Minutes of Meeting of
Annual General Meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Local Access Forum
Held on Tuesday 26 February 2008
Yoredale, Bainbridge

Present: Jon Beavan (JB), Michael Bartholomew (MB), David Gibson (DG), Phil Woodyer (PW), Pat Whelan (PWh), Deborah Millward (DM), Harold Brown (HB), Paul Tibbatts (PT), Judy Rogers (JR), Ken Miller (KM), Robert Mayo (RM), Guy Keating (GK), Malcolm Petyt (MP)

YDNPA Officers present: Alan Hulme (AH), Rachel Briggs (RB) – LAF Secretary, Kathryn Beardmore (KB), Jon Avison (JA)

The meeting started at 10.35am.

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

JA started the meeting by welcoming Robert Mayo (RM) and Guy Keating (GK) to the meeting. He also welcomed Andrew Coleman from Cumbria County Council.

JA explained the process of election of a Chair.

DG proposed MB. This was seconded my KM. No further nominations were received. JA asked if MB would like to speak to the meeting. MB said that he would take any questions. There were no questions.

MB was elected as Chair of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum for a year.

MB then asked for nominations for Vice Chair.

PWh nominated PW. This was seconded by DG.

PW was elected as Vice Chair of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum for a year.

2. Welcome

MB reiterated JA's welcome to GK, RM and Andrew Coleman.

3. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Geoff Wilson (GW), Ben Heyes (BH) and Peter Bradfield (PB.)

4. Approval of Minutes

JB thought that paragraph three on page two of the minutes was confusing with regards to the difference between a sub group and an advisory group. MB resolved the issue by suggesting that the comma be removed on the seventh line.

JB said that, as a matter of accuracy, the word 'special' needed to be added to the heading of the minutes.

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

Matters Arising from the Minutes

JB questioned both the limited attendance at the meeting and the balance of members. He queried whether there was a quorum, and whether members had been made sufficiently aware that the meeting would be a full LAF meeting, as opposed to a meeting of a sub-group, or working group of some sort, set up just to look at Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) consultations. It was confirmed that the meeting had been properly constituted and advertised, and that it was quorate. The reason for the 'special meeting' was that YDAF members had decided to hold an additional meeting to discuss how they would respond to the TRO consultations because the date of the next scheduled meeting fell beyond the deadline for responses to the TRO consultation . The decision to have the meeting was entirely at the discretion of the YDAF members but that in deciding to hold a meeting it had to be covered in the normal way e.g. advertising etc.

KB reminded members that they are statutory consultees for the TRO process and they had could have chosen to deal with the consultation without holding a meeting.

5. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

6. Promoting Recreation in the Yorkshire Dales

KB presented the paper on promoting recreation in the Yorkshire Dales and asked for the YDAF's view.

JB began by commending the work that had been done on the recreation charter.

MB asked if it had been documented that 'children's lives are no longer characterised by traditional outdoor activities..'. KB said that this refers to the fact that children don't use

the outdoors in the same way as older generations. JR reiterated this by saying that rural children nowadays live urban lives.

PT noted that the Government has set targets to increase participation in recreational activities and wondered if there was any funding available. KB said that the YDNPA was seeking funding for the GoDales project from Sport England.

MB asked members how they thought the recreation charter could be publicised further.

There was some discussion about the recreation charter only been available on the website www.yorkshiredales.org.uk. KB explained that the website has a section on 'getting active' and that the charter sits in there. There are sections on most recreation activities with hyperlinks to national governing bodies e.g. BCU, BMC etc. It was noted that this was just black and white text that could be downloaded as a pdf.

GK offered a word of warning as to the over reliance on the website and suggested some promotion of what is on the site. No one thought it should be produced as a leaflet. It was felt that the recreation charter was fine: it is a policy document and so doesn't need to be anything more than it is. MB suggested firing up some enthusiasm by including some photos and designing the document to be more attractive.

MB then asked members if the YDNPA should be doing anything more to increase participation.

JB thought that any promotion should be tied in with tourism and in particular the Harrogate and Yorkshire Dales Partnership. He suggested attendance at the Outdoor Show in Birmingham. KB said that the YDNPA had attended the Outdoor Show for some years on a shared stand with the Harrogate and Yorkshire Dales Partnership but that this may not be apparent because the partnership logo was different to that for the National Park.

MB wondered if there could be a mechanism for recreation providers to follow up impact of a visit with children and leaders of groups of children visiting the Yorkshire Dales to try and increase independent visits. PW thought that this would create too much additional work for outdoor centres. JB said that the best scheme he has come across is the Duke of Edinburgh Award which generates lots of repeat visits. JR didn't think that many young people come back to the Yorkshire Dales independently and that there should be a greater focus on showing them what they can do nearer to home. Visits to the National Park should be seen as the 'icing on the cake'. JB agreed with this and suggested staff from the YDNPA should be working with groups in the urban fringe.

KB thanked members of the YDAF for their comments and it had been a very useful debate.

7. Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership

Andrew Coleman (AC), Countryside Access Manager for Cumbria County Council, presented the background to the Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership (CCA).

MB asked about the situation where the Chair from the Cumbria LAF had chosen not to take part in the groups. AC explained that it had been due to a conflict of interest involving the last YDAF chair, and that the Cumbria LAF chair would come back to the meetings now that this matter had been resolved.

MP told the group that he sits on the Partnership Board and felt it very important to attend. The three parishes within Cumbria that are in the YDNP are very large parishes (Dent, Garsdale and Sedbergh) and with the possible boundary review, more of Cumbria could be in the YDNP in the future.

JB expressed his concerns about how many meetings members are expected to attend but that he was also concerned that the three parishes in the YDNP felt that they had been watered down e.g. the loss of Sedbergh National Park centre, the loss of Dent Car Park, the loss of Whernside Manor. He felt it very important to support this area of the Park.

JB suggested that all agendas be sent to the Chair and that he decide who is best to attend from the YDAF depending on the issues.

The minutes from the last meetings of the three task groups were noted and it was requested that further minutes be presented to the YDAF.

8. Report back from Advisory Groups and other Meetings

Access for All Advisory Group

PW, as the chair of the Access for All Advisory Group, highlighted the main discussion points from the last meeting.

There was some discussion about the use of Tramper style wheelchairs on shooting tracks and it was noted that within open access land Tramper users had a right of open access.. This was in relation to the Disabled Ramblers visit to Swaledale in July for a two day holiday.

Air Sports Advisory Group

JB, as the chair of the Air Sports Advisory Group, highlighted the main discussions of the meeting. The minutes were circulated at the meeting and are attached in **Appendix 1**.

HB suggested it would be reasonable for landowners to be paid by paragliders for the use of their land, especially now that it becoming a more popular activity. JB explained that the liability would be increased if money was exchanged.

GK asked if paragliding was included under the CROW Act. KB said that this activity was specifically excluded.

Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group

MP, as the chair of the Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group, highlighted the main discussion points of the meeting.

MP asked for a simple explanation of the TRO process to be included in the consultation of TROs.

KB informed members that the Authority's website had been recently updated to explain the TRO process more clearly.

NYCC Unsurfaced/Unclassified Roads Group

KB explained that these meetings were about 'asset management' and how to prioritise NYCC limited resources with regard to maintenance of the list of streets. Doug Huzzard from NYCC will shortly be seeking views on how this policy will look. YDAF may be consulted.

MP said that he had attended the last meeting and that he was disappointed with the management of the group as there had been no papers circulated prior to the meeting and no agenda.

DG spoke of the minutes of the last group. He had received them in his papers for the North Yorkshire LAF. KB and MP both said that they had not yet received copies of papers associated with any of the meetings that they had attended.

MP though that the management of the group needed to improve if the YDAF were still to attend. JB suggested the Chair write to Doug Huzzard to express their concerns.

MB to write to Doug Huzzard about the concerns of the YDAF with regards to the management of the Unsurfaced/Unclassified Roads Group.

9. Review of membership of Groups Linked to the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum

MB went through each of the groups listed in the report and the YDAF reviewed the representative for each group in turn.

