorkshire Dales 5/6 July and legacy.
10. Proposed disposal of Authority amenity properties

Induction Programme

- Briefings and spending time 'on the job' with key staff;
- Site visits around the National Park;
- Attendance at Ranger Service, and Recreation and Tourism Team meetings;
- Attend one Dales Volunteers training day;
- Attend Autumn meeting of Dales Volunteers in order to be able to hear any thoughts Dales Volunteers might want to share;
- Media training;
- Yorkshire Dales Access Forum training events

Lead Officer Alan Hulme, Head of Ranger Services: **Version Nov 2013**

APPENDIX B

GUIDANCE ON THE MEMBER CHAMPION INITIATIVE

Guiding Principles

1. The Authority has established a number of over-arching guiding principles by which the Member Champion Initiative shall be governed. These are:-
    a. Member Champions need to be committed to, and enthusiastic about, the area of work to which they have been appointed, but not necessarily 'experts' in it.
    b. Member Champions are appointed to support the implementation of the Authority's approved policies and objectives. They will assist the development of new policies but are not 'Executive Members' or a Cabinet. Champions will work with officers but not direct them.
    c. Member Champions are expected to commit around 1 day per month to their role, including undertaking training, development and induction.
    d. the arrangements that are established must recognise the resources and capacity of Members and officers.
    e. Member Champions are effectively 'volunteering' their time to support the work of the Authority. They will not receive any allowance other than any travel and subsistence costs necessarily incurred in undertaking their role.
    f. the Authority welcomes the special knowledge and understanding that Member Champions can bring to its decision-making. Proportionate arrangements will be put in place to avoid Member Champions participating in formal decision-making only in cases where it might reasonably be perceived that they are unduly influenced by their prior involvement in a matter.
    g. where Member Champions sit on the Planning Committee, their duty to determine each case on its merits takes precedence over any perceived obligations to the area for which they are the Member Champion.
    h. the Chairman is responsible for managing the Member Champion Initiative

Member Champion areas

2. The areas of work for Member Champions shall be based on the 7 main functions of the Authority (as set out in the Corporate Plan), with the addition of a climate change category, i.e. there will be Member Champions for:
    – Natural Environment
    – Cultural Heritage
    – Recreation Management
    – Promoting Understanding
    – Development Management
    – Sustainable Development
    – Corporate Management
    – Climate Change

Key Roles for Member Champions

3. The key role of each Member Champion is to support the achievement of the Authority's policies and objectives for that area of work. The exact way in which any Member Champion does this will depend on the individual Member and the particular area of work. Nonetheless, there are some general roles that form part of the job description for each Member Champion:

    a. represent and champion the service externally, including acting as a 'public face' of the Authority through the media;

    b. assist officers with the implementation of the Authority's policies;

    c. assist officers in the formulation of new policy proposals prior to consideration by the Authority or its committees. They are expected to bring the `Members' perspective' to these discussions.

    d. champion the service within the Authority, including introducing the reports that come to the Authority and its committees on issues relating to their brief, or speaking first in the subsequent debate.

    e. act as a 'critical friend' to officers – encouraging improvement, for example in areas where the Authority may not be meeting its objectives or targets.

4. Any specific issues relating to individual Member Champion roles will be set out in an annex to the formal job description, which will be issued to each Member Champion.

Key roles for officers

5. To be effective, Member Champions and staff need to put time into building a good working relationship. Champions need access to good and timely information, and the opportunities to contribute effectively. Again, the exact working arrangements will depend on the individual Member and officers but, broadly, each Member Champion should expect to:

    a. have a nominated 'lead officer' to act as the main liaison with the Member Champion;

    b. have the opportunity to get directly involved in the formulation of new policy proposals prior to their consideration by the Authority;

    c. have input into any report going to the Authority or its committees on issues relating to their brief;

    d. be consulted on any high profile or sensitive decisions being made by officers under the Authority's delegation scheme[1];

    e. get timely information on the performance of their area;

    f. get timely information on the key issues affecting their area;

    g. get sufficient training/development to gain an understanding of the key issues.

Appointment

6. Member Champions are critical to the effectiveness of the Authority and the public's perception of it. The Authority needs to be satisfied that it is appointing someone with both the desire and ability to do the job effectively:

[1] This consultation would be in addition to, not instead of, any formal consultation arrangements with Members required under the Authority's delegation scheme.

a. Member Champions will normally be appointed at the Authority's annual meeting. Any Member wishing to apply for a Member Champion role must provide in advance a written document highlighting their relevant experience and reasons for wishing to become a Member Champion. These documents will be included in the Authority papers for Members' consideration at the meeting.

b. Member Champions will be appointed for a fixed term of 3 years, and will be eligible for reappointment unless another Member wishes to take on the role.

c. if the Chairman believes that a Member Champion is fundamentally failing to perform their role, the Chairman may remove them from that position.

d. if a serving Member Champion leaves the Authority before the end of the 3 year period, or is removed from their role by the Chairman, then a new appointment may be made as soon as practicable thereafter.

e. only one Member can be appointed Member Champion for each particular area.

f. a Member can only be appointed Member Champion for one area.

g. the Chairman of the Authority shall not be a Member Champion.

h. the Member Champion for Corporate Management cannot be a member of the Audit and Review Committee.

Meetings

7. Member Champions will meet regularly with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman to share information, and monitor the implementation and development of the Authority's work and the Member Champion Initiative:

    a. the dates of meetings will be set annually, with agendas circulated before the meetings. Member Champions will be invited to submit agenda items

    b. the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of the Authority will chair the meetings;

    c. the PA to the Director of Corporate Services will provide the Chairman with support in circulating documents and agendas, and taking notes of the meetings.

Reporting back to the Authority

8. In order to keep other Members regularly informed of the work of the Member Champions:

    a. notes of Member Champion meetings will be included as a `standing item' on the agenda for Authority meetings.

    b. each Member Champion will be required to produce and present a written report each year to inform other Members of their current involvement in the range of issues and activities within their area of responsibility. A rota of presentations will be prepared and publicised at the beginning of the year to facilitate this.

    c. At the end of each financial year, the Member Champions will produce a brief annual report on their collective activities, which will then be presented to the Authority by the Chairman.

Good Governance

9. The role of a Member Champion does not inherently create any conflict of interest with the other decision-making roles that Members have as part of the Authority or its committees. Nor

does any conflict of interest or personal interest issue arise simply from a Member Champion being involved in making a decision about the application of policies that they have helped to develop. However, there may be occasions where - as part of carrying out their Member Champion role – they have become so closely involved in a particular issue that they have become associated with a particular view, or with a particular person's case, ahead of the Authority's formal decision on the matter. In such cases, the Member Champion may speak but should refrain from voting when that formal decision comes to be made.

10. Where a Member Champion does have a 'personal interest' under the code of conduct on a matter which they encounter as a Champion, they should inform the relevant officer, and ask for a note to be made that they have done so. If it is a disclosable pecuniary interest, the Member Champion should also decline to have any involvement in the matter, unless they have obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee.

Item No. 10

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 26 February 2013

Report Back from Yorkshire Dales Advisory Groups

Advisory Group Meetings

At the May 2007 meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum, a paper was presented on the establishment of advisory groups to look at individual recreational activities. The remit of these groups is to:

- exchange information, and provide a formal mechanism for communication and raising issues of concern amongst users, the YDAF, and other interests;
- advise on the management of specific matters.

The following arrangements have been made for the meetings of the groups:

Access on Foot Advisory Group

The last meeting of the Access on Foot Advisory Group was on 2 December 2014. The draft minutes of this meeting are in **appendix 1.** The next meeting of the Access on Foot Advisory Group is on 25 March 2014.

Access for All Advisory Group

The last meeting of the Access for all Advisory Group was on 18 December 2014. The draft minutes of this meeting are in **appendix 2.** The next meeting of the Access for All Advisory Group will be confirmed 2014.

Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group will be on 20 March 2014.

Air Sports Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Air Sports Advisory Group has yet to be confirmed.

Water Sports Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Water Sports Advisory Group has yet to be confirmed.

Cave and Crag Access Advisory Group

The last meeting of the Cave and Crag Advisory Group was on 27 November 2014. The draft minutes of this meeting are in **appendix 3.** The next meeting has yet to be confirmed.

Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group yet to be confirmed.

Mohammed Dhalech
Access Development Officer
January 2014

Appendix 1

Unapproved Minutes of the Access on Foot Advisory Group Held on Monday 2nd December 2014 Yoredale, Bainbridge

Present:

David Gibson (DG) Chair	Ramblers Association / Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Brian Jones (BJ)	Ramblers Association
John Sparshatt	LDWA
P Knowles (PK)	Ramblers Association
Malcolm Petyt (MP)	Ramblers Association
Heather Thomas-Smith (HTS)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Alistair Thompson (AT)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum

YDNPA Officers present:

Alan Hulme	Head of Ranger Service
Sheila Roberts	Rights of Way Officer
Matt Neale (MN)	Area Ranger (Upper Wensleydale)
Phil Richards (PR)	Area Ranger (Lower Wharfedale)
Arcady Bogg-Hargroves	YDNPA Apprentice
Mohammed Dhalech (MD)	Access Development Officer

1. Welcome and apologies

DG welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone was introduced. Apologies were received from Neil Heseltine, Andrew Colley, George Bateman, Sue Emmerson, Jane Gill, Bernard Ellis and Joy Greenwood

2. Approval of notes of the last meeting

Attendance list Joy Greenwood was in attendance at last meeting

2 -Need to follow up Follow-up Lickber Lane

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

- Coast to Coast path – all authorities are waymarking the route and this seems to be consistent.
- Lickber Lane – planning and enforcement - needs to be followed up and group updated.

AH and MD to follow up and circulate to members

- AH confirmed that the Yorkshire Dales map consultee list has been transferred to NYCC with definitive map.

- AH confirmed there is a delegation agreement with NYCC/CCC about major bridge inspections this has been done and NYCC and CCC are inspecting the bridges. NYCC has reported on the 30 Bridges in the National Park. If members require details please contact AH with grid reference of the bridge.

  Council are accepting responsibility and undertaking surveys of bridges in the park.

  Dales Volunteers also undertake an annual visual inspection to flag up any issues.

- AH to check status of the Whitber Diversion (part of 3 peaks route) on open access land, permissive status.

  Blackdog/redmoss - 3 peaks - has now been sign posted, Iphone app, information to individuals, donation boxes at toilets and QR codes.

  The group discussed the three peaks route on OS maps. And endorsed that this be explored further with a view to the route being mapped.

  The project has good support from corporate sponsors, need to target smaller charity group events for donations.

- YD do get consulted on fencing of eroding river banks affecting RoW and access Definitive Map, but need to look at where paths in relation to fences and river banks.

AH to raise fencing issues at rangers meeting

4 Long Preston Route West End to Riddings

Reinstating the path

This goes back to 1954, AH had files relating to this path and objections raised by landowners at the time.

Locals are keen to see route opened and If opened as a recognised Public Right of Way this would negate huge safety issues as the current right of way partly follows the A65 which is obviously totally unsuited to pedestrians.

Old maps show the permissive route and I previously discussed this with Alan and know it was a case of seeking permission from the current land owners to make this viable. The route would allow direct safe access on foot from Long Preston to Mearbeck and the current public rights of way network to The Courtyard (previously known as Cleatops Barns) and/or over to Settle via Stubbing Wood or Cleatop Park.

The Local Plan includes for the path to be reopened as a public path, would need 20 years of evidence to show use as a public path, the simplest way would be to get landowner permission for the path.

AH to send HTM background information relating to the historical issues and key dates.

5 Planning Applications - None

6 Proposed work 2014/15

AH gave an overview of the future work plan

The budget for RoW has been reduce over the years from £206K in 2010 to about £137K next year.

The YDNPA are expecting a 10% cut in budget over the next two years, no inflation increase, in effect over the last 5 year taken a 50% cut in budget

Rangers have submitted over 180K of projects for £137K need to refine ad priorities

NE have underspent and £65K for work on the Dalehead side of Pen y Ghent by March 2014.

National Trails

Pennine way and bridleway – partnership to maintain the national trails and YDNPA leading authority have expressed an interest in managing this work

Natural England keen on localism on the management of national trails and YDNPA has made a substantial investment over the years.
Need to explore how we get LAF's involved in the partnership for National trails.

AH noted that Implications of reduced budgets will mean, big project will be a challenge in the future with limited resources, small pieces of work such as stiles and gates should be OK.

RoW team - from 3.5 FTE to one person now

Agenda item on National Trails for next meeting AH

7 Rights of Way Officer Update Sheila Roberts

SW Provided a summery of her role which is around legal and highway orders, and includes advising the public on Rights of Way and to respond to any emergencies and orders that may be required.

SR also reported that where possible looking at charging for the work undertaken e.g. on temporary closures. Priority is to increase access, new routes and paths.

8 **Woodland Creation (attached)**

The documents was agreed with some minor amendment and agreed that this would now go forward to the YDAF in January 2014

9 **Fencing of Commons (attached)**

The document was agreed with some minor amendment and agreed that this would now go forward to the YDAF in January 2014

10 **Guidance around wind farms and curtilage on Open Access land and Coastal Margin (attached)**

For information

11 Member round up

12 Any Other Business

The Members Champion for Recreation Management has resigned and new members will be appointed.

Boundary extension no news yet.

Cap Consultation BJ gave a summery of the hi level consultation, and the implication on permissive paths coming to an end of term and what the NP will be doing? There is a list of Permissive Paths on the Natural England website. Rangers need to liaise with landowners on their plan and if they are leaving permissive paths open.

YDNPA can offer to maintain infrastructure of stiles and gates.

13. Date of next meeting

The next meeting of the Access on Foot will be on 25 March 2014 at the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes.

Appendix 2

Unapproved Minutes of the
Access for All Advisory Group meeting
Held on Wednesday 18 December 2013
Yoredale, Bainbridge

Present:

Phil Woodyer – Chair (PW)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Nicola Brown (NB)	Independus
Roy Emmerson (RE)	Independus
Emmeline Butler (EB)	National Trust
Geoff	Bendrigg Trust
Nigel Metcalfe (NM)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Stuart Willis (SW)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Mohammed Dhalech (MD)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

Apologies:

Andrew Colley (AC)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Pat Whelan (PWh)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum

1. Welcome and Apologies

PW welcomed members to the meeting. Apologies were received from Andrew Colley (AC) and Pat Whelan (PWh). Round the Table Introductions were carried out for the benefit of Mohammed Dhalech (MD)

2. Approval of notes of last meeting

PW approved the minutes. Any actions were to be covered as an agenda item. MD to progress NYCC invitation for 2014.

MD to invite a member of staff from NYCC to discuss potential routes bordering the National Park.

3. Yorkshire Dales Website – Stuart Willis Web Officer

SW updated the Group on development of the new website, due for launch March 2014. The new look website will be more accessible, easier to use and mobile device friendly. Website page mock ups were shown to the Group. Improvements will include a wider variety of search functions and a 'search routes' functionality within Accessible Trails section.

RE suggested the new look website would benefit from good quality images. SW will be launching a photographic competition in the New Year which will encourage users to submit their photographs from around the NP.

EB explained the National Trust are also looking at updating their website, suggesting that sharing links between both sites would be beneficial for all users.

NB said she would like to see all the wheelchair access information kept in one place, as this would be easier use.

SW confirmed that instructions to change print and shading for visually impaired users will be available on the website.

4. Updates

Grassington riverside walk

The route is in progress. Waymarkers will be installed in the New Year and Interpretation Officer will be producing a leaflet soon.

MD to progress waymarking and leaflet.

Freeholders Wood and Aysgarth Station

NM has met with Aysgarth Station Project Group to look at the possibilities of 2 routes. One would be a direct route involving some engineering work, the second one would follow existing PRoWs. The direct route would be more practical to implement. NM is relaying the options back to Wensleydale Railway Group. The group agreed both routes would be welcomed, this could be considered in the future.

Northern Trampers

RE and NB said they are struggling to gain external funding with this. EB said she would approach Debbie North who helped with fundraising for the National Trusts tramper.