Access on Foot Advisory Group

JB expressed concern that this group is a meeting of the Ramblers Association and the Ranger staff and that perhaps others should be invited. He suggested someone from the Duke of Edinburgh Award panel would be a good addition. AH said that they needed to be careful not to duplicate the work of the full YDAF. He added that a representative from the Long Distance Walkers Association had been invited.

Members were satisfied with MB and PB representing the YDAF at the Access on Foot Advisory Group.

Access for All Advisory Group

Members were satisfied with PW, MB, BH, KM, PWh, JR representing the YDAF on the Access for All Advisory Group.

Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group

Members were satisfied with KM and PWh representing the YDAF on the Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group.

Air Sports Advisory Group

Members were satisfied with JB and PT representing the YDAF on the Air Sports Advisory Group.

Water Sports Advisory Group

Members were satisfied with PW and BH representing the YDAF on the Water Sports Advisory Group.

Rock Sports Advisory Group

There was some discussion as to whether GK should represent the YDAF on this group due to his work with the British Mountaineering Council (BMC). It was agreed that the main liaison work of this group was between the YDAF and the BMC (and caving) and that GK should be there to represent the BMC.

Members agreed that JB should represent the YDAF on the Rock Sports Advisory Group.

Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group

MB asked YDAF members if they were happy that members on this group were there to represent their interest and not the interest of the YDAF. He asked whether a policy should be formulated. There was no support for this view.

JB thought that this group works well and that it should remain as it is. MP agreed and added that members are appointed to give their own views and experiences within the YDAF and therefore they should not be bound by a collective view of the YDAF.

Members were satisfied with BH, JB, GW and MB representing the YDAF on the Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group, as well as their individual interests.

Active Craven

JB told members that he had not yet met with this group and that he thought it had very little relevance to the YDAF. KB thought that the main role was being on the circulation list for papers so that a watching eye could be kept on anything of interest.

Members agreed that JB should represent the YDAF on Active Craven.

North Yorkshire Unclassified/Unsurfaced Liaison Group

PWh expressed an interest in attending this meeting due to her carriage driving interests. KB said NYCC had stipulated that membership was for one YDAF member only. PWh agreed to be a substitute for MP should he not be able to make a meeting.

Members agreed that MP should represent the YDAF on the North Yorkshire Unclassified/Unsurfaced Liaison Group with PWh as a substitute.

Cumbria Countryside Partnership Board

As the Chair of the YDAF, it was noted that MB should represent the YDAF on the Cumbria Countryside Partnership Board.

It was noted that the individual appointed to the CCA task groups may not be always the most appropriate person to attend the meeting as this was dependent on the particular agenda items under discussion.

Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership – Promotions Task Group

Members were satisfied with PB representing the YDAF on the CCA Promotions Task Group

Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership – Maintenance Task Group

Members were satisfied with MB representing the YDAF on the CCA Maintenance Task Group.

Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership – Improvement Task Group

RM was elected to represent the YDAF on the CCA Improvement Task Group.

DG asked if there was a need to resurrect the CROW Exclusions and Restrictions sub group established to look at long term exclusions and restrictions. AH said there had been no applications for two years and thus the group was not needed at this point. However, there would be a review of existing long term restrictions and exclusions but it was anticipated that this would be timetabled to fit with the programmed YDAF meetings.

The meeting broke for lunch at 1.15pm and reconvened at 1.45pm

10. Open Access Management Plan

AH presented the draft plan and asked members for comments.

MB congratulated the Ranger service on the management of open access land. He then added that the report would be going to the Access on Foot Advisory Group to look at in greater detail and that broader comments were sought at this stage.

DG asked for there to be a mention of 'access' to access land.

HB asked how the shooting fraternity had reacted to the management of open access, in particular in relation to dogs. AH said that he has information on the number of dogs seen on access land and it appears not to be an issue. Similarly, he had not received any reports from landowners where users have ignored a restriction, though it was noted that restrictions had not been used on shoot days.

JB said that there should be a section on dedication. He suggested that the YDNPA dedicate higher rights to the land they own e.g. for caving on the land above Victoria Cave. This would set a precedent for other landowners. AH said he would look into this.

MP said that the figure of access land going from 4% to 62% is not realistic as it suggests an overnight increase of 58% and does not take into account that there was some previous tolerated access. It should say it was an increase to 'access as of right'.

PT asked if there have been any adverse impacts to the SSSIs, in particular Wharfe Woods where the number of people walking had increased. AH said that Natural England and the YDNPA are monitoring these areas. Regular reviews have indicated that a restriction has not been needed: people remain on the already established paths..

PWh asked for some clarification with regards to liability on access land. AH summed it up as: where the hazard is a natural feature e.g. sink hole, limestone pavement etc, the liability is at its lowest level in law and where the hazard is a manmade feature such as a mineshaft, there is existing legislation which is applied in relation to the current situations.

AH asked for any further comments on the Open Access Management Plan to be sent to him directly.

11. Secretary's Report

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

- Appointment of Yorkshire Dales Access Forum Members.
- Access Committee Dates and Venues.
- Access Management Grant Scheme.
- Annual Report.
- CROW Act Restrictions and Exclusions (not in the report – See **Appendix 2**).

Access Management Grant Scheme

MP informed members that, although National Parks are not eligible for this funding, some National Park LAFs have written in support of it. DG agreed that the YDAF should offer their support because the open access land adjoining the National Park had benefited from this.

MB to write to Sir Martin Doughty of Natural England saying that they wish to see the Access Management Grant Scheme continuing for those that are eligible.

CROW Restrictions and Exclusions

AH informed members that he had received notification from Cumbria County Council that they were reviewing their land parcels for fire closure (See **Appendix 2).** He offered members the chance to comment on this and there were three choices:

1. They are revoked.
2. The proposal is varied.
3. That they should remain unchanged.

AH said his advice would be that they remain unchanged. MB suggested that the YDAF rely on the YDNPA making representation on this issue. All agreed.

Annual report

DG felt that a section on the detailed advice of the forum should be included and for this to include responses to consultations. KM didn't think it necessary to put in all the recommendations made as it would turn the Annual Report into a lengthy document and that if people are interested in the recommendations and consultation responses, they can contact the Secretary.

MB raised the issue of financial cost of the YDAF and value for money as this had been raised by Richard Johnson (past member of the (YDAF). It was agreed to look at the effectiveness value for money of the YDAF at the next meeting.

Any further comments on the Annual Report to be sent to Rachel Briggs.

JB left the meeting at 2.30pm

12. Formal Consultation with the YDAF on Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders

MP declared an interest in this item as the independent chair of the Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group (YDGLAG) and as a member of the Access Committee. He stated he would not vote on any decisions and would only take part in the debate to clear up matters of clarification. DM and HB both declared an interest in this item as members of the Access Committee and took no further part in the discussion. HB left the meeting.

Consultation Under Reg 4

KB outlined the consultation process and explained that this was the first stage of the statutory consultation process for these five routes.

For each route, DG asked for the YDAF's response to be under section 94 of the CROW Act – giving advice to the appointing authority. It was noted that the difference between 'consultation' and 'advice' was still unclear and a response on this issue was still awaited from Defra.

Mastiles Lane

All of the members present agreed that for Mastiles Lane, a permanent all year round TRO be made to exclude all recreational motor vehicles.

Long Lane

PT noted that there is a BOAT application on Long Lane and asked what would happen if it were granted. MB explained that all questions in terms of rights of way status are ignored for this process, as it is about use and management of the route, not the route's status.

PW asked for confirmation that it does not restrict emergency vehicles e.g. cave rescue. MB said that emergency services and the landowners were exempt from the TRO.

GK asked if landowners were on board with this or would they allow mpv users to use these routes in return of payment. JA believed that the vast majority of the landowners were on board.

All of the members present agreed that for Long Lane, a permanent all year round TRO be made to exclude all recreational motor vehicles.

Horsehead Pass

All of the members present agreed that for Horsehead Pass, a permanent all year round TRO be made to exclude all recreational motor vehicles.

Garsdale Foot to Barth Bridge

All of the members present agreed that for Garsdale Foot to Barth Bridge, a permanent all year round TRO be made to exclude all recreational motor vehicles.

Carlton to Middleham High Moor

All of the members present agreed that for Carlton to Middleham High Moor, a permanent all year round TRO be made to exclude all recreational motor vehicles. The vote included MP who said that the decision was in line with that of the YDGLAG.