EB to feedback with fundraising contacts.

Grass Woods

MD To invite Yorkshire Forest trust

Grimwith Reservoir

NB has been to Grimwith to test out bikes. It was not particularly successful because… The problem at Grimwith is the missing link which is not accessible, which is a shame because the rest of the route is. This could be a future project for Yorkshire Water.

5. Projects 2013/14 and 2015

Tramper at Malham Tarn

EB said the SDF bid has been successful. All the money is now in place, ready to purchase the tramper and trailer in early 2014. Storage facilities are currently being sorted at Malham Tarn Centre. If usage is successful the National Trust would

consider purchasing a second one. An official launch will be in the Spring, potential for good P.R from this.

MD to circulate launch date.
SW/EB to discuss link from YDNP website to NT website for booking the tramper.

Ideas

PW has been speaking to the owner of Ingleborough Show Cave, who is keen to purchase a tramper for people to use from Clapham up to the Cave. She would also be willing to pay for the upkeep and maintenance of the tramper. (see below)

6. Access for Advisory Group Discussion Paper

MD presented the Group with an overview to the paper circulated. The group all agreed that to widen the remit of the Advisory Group would be a positive step forward in engaging with other user groups such as the elderly, families, people with pushchairs and young people.

MD to invite Mosaic Youth Project Officer and Outreach Officer to future meetings.

7. Good Practice Guide

MD is looking for volunteers to sit on the working group who will concentrate on the revision/update of the Guide. NB and Geoff to sit on the group to provide ideas.

8. Disabled Ramblers

The Disabled Ramblers will be visiting on 5/6 June 2014. MD will be organising routes in the south of the Park. Routes will be from Bolton Abbey and Kilnsey. MD liaising with Phil Richards with regard to starting the Kilnsey route from Threshfield Quarry, as this has better parking possibilities.

9. Member Round Up

PW has discussed with Ingleborough Show Cave owner the possibility of extending access beyond the Show Cave to the foot of Trow Gill. There is an existing PRoW, which would need some drainage and revetment work to make accessible. There could be an opportunity to approach the Military for funding as they frequently use the route. There may also be an opportunity to invite the Military to help with the practical work, which would make a good media story.

MD to liaise with Steve Hastie Area Ranger to look at practicalities/costs. Also to approach Military for funding and possible hands –on help with the surfacing work.

10. Any Other Business

The Miles without Stiles leaflet will be available on-line soon for people planning a visit. All the routes are waymarked now.

MD to look into availability of downloading the leaflet as there is a cost in buying the leaflet in National Park Centres.

MD thanks PW for chairing the Advisory Group. The election of a new chair will be carried out at the next meeting.

Appendix 3

Unapproved Minutes of Meeting of Caves and Crags Access Advisory Group Held on Wednesday 27 November 2013 Colvend, Grassington

Present:

Jon Beavan (JB) - Chair	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum (YDAF)
Sara Spillett (SS)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum (YDAF)
Dave Musgrove (DM)	British Mountaineering Council (BMC)
Rob Dyer (RD)	British Mountaineering Council (BMC)
Doug Simpson (DS)	Yorkshire Naturalists Union (YNU)
Andrew Hinde (AH)	Natural England (NE)
Pat Halliwell (PH)	
Ric Halliwell (RH)	
Tracey Lambert (TL)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA)
Ian Court (IC)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA)
Phil Richards (PR)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA)
Ankady Bogg Hargroves (AH)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA)
Robert White (RW)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA)
Mohammed Dhalech (MD)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA)

1. Welcome and apologies

JB welcomed those attending to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising

Point 5 – Name should read **Andrew Hinde** not Hindle
The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true record.

3. Review of bird breeding

IC gave the key data on the monitoring of ravens and peregrines (**Appendix 1).**

Peregrines
IC said that there will be a national peregrines survey next year, but should not effect climbing.

IC said he would need to continue to keep a watching brief on peregrines at Langcliffe Quarry.

Ravens
High Stoney Bank – BMC information discouraging from early climbing in the season.

BMC publicity on arrangements and restrictions has gone well, and no feedback. Similar arrangements will be followed next year.

4 Climbing

Blue Scar
DM and RD – No change from previous year, access not satisfactory, parking for BMC members only and written permit from the landowner, so puts people off.

Foredale Quarry
DM and RD No change from previous year. The issue with the site is that no one knows who the landowner is to grant permission.

National Nature Reserves (NNR)
AH - NNR are all to be designated open access land e.g. Scarclose, Ingleborough, there will be some exceptions on land, and will be difficult to manage, this will raise issues in the future. E.g. Lyne Ghyll – is designated Open Access Land - and how the diseased Cray fish is managed in the main river.

Giggleswick Scars -Sewell's,

AH gave a brief overview at Sewell
At Sewell's a large oven / stove out of dry stone walling in one corner of the rock shelter, this was very impressive and also a historic piece of cave furniture from the past, a few months ago when I was last up there it was in quite good condition.

On visiting the site the whole structure had been demolished with the stones littering the cave floor. It seems to have been deliberately knocked down.

The scar above has at least three separate new bolt routes, one of which starts directly where the oven stood. It seemed obvious it was knocked down because it got in the way.

DM had been in touch with the people who put the route up, and they had confirmed the wall was intact on the occasions they had been there to climb, until the last occasion when it had collapsed and a lot of rubbish and campfire were found.

It was established that the collapse was by a third party and not climbers, the actions of a few individuals who probably did the damage, did not realise the significance of the structure.

AH was willing to give time to help rebuild this feature.

DM asked if during the Tour de France, banners or bikes can displayed from Kinsley Crags.
TL suggested a need to explore ideas and asked DM to put forward proposals / suggestions to TL.

DM to send proposal to TL on banners /Bikes at Kinsley Crags during tour de France.

5 **David Hobson gave a presentation on his research on caves in the area** (Paper attached)

5 Caving

Update
Gaping Gill – resurveying being undertaken

Caving Federation will be holding their events in the Yorkshire Dales in 2016

AH - raised the issue access to caves on CROW land, BCA had not engaged at the start as BMC had in Open Access developments.

AH and others are working on cave entrances to clean up rubbish etc. and they will be working with landowners

7. Any other business

AH NNR – open access land caving as access rights as higher rights to caves on NNR open access land - NE have stated this will not be the case.

IC to contact the BMC about volunteering to remove ragwort at Langcliffe Quarry.

MA told members of the group that Natural England is currently consulting on the dedication of their National Nature Reserves (NNRs) as open access land. In the Yorkshire Dales, this would be the Ingleborough reserve, Skoska Wood and Ling Gill. He added that the only affect he thought it would have on this group would be the opening up of Ling Gill for gorge walking.

RD informed members that Natural England have decided to put the ten year review of CRoW access land on hold sue to budget restraints.

JB noted that next meeting will be next year in in October 2014, unless any issues arise and we need to convene earlier

MD to circulate dates (Doodle) for meeting in October 2014

2013 Breeding Bird Data for Cave and Crag Advisory Group

Peregrine

Still waiting for some records from Nidderdale. So the provisional summary at 25th Nov 2013 is:

Year	No Sites Checked	No sites Occupied	No. Young Fledged	No. Sites Successful
2003	13	7	6	4
2004	13	6	15	5
2005	22	13	11	6
2006	30	13	14	7
2007	27	12	18	8
2008	30	12	19	8
2009	28	10	18	7
2010	31	12	14	7
2011	27	10	14	6
2012	22	8	10	4
2013	23	8	11	5
TOTAL	591	376	447	190

Blue Scar – three young fledged.
Malham – three young fledged.
Langcliffe - adult pair present but after initial behaviour was indicative of possible breeding, no sign of incubation later in the season so climbing restrictions lifted early.
No birds were seen at Yew Cougar Scar.

Raven

The data as it stands at end of Oct are as follows:

Year	No. sites checked	No. sites Occupied	No young fledged	No. sites successful
2003	7	6	19	6
2004	9	7	17	5
2005	8	6	14	4
2006	14	7	17	5
2007	17	7	16	4
2008	22	9	23	7
2009	21	9	20	6
2010	26	10	21	7
2011	25	11	29	9
2012	22	9	31	9
2013	24	10	18	6
Totals	281	125	299	88

Blue Scar – four fledged
High Stony Bank – four fledged young

Trollers Gill - occupied but no breeding birds
None at Langcliffe, Trow Gill (where an unsigned restriction has been in place in previous years) or Yew Cougar.