JR and GK left the meeting at 3.00pm. It was noted that a quorum of members were still present.

KB explained that the outcome of the consultation process would be going to Access Committee on 17 April. If it was decided to take it to the next stage in the process, the YDAF will need to be consulted again. KB said the YDAF may wish to consider how it would wish to deal with this as some members were unhappy with the special meeting held in December to discuss the consultation. There was some discussion how this would best be done and members agreed that a special meeting would be required if these five

routes did go to the next stage. However, the timing of the June 17 meeting may fit into the consultation period.

MB to write to Natalie Thompson with the consultation response from the YDAF.

Consultation under Reg 5

Members had the following comments with regards to the notice:

DG asked that the exemptions under a) be extended to the other public amenities and not just water e.g. gas, electricity, telephone.

DG asked that the exemptions under d) include forestry.

RM thought that point c) in the exemptions could be misread and was open to abuse. KB said she would check the working with the YDNPA Solicitor.

DG had some concerns with regards to the route map for the High Way as the definitive line is different to the used line. KB said that the Authority can only place a TRO on the definitive line as the powers only relate to rights of way of routes on the list of streets. MB suggested a sign be placed at the bottom of the route with an explanation saying route closed in x meters.

All of the members present agreed that the TROs suggested for each of the eight routes should be permanent 24/7. MB to write to MA with the consultation response from the YDAF.

13. Update on Members Activities

JB informed members that he had become a director of the Independent Hostels UK.

14. Future Forum Meetings

The next meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum will be held on the 17 June 2008. The meeting will be held at Yoredale, Bainbridge and will commence at 6.00pm.

The meeting closed at 3.35pm

Appendix 1

Unapproved Minutes of Meeting of Air Sports Advisory Group Held on Tuesday 19 February 2008 Colvend, Grassington

Present:

Martin Baxter (MB)	Dales Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club
Dorothy Fairburn (DF)	Country Land and Business Association
Jon Beavan (JB)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Paul Tibbatts (PT)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Rachel Briggs (RB)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Mark Allum (MA)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Ian Court (IC)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Ian Broadwith (IB)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Lydia Sunter (LS)	Harper Adams University (student placement with YDNPA)

1. Election of a Chair

RB explained to members of the group that the Air Sports Advisory Group (ASAG) had been established to look at specific issues, surrounding recreational activities, that were outside of the remit of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum (YDAF). Reports from each of the Advisory Groups would be taken back to the YDAF. Therefore, it would be beneficial for the Chair of the group to be a member of the YDAF for reporting purposes. The ASAG agreed that JB should be the Chair.

JB elected as the Chair of the ASAG.

2. Welcome and Apologies

Members of the ASAG introduced themselves to the group. Annex 1 shows further details of each member with their contact details.

Apologies were received from Peter Logan from the Dales Hang Gliding and Paragliding Club.

3. Terms of reference

JB went through the terms of reference point by point.

JB asked for a definition of 'air sports'. The following list was decided upon. This should be refereed to within the terms of reference.

Paragliding
Kite activities (e.g. kite flying, kite surfing etc)
Radio controlled aircraft

Commercial leisure flight operators e.g. helicopters and ballooning
Free fall parachuting
Para motoring
Microlighting
Hang gliding

The terms of reference were agreed and adopted by the ASAG

4. Issues surrounding paragliding

MB gave an informative presentation on paragliding, and in particular paragliding in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, which was well received.

JB asked whether MB knew what percentage of the paragliders in the Yorkshire Dales National Park were not members of a club. MB did not know an exact figure but guessed it to be around 5%.

PT asked if there was any kind of legal process behind the constitution. MB said that paragliders are subject to air law but that the constitution was written by members with some direction from the national body.

DF asked what numbers you would expect in the Yorkshire Dales on the ideal day, in terms of weather conditions. MB said that some fells have restrictions on them where you would never get more than a set number of paragliders (e.g. Stags Fell has a restriction of 12). Wether Fell is the most famous take off site in the Yorkshire Dales so you could get up to 20 on the ideal day. On competition days there may be up to 70.

DF asked how much control there is as to where the paraglider lands. MB explained that most people land in the designated landing field. However, some experienced users go cross country and may have to land unexpectedly, in which case there is less control to the landing area.

JB asked MB if there was anything that staff of the YDNPA could do to help paragliders? MB said that some assistance with infrastructure on rights of way would be useful. MA suggested that where there is an issue, that MB get in touch with him so that his query could be passed on to the relevant ranger.

MB also asked if YDNPA officers could help with letting them know who certain landowners are. IC said that the NPA does not hold details on all landowners but does have some information. However, this is all kept under the guidelines of the Data Protection Act and that this information could not be shared. IC suggested that MB contact him for details and that he could contact the landowner to ask if their details could be handed out.

JB asked officers of the YDNPA what the paragliders could do to make relations easier. IC said that there haven't been many issues in the past. He could only think of one issue with regards to bird disturbance on Stags Fell. MB and IC agreed to discuss bird issues outside the meeting.

MA asked which take off sites require the paragliders to drive up an unsurfaced route. MB said that they currently access Wether Fell using the Cam High Road. MA explained that this is a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) and so not an issue. MB said they would like to use the Occupation Road to access Brant Side in Cumbria. MA said they would need landowner permission for this.

5. Other Air Sports

JB asked if anyone had any issues with any other air sports? He asked what the issues were with para motoring and/or microlighting. MB said that the national paragliding club has welcomed para motor gliders into the club in an attempt to control them slightly. MA said that they weren't a problem in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, more so in the Peak District National Park. JB suggested that the group may want to revisit this air sport before it gets too popular. MB agreed.

The ASAG agreed to revisit para motoring at another meeting.

6. RAF Low Level Flying

MB asked this to be changed to Military and not RAF.

RB said that she had done some research and that the YDNPA do not have a statement or policy about low level flying aircraft. They see it as an issue and they have been in discussion with the military with the North York Moors and Northumberland National Parks about the use of Apache helicopters. Discussions have come to a temporary close since most military air craft is in use in Afghanistan and Iraq. MB suggested that the Apache helicopters had been moved to another area, other that the Yorkshire Dales.

7. Potential Boom in Noisy Remote Controlled Helicopters

JB raised this as an issue as he knows of three people in the Ingleton area who have bought and fly large remote controlled helicopters. The noise is an issue. It was suggested that any clubs be invited to the next meeting to look at the issues.

RB to invite someone from a remote controlled aircraft club to the next meeting.

8. Any Other Business

It was agreed that another meeting should be organised for 12 months time. If anything arises in the meantime, another meeting can be arranged.

The group asked that someone representing balloonists and someone from a remote controlled aircraft club be invited to join the group.

RB to circulate dates for the next meeting.

Appendix 2

Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000

REVIEW OF STATUTORY DIRECTION(S)

SUMMARY FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION
Prepared by Natural England

1. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION:

Access Authority: **CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL**
Relevant Authority: **NATURAL ENGLAND**
Local Access Forum: **CUMBRIA LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**

Land Parcel Name:	Original Direction Ref.	Reassessment Case Ref:
Cumbria 1	**2005060121**	**2008020036**
Cumbria 2	**2005060119**	**2008020037**
Cumbria 3	**2005060118**	**2008020042**
Cumbria 4	**2005060120**	**2008020038**
Wan Fell	**2007070001**	**2008020040**
Mallerstang Common	**2007070003**	**2008020043**
North of Howgills	**2007070004**	**2008020044**
North of Borrowdale	**2007070009**	**2008020045**
Crosby Ravensworth	**2007070010**	**2008020046**
Stainmore Common	**2007070002**	**2008020047**
***Part of Racecourse (given following application)**	**2005010145**	**2008020048**

In accordance with statutory guidance, Natural England has a duty to:

- review directions of a long-term character no later than their fifth anniversary; and
- revoke or vary directions where necessary.

Under CROW section 27(3) the relevant authority must review, at least every five years, any direction it has given that restricts access indefinitely; for part of every year; for part of each of six or more consecutive calendar years; or for a specified period of more than five years.

The above directions were all given to cover a period up to 31/12/2999 and are therefore classed as ‘indefinite’ directions.