Item 11

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum

Principles for Woodland Creation Applications on Open Access Land

These principles will be used to inform our responses to applications for woodland creation on open access land.

The LAF would normally expect:

- There will be an Access Impact Assessment[1] with any application.
- That the relevant standards be adhered to (e.g. British Standard 5709 on stiles and gates).
- Local user groups will be consulted before the application is made.
- There will be no loss of access with gates etc being provided at intervals suitable to the terrain.
- Wherever possible, local materials should be used for fences and gates etc.
- All fencing should be non barbed wire, unless necessary for stock control.
- Access should be retained at all times except when closure is required for forestry work. Any closure should be advertised at all entrances to the woodland with maps, if only certain parts are closed.
- To be informed of who will be legally responsible for the removal of any fences and the date they will be removed.

We will, in general, not object to applications for the creation of native woodlands in situations where they are deemed to be appropriate. This would normally include:

1. On CROW Access land that is not common land, where the land has a recreational management agreement or is dedicated as Access Land after the planting has been completed.

2. Where a public right of way (PROW) goes into or borders, the woodland, unhampered access is to be facilitated and maintained (e.g. a on a bridleway sufficient clearance for horse riders and cyclists). In all cases gates are preferred to stiles.

3. Where the woodland parcels cross PROWs or other tracks, desire lines, other routes (e.g. the route of a fell race), its impact on vistas is considered and they should be retained where possible.

4. Where there are tracks on the ground, other amenities or points of interest, access is retained or an alternative provided (e.g. to a viewpoint or rock scramble).

Draft 5 December 2013
Access on Foot Advisory Group

[1] Unless application already approved by the Forestry Commission. Details can be found at http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-6dfl45

YORKSHIRE DALES ACCESS FORUM

FENCING OF REGISTERED COMMONS AND EXCHANGE OF REGISTERED COMMON LAND

Guiding principles that will be considered when making comments on applications

1. FENCING OF COMMONS

1.1. All registered commons are open access land.

1.2. S 38 of the Commons Act 2006 gives power to the Secretary of State (defra) to authorise the fencing of commons.

1.3. Urban commons (those in pre 1974 Urban District Council areas) have horse riding rights and other commons may also have other higher access rights.

1.4. The LAF will, in general, support applications for fencing on commons for the restoration of moors, amenity woodland planting and similar applications in situations where they are deemed to be appropriate and do not cause loss of access and will follow the following notes and guidelines:

2. EXCHANGE OF COMMON LAND[1]

2.1. S16 of the Commons Act 2006 gives power to the Secretary of State to authorise the exchange of all or part of a common for other non common land. The original land then ceases to become a common and the new land becomes the common and has all the rights attaching to it of the original common.

2.2. This is generally done to allow planning permission to be granted for the original land.

2.3. In moorland areas it is frequently used to erect wind turbines. It is appreciated that this is unlikely to occur in national parks.

2.4. The main problem is that high common land on top of the moors may be replaced by lower land with less wide views and/or of a lesser value for the access user and have more restricted entry to access along its boundary.

2.5. The Forum will consider the loss of amenity and access when making its views known to the Secretary of State.

3. FENCING OF COMMONS

3.1. If there are any amenities or points of interest within the fencing or planting, clear corridors to be retained to the amenity and clear areas to be left around each amenity.

3.2. Any tracks visible on the ground should be retained for public use or alternatives provided.

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[1] Useful information can be found in the defra document 'Common Land Consents Policy Guidance' issued in July 2009 and available to download from the defra website. The Secretary of State has delegated his powers to consider these applications to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS).

3.3. If any new fences or walls (including temporary ones) need to be erected, they should have a suitable number of gates to enable access. The intervals should be suitable to the terrain and include all existing tracks and desire lines.

3.4. The standard 'Open Access' symbol should be posted at significant points along the fence. Stiles will only be accepted where there is an overriding case following the 'gap, gate, stile' principle. Stiles and gates should be to British Standard 5709 and of the appropriate width for the legally permitted use. Wherever possible, local materials should be used for any fences and gates etc., and efforts should be made to minimize the visual impact of such features. All wire fencing should be non barbed wire unless necessary for stock control.

3.5. In addition to the LAF the appropriate local user groups should be consulted on the positioning of access points.

3.6. The LAF will require to be advised of:

3.6.1. The body which will be legally responsible for the removal of any fences.

3.6.2. The year the fences will be removed.

3.6.3. The process that will be put in place to ensure that fences are removed in that year and not forgotten, especially by anticipating successor land owners and ensuring they are notified of the commitment.

3.7. A simple notice should be erected at each access point explaining the purpose of the fences, their temporary nature and seeking the co-operation of users in not damaging them. The LAF is aware that some fencing in other areas has been vandalised until the reason was explained in this way.

4. EXCHANGE OF COMMON LAND

4.1. Applications will normally only be recommended if the exchanged land is of similar size, landscape quality and value to the public as the original land having regard to amenity areas, view points, interesting features and access.

4.2. If the exchanged land is to be fenced then the same criteria apply as in paragraph 3 above

4.3. If the original parcel of common land is to be restored after development or when the need for the development has ceased to exist then the previous status of the land should be restored as far and as soon as possible, either by the further exchange of the common land or by dedication as open access. The exchanged land should be at least as large and where possible larger than the original.

4.4. The LAF will require to be advised of:

4.4.1. The body which will be legally responsible for the restoration of the original land and the removal of any fences.

4.4.2. The year the land will be restored and the fences will be removed.

4.4.3. The process that will be put in place to ensure that the land is restored and the fences are removed in that year and not forgotten; especially by anticipating successor land owners and ensuring they are notified of the commitment.

Health inequalities – inequalities in social and living conditions are driving health inequalities. Those who could most benefit from the natural environment for their health are using it the least and generally have poorer access to those environments at a community/population level.

Cost effectiveness – green space benefits the health of everyone and demonstrates cost effective health outcomes.

Healthy communities – the natural environment helps to create healthy resilient communities and provides life supporting systems.

Active lifestyles – green space could benefit the health of everyone by creating venues for active lifestyle choices and physical challenge across the life course.

Mental wellbeing - contact with natural environments has a calming and restorative effect helping to improve mental wellbeing.

Evidence of Health Inequality linked to the Natural Environment

- People who live in less deprived neighbourhoods live considerably longer and healthier lives than those living in more deprived neihgbourhoods. (Office for National Statistics data)
- People living in the most deprived areas are 10 times less likely to live in the greenest areas[1]. Indeed the most affluent 20% of wards in England have 5 times the amount of parks or general green space than the most deprived 10% of wards.
- Income-related inequality in health is moderated by exposure to green space. Overall better health is related to access to green space regardless of socio-economic status[2]
- Older people live longer in areas where there is more green space close to their homes[3] .
- Children who live close to green spaces have higher levels of physical activity and are less likely to experience an increase in BMI over time.[4] [5]

Summary: People who live in the wealthier neighbourhoods are more likely to live in close proximity to green spaces. These green spaces are more likely to be better quality and those residents are more likely to make better use of them, experiencing better health outcomes and living longer.

[1] Mitchell R, Popham F, (2008). *Effect of exposure to natural environment on health inequalities: an observational population study*. The Lancet
[2] Greenspace Scotland, 2007. *The links between greenspace and health: A critical literature review*
[3] Maas J et al (2009) *Morbidity is related to a green living environment*. Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health
[4] Bell, Wilson and Liu (2008) *Neighborhood greenness and 2-year changes in body mass index of children and youth*.
[5] Davidson K and Lawson C (2006) *Do attributes of the physical environment influence children's level of physical activity?* International Journal of Behavioural Nutrition and Physical Activity

Trends in Health Inequality

- Efforts to reduce health inequalities and persuade people to lead healthier lifestyles have had a positive impact on the overall population; however, this impact has tended to be to the benefit of wealthier sections of the population which has caused the gap in health inequalities to widen.
- Overall numbers of people engaging in unhealthy behaviours had fallen by 8% from 2003-8, but initiatives have failed to make the same impact amongst people from lower socio-economic groups.[6]
- Health inequality in England is estimated to cost up to £70 billion each year[7].

Summary: Despite large investment in addressing health inequalities, the gap in health outcomes between the rich and poor remains the same as it was in 1997[8]. Increasing the amount and quality of greenspace can be part of a low cost package to address health inequalities, improve health outcomes and deliver other benefits..

Obesity and Inactivity

- Two-thirds of men and three-quarters of women report activity levels which substantially increase their risk of contracting a broad range of chronic diseases[9].
- More than 24% of the adult population of England is now obese, the highest in Europe[10].
- Research suggests that when people have good access to greenspace (perceived and/or actual) they are 24% more likely to be physically active. Using this figure it is possible to generate an illustrative cost saving covering the hypothetical benefit of moving from a situation of nobody having access to green space to everybody having access to green space of £2.1 billion[11].
- The estimated cost to the economy from physical inactivity is £8.2 billion annually – includes direct costs to the NHS and the indirect costs of lost days at work. It does not include the contribution of inactivity to obesity, which is estimated and £2.5 billion annually[12].

Summary: Contact with nature affects health throughout life provides opportunity for active lifestyle choices with potential for significant savings to health budgets.

Mental health

- Living in a neighbourhood with less green space is associated with greater risk of anxiety and depression, feelings of loneliness and perceived shortage of social support[13].
- Living in a neighbourhood with more green space and visiting natural environments is associated with lower levels of stress and anxiety and has been known to improve concentration and mood[14].
- Living closer to urban green spaces is associated with lower mental distress. One longitudinal study of 10,000 adults concluded that living in an area with high levels of green space led to a decrease in mental distress compared with living in areas with little green space, once factors such as age, gender and income had been statistically accounted for[15].
- The economic and social costs of mental illness in England were estimated at £77.4 billion for the year 2002-03[16] and rose to an estimated £105 billion in 2009-10[17]. This includes work-related costs of £8.4 billion in sickness absence and £15.1 billion in reduced productivity as estimated in 2007[18].

Summary: living closer to urban green spaces is associated with lower mental distress.

There are 5 groups in particular who are disengaged from the natural environment and the least likely to visit: Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups; those living in urban areas with high deprivation; DE socio-economic groups; people aged 65 and over; and people with disabilities and/or long term health conditions[19].

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[8] Department of Health (2008) *Health Inequalities: Progress and Next Steps*
[9] Chief Medical Officer, (2004) *At least five a week: Evidence on the impact of physical activity and its relationship to health*. DofH
[10] Health Improvement Analytical Team and Unit, 2010
[11] Natural England (2009a) An estimate of the economic and health value and cost effectiveness of the expanded WHI scheme
[12] Chief Medical Officer (2004) *At least five a week: Evidence on the impact of physical activity and its relationship to health*. DoH
[13] Maas J *et al*. (2009) *Morbidity is related to a green living environment*
[14] Roe J, Thompson C et al. (2013) Green space and stress
[15] White, M. P. *et al*., (2013) *Would You Be Happier Living in a Greener Urban Area?* Psychological Science
[16] The Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health, 2003
[17] Centre for Mental health (2010) *The Economic and Social Costs of Mental Health Problems in 2009/10*
[18] Sainsbury centre for Mental health (2007) *Mental health at work. developing the business case*
[19] Natural England (2013) Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment Survey 2009-2013

Item No. 13

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 28 January 2014

Secretary's Report

Purpose of the Report

The following report brings together, in one place, a collection of items for Members consideration and information.

Authority Meetings

Any member of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum can attend Authority Meetings as a member of the public. Please contact Mohammed Dhalech for a copy of the agenda and supporting papers. Please note, it is not a requirement for members of the YDAF to attend Authority meetings, so it is not an 'approved duty' and LAF members cannot claim expenses for attending such meetings.

Authority Meeting Dates and Venues for 2014:

Date	Venue	Time
25 March 2014	Yoredale, Bainbridge	10.30
24 June 2014	Yoredale, Bainbridge	10.30
23 September 2014	Yoredale, Bainbridge	10.30
16 December 2014	Yoredale, Bainbridge	10.30

Meetings of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum for 2014

YDAF Meetings Date during 2014:

Tuesday 28 January 2014,	1.15 pm	@ Yoredale, Bainbridge
Tuesday 20 May 2014,	1.15 pm	@ Yoredale, Bainbridge
Tuesday 30 September 2014,	1.15 pm	@ Yoredale, Bainbridge

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum Membership

On 3 December 2013, a selection process took place for YDAF membership. The outcome was that the following member was reappointed for a three year term:

- David Gibson from Burton in Lonsdale representing Walking

The following two members are new to the forum and have been appointed for a three year term:

- Peter Bridgstock from Richmond representing Outdoor activities

- Michael Pryal from Giggleswick representing Walking, Conservation and Ecology and other interests

Finally, we also welcome Nick Cotton to the forum as the new Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority Member Champion for Recreation Management.

On behalf of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority we would like to thank Phil Woodyer and Sara Spillett for their commitment to the work of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum and Advisory groups, and wish them both well for the future.

Meeting of the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Access Forum

The next meeting of the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Access Forum is set for **Friday 21 March 2014** and will be held at the Natural England Offices in Leeds**. Two members from each LAF are invited and representation is sought from the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum.**

National Conference for Local Access Forums

The National Conference for Local Access Forums will be held on **Friday 7 March 2014 in Durham**. **Representation is sought from the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum**, who will feedback at the June meeting.

Natural Solutions for Tackling Health Inequalities Conference

On 28 November 2013, a colleague and I attended this conference organised by Natural England, in collaboration with a number of partners from the National Outdoors for All Working Group, delivered the "*Natural solutions for Tackling Health Inequalities* Conference".

The conference, Chaired by Doug Hulyer a Natural England Board member, with two presentations from Dr Jessica Allen (Institute of Health Equity at University College London) and Professor Michael Depledge (University of Exeter Medical School) and a series of workshops themed on 4 NHS health priorities linked to inequality.

A key output from the conference will be a report which will capture the evidence shared at the conference and the conclusions from each of the workshop sessions.

Further information can be found here:
http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/enjoying/linkingpeople/outdoorsforall/default.aspx

Mohammed Dhalech
Access Development Officer
January 2014

P4C News

Autumn 2013

The Paths for Communities e-newsletter

Budget committed - project delivery well underway!

Welcome to the third edition of the P4C news. At the end of the September Grants Panel, we had fully allocated our £2m budget and the scheme was closed to new applications.

Grants have been offered to 44 projects which are on target to deliver over 70km of new public rights of way - over 42km of new bridleway and nearly 30km of new footpath.

The Secretary of State for the Environment, Owen Paterson said in October "The Paths for Communities scheme shows how Defra's network can successfully work with local partnerships. As well as the obvious benefits to the local communities, projects like this have the potential to boost the local economy, for example through tourism. The scale and scope of bids from communities have proved this is working well. More than 40 communities have committed almost 1480 volunteer days to the projects. The leadership role of civil society at the local level is vital to the formation of working partnerships of this kind "

Also, over 100 rural businesses who expect to see economic benefits as a result of their local P4C project, have provided letters of support.

It's fantastic that we attracted such a range of interesting high calibre applications but in some ways the real work starts here.

Three projects have had their final claims paid, the rest are working hard to get all the agreed work done, paid and claimed for before the end of February 2014.

This newsletter gives you a flavour of some of the excellent work underway. It's exciting to see how P4C has mobilised and empowered local communities to make a difference to the path network in their area - from planning, through delivery to making use of the final product. We've also included information on how to find other funding sources and a helpful guide to generating publicity for your projects, including how to develop your own 'case story'.