During the review the relevant authority must, having regard to the interest of the public in having access to the land, consider whether the restriction is still necessary for its original purpose; and if so, whether the extent and nature of the restriction is still appropriate for the original purpose.

Before reviewing a long-term direction the relevant authority must consult:

- the local access forum;

- the applicant or his successor in title, where reasonably practicable – for directions under section 24 or 25 made on application; or

- the relevant advisory body – for a direction made under section 26.

The authority must also publish a notice on a website (and send a copy to statutory consultees) that must explain that the authority proposes to review the direction in question; where documents relating to the review may be inspected and copies obtained; and that representations in writing with regard to the review may be made by any person to the authority a date specified in the notice.

Once consultation is complete the relevant authority should have regard to any representations it receives before making a decision. If following the consultation, the Relevant Authority decides to:

- leave the original direction unchanged, the relevant authority should record the date that the decision was made and should schedule a subsequent review where necessary.

If following the consultation, the Relevant Authority decides to:

- vary a direction, the relevant authority must give a new direction under the same section that was used to give the original direction. If the new direction is long-term, it must be reviewed within five years of the date it is given;
- revoke a direction, the relevant authority must give a new direction under the same section to revoke it. There is no requirement to review the new direction;

(NB Before varying or revoking a direction the relevant authority must: consult the original applicant or his successor in title, where reasonably practicable – for directions given under section 24 or 25 on an application; or consult the relevant advisory body – for directions given under section 26; in either case, follow the consultation procedures set out in the Relevant Authority Guidance but only if it proposes to give a new direction that would restrict access indefinitely or for more than six months continuously).

2. SUMMARY OF EXISTING DIRECTION(S):

Natural England made several direction(s) to restrict CROW access on the above ten areas of land under section 25(1)(a) of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act in order to exclude access for fire prevention reasons.

A further direction was given also for fire prevention reasons following an application made to restrict CROW access for fire reasons at land called 'Part of Racecourse (ref:2005010145)

These directions were given as 'outline' directions, meaning that they are only be activated when conditions were considered to be 'exceptional'. All of the directions indicated above were made to cover the period up to 31/12/2999.

When the proposed directions were first considered, Natural England consulted with Cumbria County Council in order to ensure that the appropriate areas of access land were identified and to ensure that there was sufficient 'coverage' across the county. The criteria used for identifying appropriate land parcels subject to the non-applications directions were as follows:

- Land characteristics likely to be relevant when determining whether restrictions are necessary due to exceptional conditions include:

1. The fuel potential of the vegetation and substrate.
2. Exposure to high wind speeds.
3. Uniformity of vegetation.
4. Topography.

- Contrasting land areas, in terms of either fire management or vegetation types are best contained in different parcels or groups of parcels.
- Large areas with the same characteristics, such as a single heath or moor, may be grouped together as appropriate.

Natural England still believes that these directions are necessary and have already held informal discussions on these reviews with Cumbria County Council and a representative of the Cumbria Local Access Forum.

Whilst there is no statutory requirement to review these direction at the present time, Natural England has taken the decision to review these directions now, before the start of the next 'fire' season (Spring 2008 onwards) in order to ensure that we have an appropriate coverage of fire directions across the county and to build upon lessons learned over the past couple of years.

3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON HOW FIRE DIRECTIONS WORK:

Under the CROW Act, fire prevention restrictions aim to stop accidental fires from occurring when conditions are exceptional by suspending open access rights.

They do not and cannot prevent fires from happening.

Fires can and will occur at any time of year, either accidentally or most regrettably, by act of arson, and there will naturally be times of the year or times in the cycle of the vegetation when there is a higher risk of fire. Within the confines of the CROW Act, it is the responsibility of the relevant authorities to make reasonable efforts to identify when exceptional conditions occur, beyond what is normally expected, and where known, suspend open access rights on vulnerable land when this occurs.

Fire Severity Index (FSI)
To inform decisions on a national scale, the Met Office were asked to develop a fire severity index (FSI), which would give an objective way to show when exceptional conditions occur. Based on extensive research the Canadian Daily Severity Rating (DSR) was identified as the most appropriate for England and Wales. The resulting Met Office Fire Severity Index gives a daily rating per 10 km grid square from 1 to 5 (very low to exceptional) on the potential severity of a fire should it occur. The index has been in place since September 2004.

Natural England has taken a proactive approach in providing outline non application directions for fire prevention on open access land particularly vulnerable to fire, which can be activated when exceptional conditions occur. The decision to give non application outline directions has been guided by the advice of local access authorities, who have advised us where they think directions are necessary and, where possible, provided us with land owner contact details. Landowners are also able to make an application for an outline fire prevention restriction.

All the relevant authorities which have given outline fire prevention directions are committed to using the FSI to determine when exceptional conditions occur. Natural England case officers will deal with queries and new directions in their respective regions.

An outline direction can only be activated when one or more of the FSI grid squares covering the land parcels are at a level 5 for the current day (today) or the following day (tomorrow). It is possible that the majority of a land parcel in one FSI grid square and only a very small amount is in an adjacent grid square. So far as restrictions are concerned there is no weighting on how much land is covered by a grid; whichever one hits a 5 will prompt activation. Whilst it's tempting to look further ahead at the forecast, please bear in mind that this is provided for guidance only, and does not form the basis for a decision to activate a restriction.

Any activation of a restriction will be notified in writing to the relevant authority, the access authority and where known, the landowner(s).

4. SUBMITTING COMMENTS ON THE REVIEW:

If you wish to comment on the review of these directions then you must do so before **14th March 2008** using the comment form provided on the website. If you unsure how to submit your comments, please visit our website: **www.openaccess.gov.uk** or contact the open access helpline on: **tel. 0845 100 3298**

If, following consultation, we decide that the existing directions are still appropriate and do not need to be changed then we will record the decision and set a new review date (which will be no later than 5 years from the completion of this review).

Item No. 7

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 17th June 2008

Crow Act Applications for Restrictions, Exclusions & Dedications Report

Purpose of the Report

To inform Members about applications for Restrictions, Exclusions and Dedications under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act (CRoW) dealt with by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority as the Relevant Authority.

Background

The Authority is the 'relevant authority' responsible for administering the CRoW Act local restrictions. Under the Act (s 21 to 33), access to CRoW open access land can be restricted for various reasons. Applications for restrictions and exclusions are:

- Discretionary restrictions (for any purpose) and discretionary dog exclusions imposed by the landowner or farm tenant, which in most cases are an entitlement; eg a landowner excluding dogs from grouse moors or a farm tenant closing an area for up to 28 days a year, but have to be notified in advance to the Authority.

- Directions, which are given by the relevant authority only where necessary on a range of grounds set out in CROW Act section 24, 25 or 26 - (land management, public safety, fire risk, and protection of sensitive wildlife or heritage features).

'Directions' may only be used "to the extent necessary". This is interpreted to mean the least restrictive option. In other words, local visitor management solutions should always be sought before statutory restrictions are considered. Where visitor management on its own is likely to be insufficient, or would place an unreasonable burden or cost on the land manager, the CROW Act and the associated Regulations [The Access to the Countryside (Exclusions and Restrictions) (England) Regulations 2003] provide procedures to formally exclude or restrict access at the local level. The Countryside Agency has also issued statutory, relevant authority guidance under the CRoW Act (s33), available on the website www.openaccess.gov.uk (referred to as the RAG).

Casework to-date by application in the YDNP Jan 07 to 27th May 2008

	Total No of Cases
Cases received awaiting determination:	0
Cases determined:	0

Use of Exclusions and Restrictions

During the period 28th May 05 to 27th May 2008 the National Park Authority, as Relevant Authority, received 21 applications for restrictions or exclusions, 2 of which were withdrawn. The 19 which have been determined, along with discretionary restrictions applications, has resulted in the following restrictions and exclusions within the Yorkshire Dales:

Area of National Park Open Access Land with Restrictions May 28th 2005 to May 27th 2008

	Ha	% Of Open Access In NP or of OA land
Yorkshire Dales National Park	176,200	
Open Access	109,500	62% of NP area
Section 15 land. Land under previous access agreement prior to 'Open Access'.	4,561	4% of OA land
5 year Discretionary Dog Restriction	41,890	38% of OA land
28 day discretionary public exclusion (Jan 2008 – May 2008)	26,122	23.8% of OA land
Outline direction for the Exclusion of dogs during calving (Not activated)	90	0.1% of OA land
Restriction dogs on leads (grouse moors)	1,490,	1.5% of OA land
Permanent public exclusion	11	0.01%of OA land

28 Day Discretionary Restrictions 1st Jan 08 to 31st May 08

During this period the NPA has received notification for 28 day discretionary restrictions under Sec 22 of the CROW Act on 21 parcels of land. The vast majority of the 28 day allowance relates to restricting access on specified dates between 15th May and 19th June.