Martin Shaw, P4C Project Manager

In this issue

Project News

Burghley
Weald Country Park
Wakefield District Cycle Forum
Connecting North Litchfield
Greno Woods

General tips/news

Non P4C funding
Case stories
Writing a press release

Useful contacts

P4C Central team
Tel : 0300 060 1238
p4c@naturalengland.org.uk

Useful links

P4C webpages
Frequently asked Questions
Applicants Handbook

Project News

To Burghley and beyond….

photo courtesy Michael Jarman

A mass “non-trespass” by children from local Barnack Primary School marked the opening of a new footpath with cycling rights from Pilsgate village through the Burghley Estate in Stamford, Lincolnshire.

“My Mum said it wasn’t far – but it was!” said one. The route spans 1.4km with 50m improved verge giving beautiful views both of the Estate and north towards the River Welland. After their walk, the children were treated to an ice cream and a talk on Elizabethan life from the team at Burghley House.

The new path avoids a dangerous road and enables villagers to get to Burghley House and continue on to Stamford, leaving the car behind. It also forms an important link in the established public right of way network.

“The Burghley House Preservation Trust wants to be a good neighbour,” said a spokesman on the generous dedication of land by the Trust. The project also received substantial financial donations from Stamford Stone and Ringway, and support from Peterborough Local Access Forum, Peterborough City Council and Community Payback, among others.

Bringing the partners together and driving the project through to success was Dr Margaret Palmer of Barnack Parish Council. “People have been so generous and helpful,” said Margaret. The path has been an aspiration of the Parish Council for many years. “This is great for children and families,” said Tim Cockerell from the Peterborough Cycling Forum.

photo courtesy Michael Jarman

The winning team: L to R – Sarah Mayhew (Assistant Agent Burghley Estate), Miranda Rock (BH Director), Shane Wilding (Ringway), Margaret Palmer, Ivor Crowson (Stamford Stone), Tim Cockerell (PCF), Steve Horner (PLAF), David Over (PCC Councillor), David Roxburgh (Chair Barnack PC), Philip Gompertz (BH Manager).

Smiles all round at Weald Country Park opening

Essex Bridleways Association celebrated the opening of their new bridleway in glorious sunshine. Horse riders, cyclists and walkers came out to enjoy the 6 mile stretch of new bridleway.

“The project has really improved the understanding between different types of user”, said applicant, Helen Chester, for whom education about different users’ needs was a key part of her bid.

But it wasn’t all plain sailing and the strong partnership was put to the test when initial concerns about the proposal led to a public meeting. “There

was a room full of people against the project," explains Helen. "I reassured people that the routes, through P4C, would be open to all because we could improve the surface. But most importantly, people could enjoy them: as of right - permanently. By the end of the meeting, there was a roomful of people in favour. That was a fantastic feeling!"

Helen Chester and Katie Haines cutting the ribbon to the new bridleway through Weald Park

Claire Mennin, the Country Parks Area Manager and representative of the landowner at Weald says, "The route's been getting fantastic feedback especially from our mobility scooter users now the autumnal weather has started to arrive."

Wakefield District Cycle Forum

Progress by the Wakefield District Cycle Forum to turn a disused railway line adjacent to Newmillerdam Country Park into a bridleway with an all-weather surface for multi-user use has been brisk. Phase two of the project has now been completed and the project team have had approval for P4C funding for phase three which will complete the bridleway.

This will then link the Trans Pennine Trail at Old Royston to Newmillerdam Country Park and Wood Lane. The project manager, Sandy Clark told Phil Robinson from Natural England, "We will be having a grand opening when the project is completed and we hope as many members as possible will be able to join us to celebrate another milestone in the progress of Wakefield District Cycle Forum."

Photo courtesy David Keighley

Phil Robinson & Sandy Clark

Connecting North Lichfield

Over a number of years, the Forest of Mercia team have developed effective partnerships to invest in the redevelopment of Christianfields Local Nature Reserve (LNR), a former refuse site on the edge of north Lichfield. More recently they identified the need to improve part of the Erasmus Darwin Walk, a 10 mile circular route around the edge of Lichfield, running alongside the LNR. Part of the route was not designated as a public right of way and was in a state of neglect. The P4C project has provided an opportunity to formally designate the footpath, which connects to a number of other public rights of way.

Conservation volunteers working

Much of the site work has been undertaken by Growwell volunteers, a group of local adults with enduring mental health challenges. New steps have been installed to improve access to a new cemetery, and improvement have been made to existing steps linking the Erasmus Darwin Walk to an old Saxon walkway known as The Dimbles. The volunteers have undertaken site works whilst improving their health and wellbeing through the structured outdoor activities in their locality. Two adult learning courses have been provided to train the volunteers to design, build and install infrastructure including benches, habitat boxes and waymarkers. The bird boxes made by the volunteers are now in situ.

Community Forest Manager for the Forest of Mercia, Jane Rodd said, "The scale of the improvements achieved has only been possible through effective partnership working between

statutory, private and community groups and individuals. The improvement and formal designation of the part of the Erasmus Darwin Walk adjoining Christianfields significantly enhances the visitor experience at the LNR, preserves the Erasmus Darwin route for future generations to enjoy and has increased usage of the LNR and Erasmus Darwin Walk by the local community. The support of Natural England has played a key role in facilitating a step change in a deprived area, enhancing this for local residents."

The new bird boxes

Earlier in 2013, Forest of Mercia won the Royal Forestry Society's Sylva Cup in recognition of its work in general and the step-change achieved at Christianfields LNR, in particular. P4C funding has helped to continue with this good work.

Opportunities to explore Greno Woods

Greno Woods are owned by the Sheffield Wildlife Trust who put an application to P4C on behalf of the local community. The woods sit on the hilly urban fringe of Sheffield and are popular with downhill mountain bikers. More sedate cyclists commute to work or just enjoy the Trans Pennine Cycle route which skirts the south eastern edge of the woods. Walkers in the area are catered for by an extensive network of rights of way, however the options for horse riders and those wanting to explore the woods by cycle were limited - but not anymore!

Jim Milner made his final visit to Greno woods last month accompanied by the local public rights of way officer Sam and the Wildlife Trust operations manager Roy. This was the first completed project of the seven Jim has in the North East and he commented, "This is a great moment for me. The new route has been constructed to a very high standard using local sandstone aggregates which has produced a good hard wearing and smooth surface. We are very happy with the work and eager to dedicate the route now. I have been encouraged to see a conservation organisation such as the Trust apply for Paths for Communities funding, and I know the panel were also pleased that they applied."

Sam and Roy discuss the new route

The Wildlife Trust is keen to ensure all users can enjoy the woods equally. Cleverly designed chicanes are placed where downhill routes meet the new bridleway, thus slowing down the more energetic users of the woods.

The new bridleway at Greno Woods

The Trust are gradually removing non-native coniferous woodland and replanting with native species to mirror the woodland to the north of Greno woods. The new bridleway gives a great circular loop throughout the woodland and users will have the opportunity to see this woodland develop over the years.

Finding funds for paths projects elsewhere….

We are aware there are a lot of projects out there which didn't benefit from P4C funding for one reason or another. For those of you still wishing to take forward projects, we have brought together, information on funding sources which may be of interest to you. (see link in the right hand column)

There is currently a lot of competition for funding so it's more important than ever to put together a good quality application. There is plenty of advice online but the main things to remember are:

- Do your research to ensure you target the right funds. Look at what has been funded in the past? How much? Is the fund happy to fund capital works? Does it want to see social benefits? Will it only fund charities? How much match funding does the fund expect? Does it fund projects in your location? Think about who else might be applying at the same time.
- Read the guidance carefully and follow it to the letter. If there is an opportunity to talk to the funder first or submit an expression of interest use it, it may save you both time.
- Use plain English and avoid jargon.
- Demonstrate the need for your project and the problem that you are planning to address.
- Explain how any grant will be spent with a focus on what you will achieve and value for money.
- Be realistic - make sure your figures add up, and don't necessarily apply for the largest grant available. Equally, don't forget to include admin costs or other reasonable overheads if the grant will fund them.
- Describe how you intend to measure the success of your project. Explain the difference it will make.
- Describe the long term sustainability of your project – who will maintain any capital items in the future?
- Tell them about the organisation and individuals who will manage the project and their experience.
- Get the application proof read. Ask someone who is less familiar with the project to look for typographical errors or bits that aren't clear.