National Situation

The National situation, in relation to exclusions and restrictions, is summarised in the Annex:

i) Graph 1 - Area of CROW access land available for open-air recreation
ii) Graph 2 - Use of the restrictions system by land managers – discretionary notifications
iii) Graph 3 - Use of the restrictions system by land managers – applications and appeals
iv) Graph 4 – Directions given by relevant authorities

(NB All data is for land administered by Natural England and National Park Authorities only. The graphs do not include data for land administered by the Forestry Commission).

Fire Restrictions

The Act allows for the right of open access to be removed, if the fire risk is rated as 'exceptional' by Natural England (Level 5 on the Fire Severity Index). The withdrawal of rights from open access land for the purposes of fire prevention do not affect public rights of way, which remain open at all times. (The fire severity index was discussed at the LAF meeting on 17 October 2006 see http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/item_7b_-_fire_restrictions.doc for further information).

On Saturday 24th May the FSI reached level 5 for a number of areas in the south of the Park which were promptly closed. On the Sunday the remaining areas across the national Park reached level 5 and open access rights withdrawn, indeed this occurred over much of the country. Unfortunately, at about 4pm on Saturday 24th May we received a report of a fire to the north of Yarnbury House near Grassington Moor. Due to the wind direction, and a walled lane acting as a fire break, this was brought under control quite quickly. However damping down of the area continued over the Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday.

Fire Severity Index Activation Consultation

During August and September 2007 Natural England conducted a consultation exercise with Relevant Authorities relating to the system for activating and expiring fire prevention restrictions on land with access rights under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.

In the light of this consultation, amendments have now been made to this system. They took effect from 25 March 2008. They can be summarised as follows:

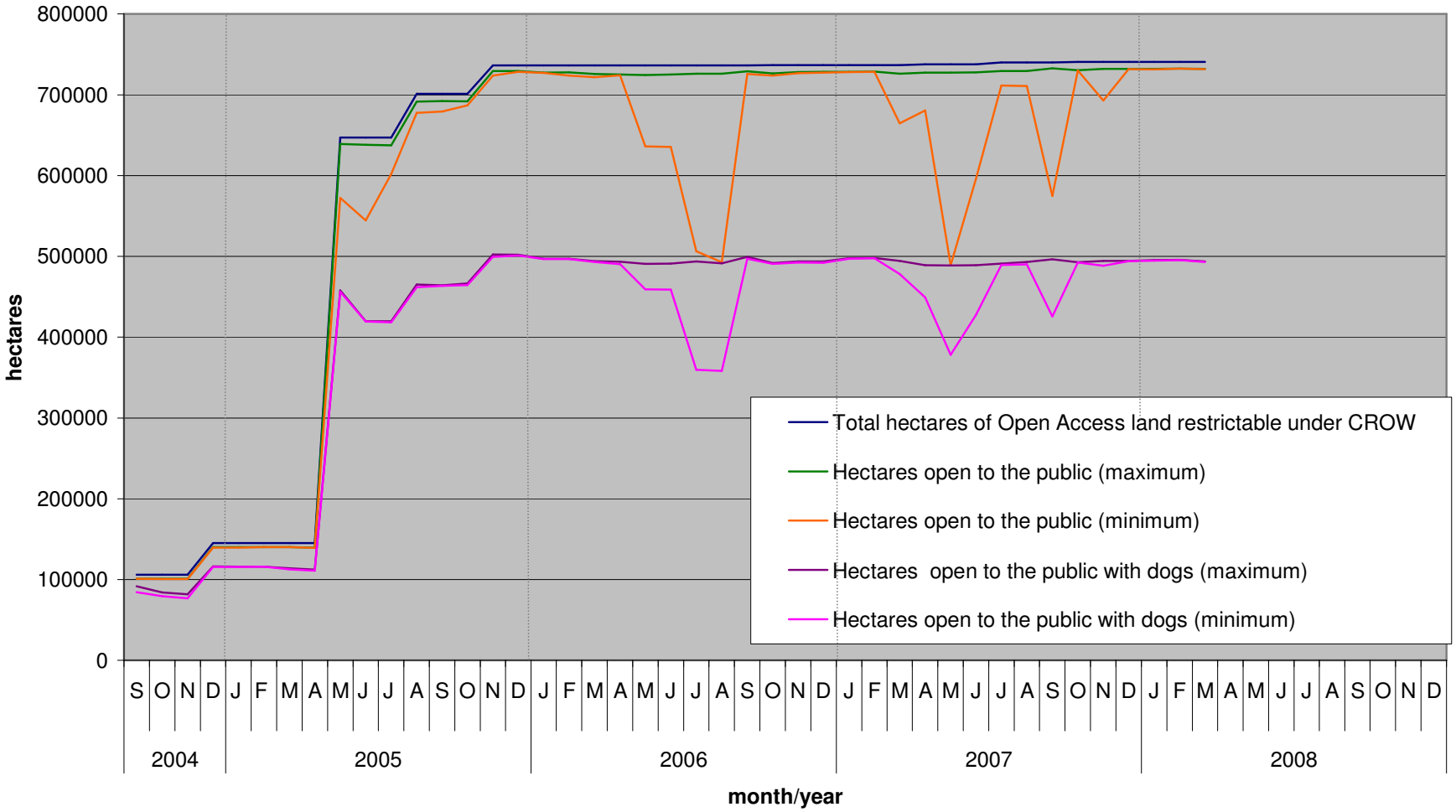
- Fire prevention restrictions will only be activated when a FSI level 5 is reached on the current day.
- When a FSI level 5 is forecast for the following day, this will no longer provide an activation trigger.
- Fire prevention restrictions will expire when the FSI has remained below a level 3 for 3 days or below a level 5 for five days. Any forecast level 5 will no longer be taken into account when triggering the expiry of restrictions.
- A new service has been introduced which will provide a warning when a FSI level 5 is forecast for the following day. This warning will be sent to the appropriate Relevant Authorities, access authorities and land owners/managers where known. This service is provided via email, and via text and/or phone message where details have been registered.

A summary report on the consultation is available (on request at the meeting) and an updated version of the land manager guidance on fire prevention restrictions is also available on the "useful links" section of the Natural England website at www.openaccess.gov.uk.