Making a case for case stories

For a fantastic project like Paths for Communities (P4C), there are so many opportunities to write great case stories about the variety of projects which have benefitted from this scheme and how amazing groups of local people made a dream become a reality. Natural England are keen to capture as many case stories as possible. "We see them as an invaluable and powerful tool for explaining and selling the benefits that a project like P4C can bring," said Wendy Thompson, Natural England Principal for access local delivery, "but we need the help of our project partners to do this." To make the process as straightforward as possible, we've produced a Case Story Template. Each of our projects will shortly be sent a copy and your local grant officer will be working with you to encourage you to make use of it, and to offer help and advice where needed.

If anyone else is interested in seeing the template, then drop an email to our central contact address and we'll get one to you.

Finding Funds...

There are lots of information sources online, here are few to get you started

Countryside Code

It is important that all visitors to the countryside understand how to enjoy it responsibly, and for land managers providing access across their land to understand their responsibilities. The Countryside Code applies to all England and Wales and is designed to help everyone to respect, protect and enjoy the countryside. Ensure that you are familiar with the Code. Leaflets and further advice and guidance is available on our website.

A rough guide to writing a press release

1. Write a genuine headline
It should be brief, clear and to the point: an ultra-compact version of the press release's key point.

2. Write the body copy
The press release should be written as you want it to appear in a news story. Keep it as short and concise as possible. Most journalists are very busy, and don't have time to research your big announcement, so, much of what you write for your press release will be what the journalists use in their write up – and they will have low word counts for their news items. Whatever you want them to say, this is where you put it. Include quotes from your key spokespeople.

3. Communicate the "5 Ws" (and the H) clearly
Who, what, when, where, why – and how – should tell the reader everything they need to know. Consider this checklist to guide you when writing the content:

- Who is this about?
- What is the actual news?
- When does this event happen?
- Where does this event take place?
- Why this is news?
- How is this happening?

With the basics defined, fill in the gaps with information about the people, products, items, dates and other things related to the press release.

4. Style
Make it clean, crisp, and applicable to your audience. Odds are that whoever you sent your press release to has a dozen just like it in his/her inbox just waiting to be ignored. If you want yours to be chosen, it's got to be good. Not only does it have to be good, but it has to be as close to "ready for press" as possible.

5. Timing
The journalist will care more if you send it in the morning. That gives them time to pad your piece into what they're already working on. Be considerate.

6. Format
The journalist will prefer it if you issue it within the body of an email, rather than as an attachment or a PDF. Write a line or two of introduction at the top, saying that below is a press release about Paths for Communities. Write that photos are available on request, rather than clogging up their In Box by sending large unsolicited images. Write a line offering to arrange interviews on request with your spokesperson (who has been media-trained) .

7. Contact details
Always include your phone number plus an email address. If the journalist wants to act quickly and find out more, they will want to call you – not write an email.

8. Web links and social media
Embed useful web links in the copy in your email so they can find out more. Upload your press release on to your web site. Prepare short tweets that you can issue on Twitter and include a link to your release live online, as well as any relevant '@' for interested parties

Feedback

We would really like to hear what you think about this newsletter and any suggested content for future editions would be welcomed. Please email feedback to p4c@naturalengland.org.uk.

If you wish to unsubscribe from future P4C newsletters, please reply to this email with "unsubscribe" in the title.

Funding sources and places to find them

The Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) encourages and enables Landfill Operators (LOs) to support a wide range of environmental projects by giving them a 90 per cent tax credit against their donations to Environmental Bodies (EBs). This may sound complicated but the distributors are very helpful! The larger funds include:

- The Veolia Environmental Trust
- Sita Trust
- Biffa Award
- Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd (WREN)

You can find out whether there is a Distributing Environmental Body for LCF in your area via Entrust (the regulator of the LCFs) website Many of the funds will only support projects within a given radius of their sites. The Environment Agency's website includes a facility for searching for your nearest landfill site.

National Lottery funds support £35m worth of good causes every week. They have a funding finder which will signpost you to relevant schemes. BIG also has a useful search facility for its particular funds on its website.

People's Post Code Lottery offers funding for projects of up to 6 months in length ranging from £500 up to £10,000: find the website here.

Co-operative Group – Community Fund is particularly interested in local groups that demonstrate self-help, equality, democracy and concern for the community. Charitable organisations and community groups can apply for grants of between £100 and £2,000.

Community foundations manage funds from individuals, businesses and other donors who want to support causes in their local area. They are a good source of funding for small community organisations. There are around 60 community foundations in the UK: find the website here.

Funding Central is a free resource for charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises. It lists thousands of funding and finance opportunities, plus a wealth of tools and information supporting you to develop a sustainable income strategy: find the website here.

GRANTnet a straightforward free-to-use service from GRANTfinder, can help small businesses, charitable and community groups in some areas to find suitable funding. The website includes useful guides on business plan writing, writing a fundraising strategy etc.

Other grant search sites such as Funding Information will provide detailed news and information about new sources of funding for all those involved in raising money for not-for-profit organisations throughout the UK. They may charge a subscription fee but often offer free trial memberships.

The Charity Commission has an advanced search function which means you can search for charitable trusts under a variety of headings. It can be a good place to look for local trusts that want to spend money in a specific location.

Environment Agency website contains advice notes to help organisations, individuals and Environment Agency staff to apply for funding for river catchment projects. This can include access improvements where those improvements contribute to the river catchment objectives.

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas

NATURAL ENGLAND

This project has been funded under the Rural Development Programme for England

Access for All Advisory Group
Discussion Paper

Purpose of report

1. To explore the widening of the purpose of the Access for All Advisory Group, to include other communities to access the National Parks.

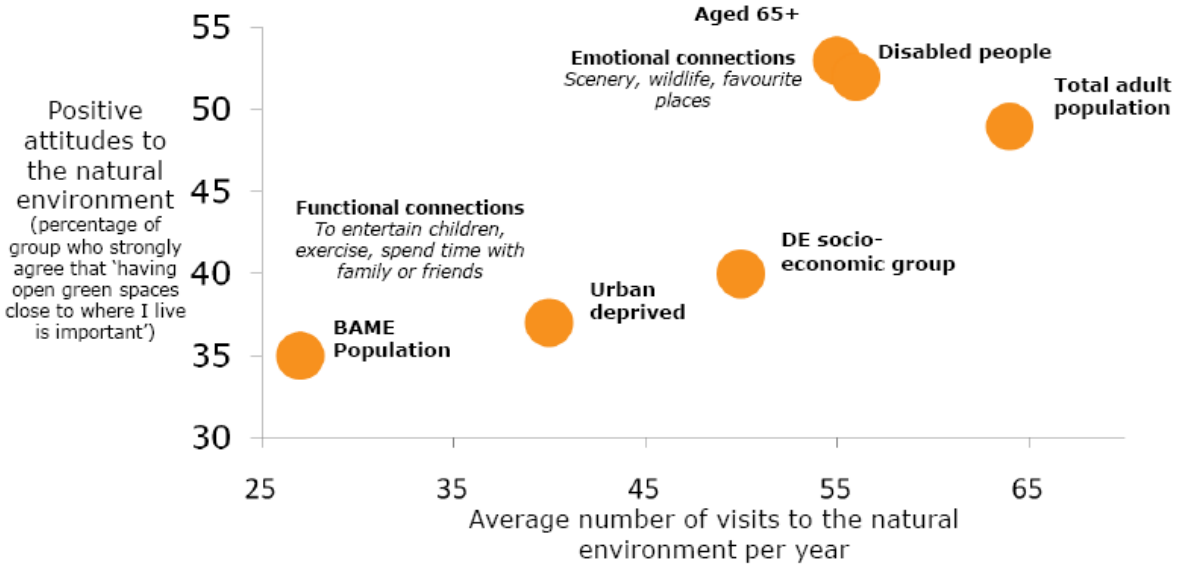
Background

2. That Yorkshire Dales National Park has a range of activities and programmes to encourage engagement from a range of different groups in the wider community. These programmes are on-going or have been time limited projects managed or supported by the National Park, some of these include:

• Audio Trails	• MOSAIC BME programmes and on-going work with Community Champions
• Beyond Boundaries	• MOSAIC Youth programme
• Community Archaeology	• Sensory Garden / Sensory Trails
• Disabled Ramblers	• Tramper Malham Tarn (YDNP SDF / NT)
• Easy sub 5K Walks	• Various SDF supported applications
• Health inequalities	• Wild Wednesdays
• John Muir Award	• Young Rangers
• Miles without Stiles	

3. Many groups are under-represented in enjoying the National Park and participating in recreational activities – young people, the unfit and those with health problems, people from disadvantaged backgrounds and people with limited mobility. The MENE figures from Natural England show this below.