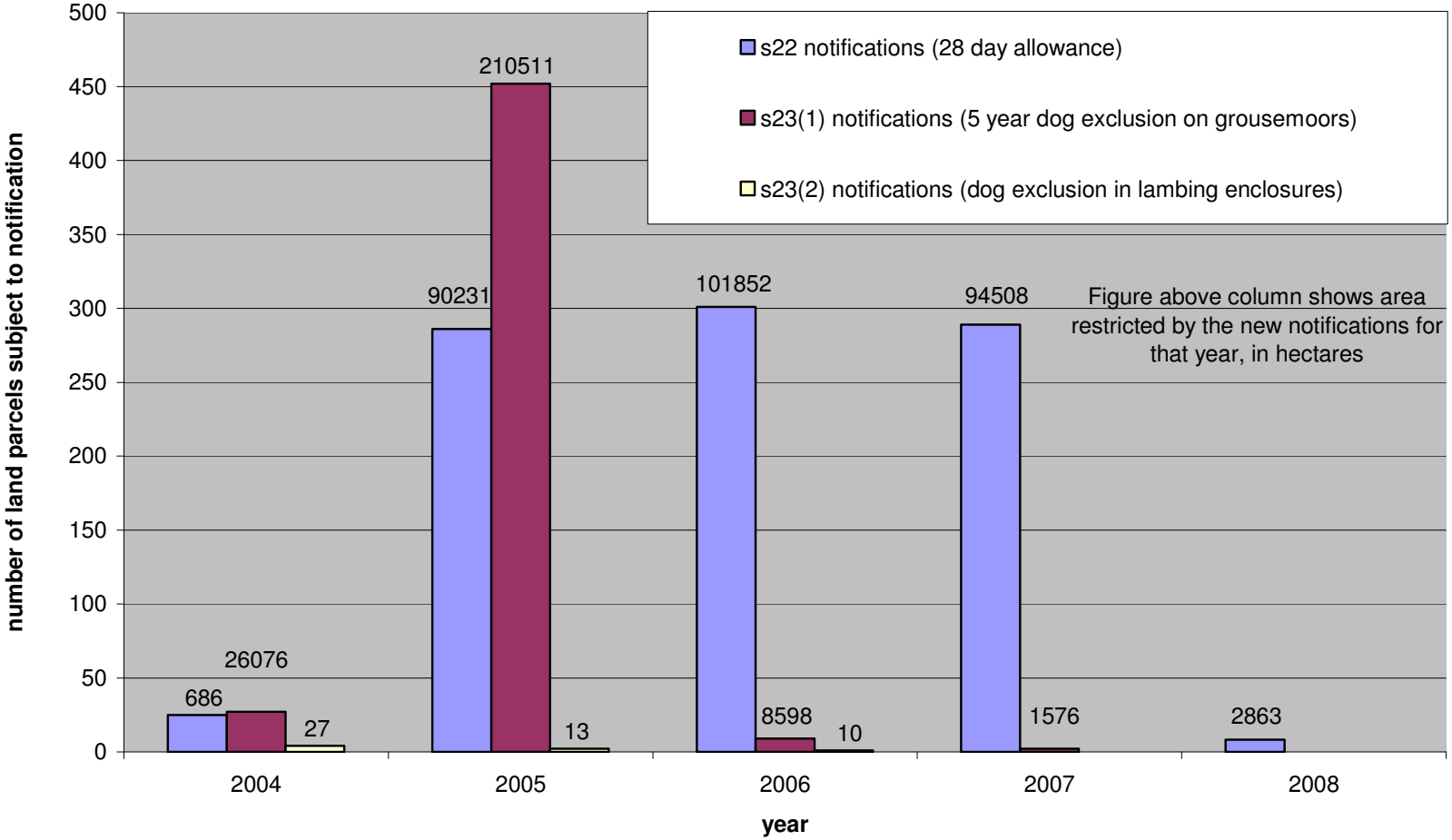
Alan Hulme
May 2008

Annex

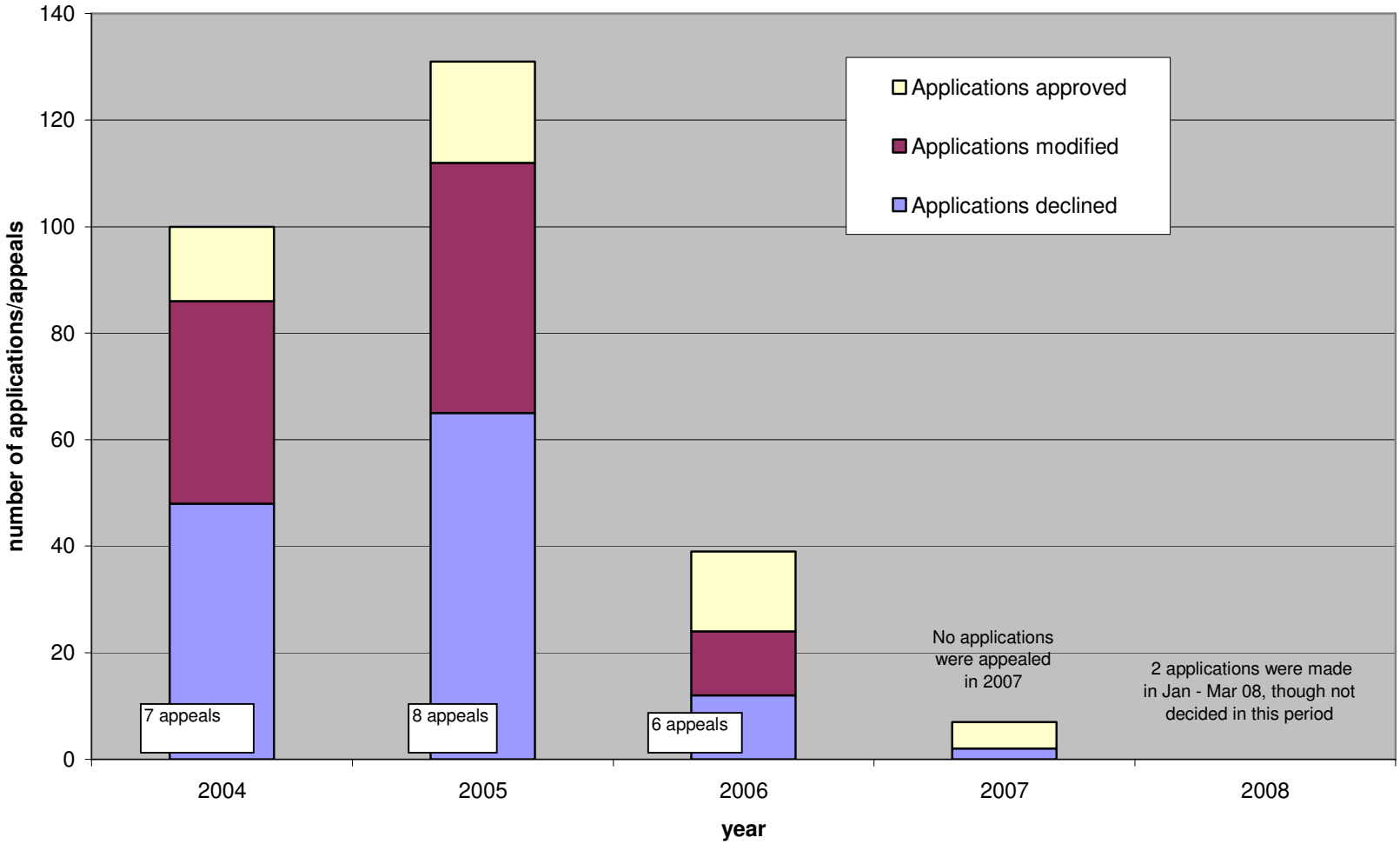
Graph 1: Area of CROW access land available for open-air recreation up to 31 March 2008 (excluding Forestry Commission estate)