Frequency of visits, attitudes and reasons for visiting the natural environment



4. Access for All is one of several advisory groups of the YDAF, and it has been highlighted that the YDAF and it advisory groups have limited diversity and representation in its membership, particularly from some of the underrepresented groups.

5. **Membership** - The Access Development Officer will over the next six months identify a range of partners to look at how they can engage with the National Park and encourage membership of the Access for All Advisory Group.

6. Incorporating wider access issues within Access for All Advisory Group provides an opportunity to share practice across different projects and explore development of opportunities that work for all communities of interest. As an example the MOSAIC model developed in the BME project has been piloted and now being rolled out with Young People. Similar approaches can be adopted for other initiatives within the National Park.

Conclusion

7. Access for All as a term has many definitions and more recently it has been used to cover access for a diverse range of interest groups and communities.

8. The wider remit will enable the furtherance of the Public Sector Equality Duty:
   - Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.
   - Advance equality of opportunity.
   - Foster good relations.

9. In a positive and practical approach through the Access for All Advisory Group.

   Access for All and the other advisory groups provide an opportunity for the National Park to engage with a diverse range of users and interested parties.

10. This paper provides the Access for All Advisory Group with an opportunity to have an open discussion on the role of the group. And recommend the proposed changes for approval by the YDAF in January 2014.

Action by YDAF

11. To agree to the proposal to widen the remit of the Access for All advisory group by inserting in point 1 and 2 (ii)

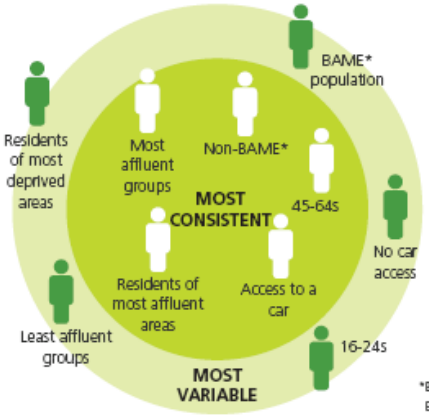
    …..for communities / groups / people under-represented in enjoying the National Park and taking part in recreation – young people, the unfit and those with health problems, people from disadvantaged backgrounds *and people with limited mobility*.

    Otherwise the Terms of Reference (appendix 1) will remain as they are.

Mohammed Dhalech
Access Development Officer
December 2013

VISITS: WHO, WHAT, WHERE?

Visit levels (last 4 years)



Top activities undertaken (year 4)

1.4 bn visits

Walking with a dog

769m visits

Walking without a dog

235m visits

Playing with children

173m visits

Eating/ drinking out

Any type of walking undertaken on 76% of visits.

Places visited (year 4)

43% Towns/ cities

7% Seaside resorts

3% Other coastal areas

46% Countryside

Top 3 specific destinations visited

Parks in towns / cities **25%** of all visits
Paths/ cycleways / bridleways **16%** of all visits
Woodlands / forests **13%** of all visits

Year 4 **Countryside:** walking a dog **58%**

Coastal destinations: walking with a dog **45%**

TNS

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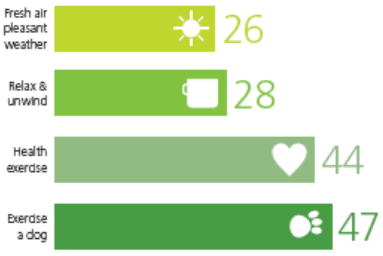
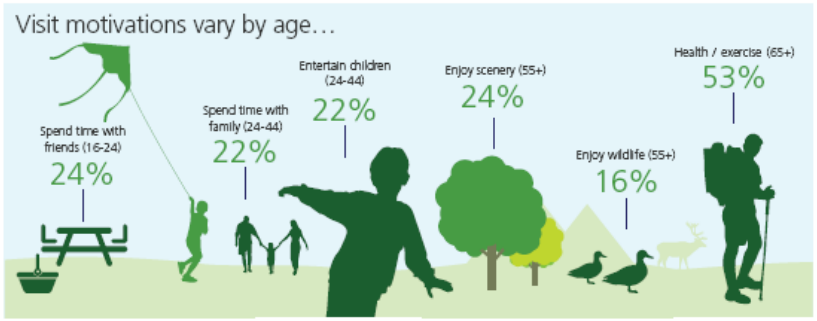
MOTIVATIONS & BARRIERS (YEAR 4)

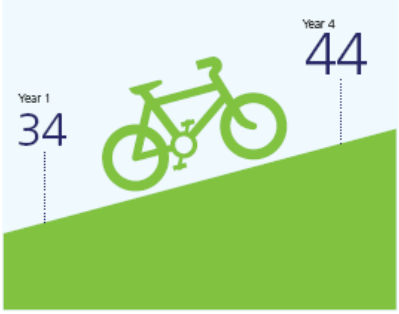
Top visit motivations (%)



Visit motivations vary by age…



Health / exercise overall increase (%)



The greatest reported barrier to visiting the outdoors is time:

Too busy at work 24%

Too busy at home 15%

Cost and weather

Although affecting small proportions, cost and poor weather have significantly increased in importance as barriers to outdoor visits since 2009:
Cost: **4%** to **7%**
Poor weather: **8%** to **11%**

Other barriers

Illness / disability / old age:
DE **51%**; Women **43%**; Non-BAME **42%**
Busy at home: BAME **24%**
Busy at work:
Men **30%**; 25 to 44 **39%**
Lack of interest / no reason: 16-24 **40%**

TNS

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YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
ACCESS FOR ALL ADVISORY GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Purpose of the Advisory Group

1. The purpose of the Access for All Advisory Group is:

   To provide a forum for suggestions to be presented to and received from the Authority, on the practical management of public rights of way and 'open access' within the Yorkshire Dales National Park for *for communities / groups / people under-represented in enjoying the National Park and taking part in recreation – young people, the unfit and those with health problems, people from disadvantaged backgrounds* and people with limited mobility.

Terms of Reference

2. The terms of reference of the Group are to:

   (i) Consider working and liaison procedures between interested parties and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

   (ii) Suggest and consider specific improvements or enhancements of the public rights of way network, open access and permissive routes *for communities / groups / people under-represented in enjoying the National Park and taking part in recreation – young people, the unfit and those with health problems, people from disadvantaged backgrounds and* people with limited mobility.

   (iii) To act as a sounding board for all parties to suggest improvements and enhancement of working procedures within the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

3. In providing suggestions, the Group will have regard to:

   (i) The needs of legislation;
   (ii) The conservation of the natural beauty of the area including its flora, fauna, and geological and physical features;
   (iii) The management and maintenance of recreational access whilst balancing this against the needs of nature conservation, agriculture and countryside management projects within the Yorkshire Dales.

4. The Advisory Group should also have regard to:

   (i) The Authority's statutory purposes and the requirement to conserve the landscape, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Yorkshire Dales and promote the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the area by the public (which affords opportunities for open-air recreation);

(ii) The desirability of protecting the natural resources of the Yorkshire Dales from damage;

(iii) The needs of agriculture and forestry and the economic and social interest of those who live or work in the Yorkshire Dales.

Membership

5. The membership of the Group is as follows:

- A number of Members of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
- Access Development Officer
- One Ranger
- Other interested parties

Other officers of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority will service and contribute to the Group as necessary.

Other interested parties by invitation as relevant.

6. The Chair of the group will be elected on an annual basis and should be a representative of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum wherever possible.

7. The secretariat will be provided by the Access and Recreation Admin Officer.

8. The Advisory Group will meet twice a year.