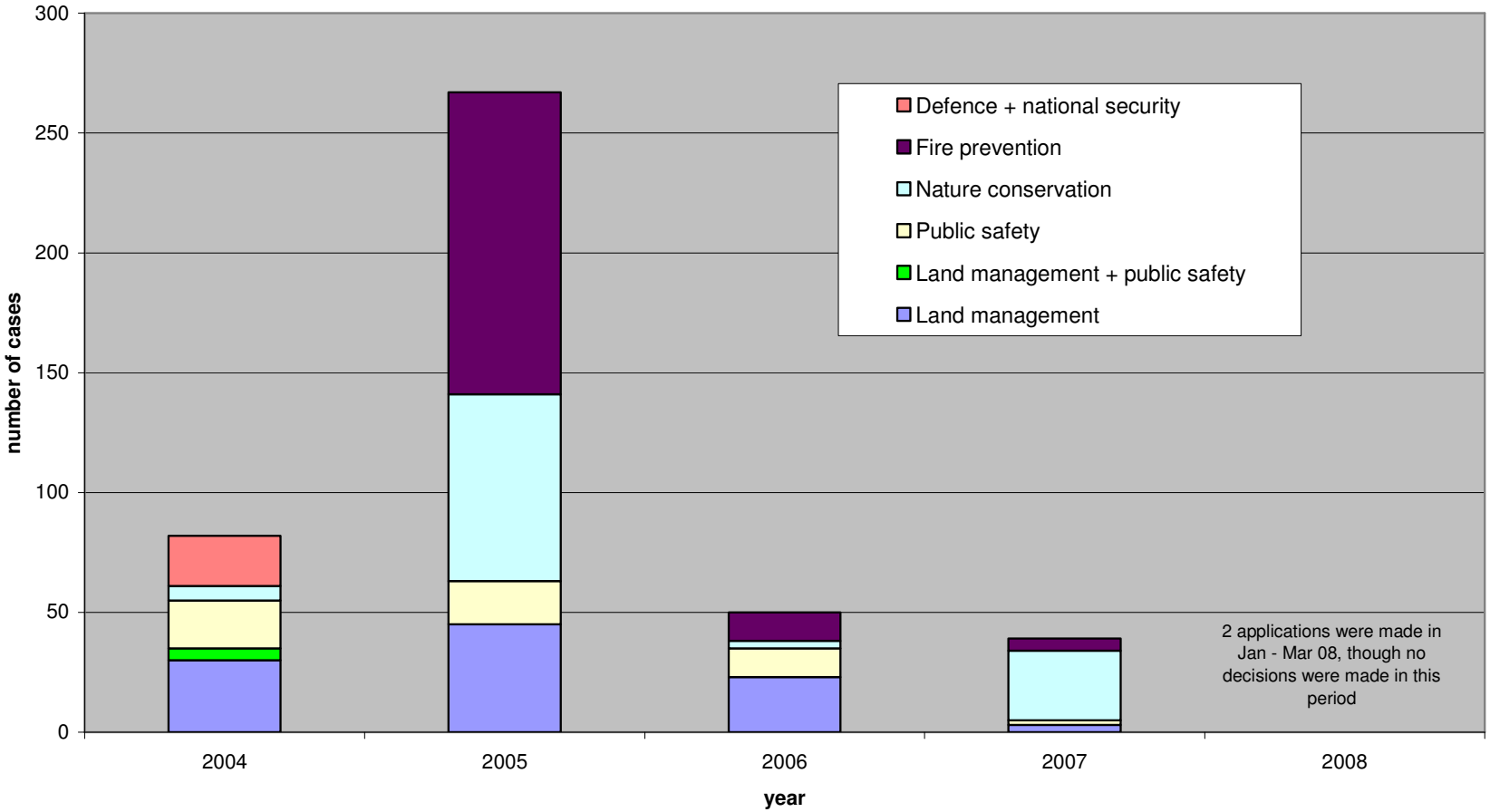
Graph 2: Use of restrictions by land managers - discretionary notifications up to 31 March 08 (excluding Forestry Commission estate)



Graph 3: Use of restrictions by land managers - applications and resulting appeals up to 31 March 2008 (excluding Forestry Commission estate)



Graph 4: Directions given up to 31 March 2008 (excluding directions given by the Forestry Commission)



Item No. 8

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 17 June 2008

Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to make Members aware of the minutes from the Task Group meetings of the Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership.

Background

At the January 2007 LAF meeting, Members received Cumbria County Council's proposals to create a partnership with the Lake District National Park Authority, Carlisle City Council, and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority called Countryside Access: Cumbria. The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority is delegated Highway Authority for rights of way on behalf of Cumbria County Council for the parishes of Garsdale, Dent and Sedbergh.

Task Groups

The following task Groups were established through the Partnership:

- **Maintenance Task Group**

"To ensure the rights of way network is accessible and open to the public and maintained to a consistent high quality and standard", and "to facilitate and manage access to open country and registered commons".

- **Improvement Task Group**

"To develop and improve access to the countryside so as to meet a wide range of users needs", and "to broaden access opportunities for all and to encourage wider participation"

- **Promotion Task Group**

"To promote enjoyment, awareness and understanding of the countryside access resource", and "to encourage community involvement in managing access to the countryside"

YDAF asked to consider

Minutes from each of the Task Group meetings are attached to this report. Members are asked to note these for information.

Rachel Briggs
May 2008

Annex 1

CUMBRIA COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS PARTNERSHIP

NOTES OF MAINTENANCE TASK GROUP MEETING HELD IN THE WINDERMERE ROOM, SKIRSGILL DEPOT, PENRITH 2pm – 27 February 2008

Present:	David Gibson (Chair)	Cumbria County Council
	Jonathon May	Carlisle City Council (urban network)
	Nick Thorne	Lake District National Park Authority
	Andy Sims	Capita Symonds Ltd
	Paul Wilkinson	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
	Lis Fell	Cumbria LAF
	Mike Bartholomew	Yorkshire Dales LAF
	John Taylor	Lake District LAF
Apologies:	Simon Boyd (Secretary)	Cumbria County Council

ACTION

1 Welcome and Apologies

Apologies from Simon Boyd

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 December 2007 were agreed as a true record.

3 Matters Arising

The matter of CCC dedicating access land has been put to the OSG, who are waiting for their members to respond.

DJG has discussed the heirarchy of routes system in place within Carlisle area, and they are looking at a different approach.

The Ramblers' have not yet submitted suggestions as to how better to measure 'ease-of-use'

NT suggested that each task group have something that makes their papers more identifiable, so that they are easily recognised as OSG papers / MTG papers, etc. LF suggested that there could be a CCAP logo.

Area Engineer's have been approached about sitting on MPV sub-group, but have not been very forthcoming, so this will be taken back to the next OSG meeting.

4 Feedback from Partnership Board and Operational Steering Group Meeting

DJG reported back from the last Operational Steering Group (minutes had already been provided to members):

- The National Trust will be invited onto the Maintenance Task Group
- The question of why the Ramblers Association will be invited to attend all three task groups as members, but not other user bodies was asked. Rob Terwey considered that the decision was defensible – but there was no indication of how this stance could be justified. Members were surprised at this.
- Frequency of meetings. The general feeling was that the meetings were too frequent, and that OSG meetings would now be every four months instead of every two months. It was agreed that the MTG meetings should also fit this pattern

5 Indicators, including BVPI

OSG have decided that the old BVPI 178 will still be an indicator for Cumbria in 2008/09, and that the same methodology will be used. They have asked the MTG to come up with a possible shadow indicator to reflect the 'true' ease-of-use.

The example quoted by OSG seems to be where the definitive line is not actually the line used on the ground. However, this is already covered on the current reporting form used by countywide surveyors. They currently have to state the main reason for failure, one of which is 'easy-to-use but not on the definitive line. It should therefore already be very easy to calculate the difference between paths that fail because they are not easy to use, and produce different figures. However, it was clear that not all the authorities are completing the form fully, and therefore this data is not being collected.

It was stressed that the forms should be fully completed. **All**

Other ideas were:

- Awaiting the outcome of the NPAs review of BVPI 178, and see what is recommended and whethr it could be adopted in Cumbria;
- Should other aspects be tacked on to the BVPI survey, such as the general accessibility or opportunity for improving the accessibility. This could be some form of grading system – although there were also views that this should be within the parish surveys rather than the BVPI – PW offered to provide members with the criteria YDNPA have used to assess routes in this fashion; **PW**
- Devising some form of 'quality' assessment;
- Devising a 'user satisfaction' survey – although this is partly being done through one of the other task groups (although this wasn't mentioned at the MTG).

Other issues discussed revolved around making the parish survey more like the BVPI survey instead of covering just the bare statutory duty.

6 Mechanically Propelled Vehicle Sub Group

Sub Group Membership

DJG briefed members on the first MPV sub-group meeting, and a brief summary of what was discussed.

MB (on behalf of YDLAF) considered that it was inappropriate for Cumbria County Council to publicise assessed UCRs on a website with the implication that they could be used by vehicles without an anlysis of the evidence relating to each route to determine that they were indeed vehicular highways.

The MPV sub group will be asked to look at the appropriateness of publicising the routes, and at the legitimacy of this in relation to the Defra guidance on the NERC Act as it applies to UCRs. **DJG**

MB considered that the Lake District TMAG and HOTR initiatives had not achieved anything, and could not be considered a success. There was an opposite view from other members that it had been a success in taking a strategic practical view to managing the legitimate use of routes.

7 Definitive Map & Consolidation

AS presented the report compiled by Capita Symonds / LDNPA & YDNPA a few years ago, which has been revised by Capita Symonds. This will be circulated to Members. **AS / SB**

Members were asked to read the report, and consider whether the proposed process was appropriate. If so, then the costings will need to be updated and the report on processes submitted to the OSG who will decide whether or not to proceed with a project. **All**

8 ROWIP Actions

The actions for the ROWIP that need to be overseen and delivered by the MTG will be forwarded by the Secretariat. Members to look at these and: **SB**

1. decide whether or not they are appropriate for the MTG;
2. come up with suggestions and ideas as to how the targets are going to be met. **All**

9 AOB

Lis Fell & Mike Bartholomew would like to receive copies of the minutes and other papers in hard copy format. **SB**

10 Date of next Meeting

- 12 June 2008, 10am, Sedbergh Tourist Information Centre, Sedbergh

Annex 2

CUMBRIA COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS PARTNERSHIP

NOTES OF IMPROVEMENT TASK GROUP MEETING HELD AT MURLEY MOSS 10.00am – 3 March 2008

Present:	Barney Hill (Chair)	LDNPA
	David Robinson (Secretary)	LDNPA
	Ralph Henderson	Lake District LAF
	Jean Rogers	Cumbria LAF
	Mark Allum	Yorkshire Dales NPA
	Ian Brodie (for agenda item 6)	Rambler's Association

Apologies: Kate Doughty (Natural England), Andrew Coleman (CCC)

ACTION

1 Welcome

The Group was informed that Tony Iles would be the Ramblers Association representative for this Group. Representatives for both the National Trust and the Yorkshire Dales LAF were yet to be decided.

DR to invite Tony Iles to next meeting.

2 ITG minutes 18 January 2008 and matters arising

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record. It was agreed that the Group should comment on the feasibility study into the Coast to Coast mountain bike route.

DR to circulate draft report

3 CCA Feedback – Minutes of OSG 24 January 2008

BH highlighted items of relevance to the ITG from the last OSG meeting. The OSG has agreed to the National Trust's request for a place on each Task Group as a major landowner proactively providing countryside access

The OSG has agreed to meet quarterly and the Task Groups will follow this schedule.

The CCAP is to continue to use BVPI 178 as an indicator. The Ramblers Association has been tasked with reviewing the current methodology. It was also reported that NPA's in England and Wales have also been asked to review this BVPI.

MA reported that the YDNPA has also dedicated property as open access, including those in Cumbria.

CCC views the LDNPA work on access to lakes, rivers and the coast as a pilot and will be happy to consider contributing to it as and when necessary.

The PTG is looking at branding for the partnership. It is also working on a

CCA website which will be a portal to partners own websites. CCC has agreed in principle to host and maintain the portal site.
The OSG agreed that all Task Groups should operate a Red, Amber, Green progress reporting system. The Reds and ambers to be reported to the OSG quarterly.

4 Annual Action Plan status report

This is a quarterly status report to the OSG and the Partnership Board on progress of actions in the 2008 – 09 annual action plan. Lead partners will be asked to provide these for each ITG meeting and amber and red reports will be reported back to the OSG each quarter.

All lead partners to submit RAG status reports to ITG every quarter. DR to ensure that all partners, including CCC, the CDO, Carlisle City Council, Solway and North Pennines AONBs, are aware of this.

Barney explained that he had split up the ROWIP Annual Action Plan into three parts: one for each task group. He had had no comments back from Simon Wilson or Dave Gibson, so would assume that each task group is happy with the split.

MA asked whether cycle friendly towns should be part of the PTG rather than ITG work programme. BH ageed that it is a fine line but it should remain with the ITG because the focus is on infra-structure improvements such as signing.

Cumbria County Council should be added after the Cycling Development Officer to show the organisation he represents.

IB stated that main beneficiaries are recreational users and that there is a growing number of people using routes for other pastimes such as natural history, bird watching etc. and these audiences should be thought of when the ROWIP is reviewed.

There was a discussion regarding the National Trust's policy on sponsorship and donations – that they will not allow sponsors or donors to be specify a project to give money to but that funds have to go to a central pot which the NT distribute themselves. It was thought that CCAP could possibly set up a better and more coordinated system for access donations and legacies.

BH to raise this with OSG.

IB reminded partners that improvement work on registered commons may need Secretary of State approval, so seeking legal opinion when proposing works is important.

5 Satisfaction surveys

DR introduced this item. The Group broadly agreed to the recommendations subject to some amendments. The recommendations now read as follows:

BH to take to OSG for consideration

1. That we produce a brief for satisfaction surveys based on the relevant actions in the ROWIP and invite consultants to tender for it.

2. The tender should outline the work involved and should include: target audiences for the satisfaction survey; an audit of current surveys undertaken by the partners and survey data, both local and national, that is available; an analysis of whether the existing surveys could provide useful data for us, if questions are added; development of the content and

methodology of a new survey (if needed); and a timetable for such a survey. There should also be a flexible approach to survey delivery in that volunteers could be used where appropriate. It should be designed so that the partners can 'pick it up and run with it' for repeat surveys.

3. A steering group made up primarily from members of the Promotion Task Group but also including members of the Improvement and Maintenance Task Groups should oversee the project.

4. A budget of £15000 should be set aside for this project. The methodology should be robust enough to be repeated at least once during the five year span of the ROWIP. Further funding will be needed if the survey is to be repeated more often.

5. The surveys should take place over the summer of 2008 to provide a baseline from which the effectiveness of the ROWIP can be tested in five years time. The consultants should deliver a lessons learnt report after the baseline surveys are complete.

6. Arnside Viaduct

IB introduced this item. It has a strategic context with the North West Discovery Trail and the fact that the NWDA and Cumbria Vision are on board with this project. Discussion focussed on funding, whether there would be support from Network Rail and the difficulty in providing access at either end of the viaduct. BH stated that it scored highly in the ROWIP as a walkway and cycleway and the priority for us is to link it into the strategic cycle network. But, the annual action plan was already complete and there would be a capacity issue if it was to be added to the 2008 – 09 work programme.

BH to make recommendations to OSG

After discussion, it was agreed that the potential for a feasibility study should be be explored further, and that such a study would need to have several elements. The Group felt that different partners would be best suited to delivering different elements. These partners are suggested in brackets.

- Design and construction of a cycleway/walkway on the viaduct, to include costings (Network Rail)
- Access and egress from the viaduct on the northern side (LDNPA)
- Access and egress from the viaduct on the southern side (CCC)
- Other issues such as long term maintenance and public liability (CCC)

The Group agreed to recommend to the OSG that –

- Cumbria County Council is invited to lead on this project, with support coming from the LDNPA and other partners.
- CCC explores the costs of producing a feasibility study with Network Rail and other interested parties, and to bring these back to the Operational Steering Group, with recommendations as to how, or whether, to take the study forward in 2008/09.
- If the study is to be taken forward, the partners identified in brackets above are then invited to carry out the four elements of

the feasibility study.

7. The membership of the Access For All subgroup

DR introduced this item. The amended remit of the Group was circulated. Mark Tennant had not replied to DR's initial contact. The revised remit was agreed. BH noted that the Lake District LAF may wish to consider whether their access for all sub-group should continue.

DR to discuss sub-group with Mark Tennant

8. Dates of next meetings

The following meeting dates and venue have been confirmed: 2 June 2008, 3 September 2008 and 17 November 2008, all 10:00am at Murley Moss.

Annex 3

CUMBRIA COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS PARTNERSHIP

NOTES OF PROMOTION TASK GROUP MEETING HELD AT MURLEY MOSS, KENDAL 10.00am – 6th March 2008

Present:	Simon Wilson (Chair)	North Pennines AONB Partnership
	Paul Everson (Secretary)	North Pennines AONB Partnership
	Andrea Bonacker	Cumbria County Council
	Nick Lloyd	Cumbria Local Access Forum
	David Robinson	Lake District National Park Authority
	Joanne Moysey	Natural England
	Peter Jones	Ramblers Association

ACTION

1 Welcome, Apologies and Introductions

SW welcomed everyone to the third meeting of the Promotion Task Group (PTG).

Apologies were received from: David Askew (Arnside & Silverdale AONB); Tony Brunskill (Cumbria Tourism); Judith Moore (Friends of the Lake District); Wendy Emmett (Lake District Local Access Forum); Rose Wolfe (Solway Coast AONB); Andy Ryland (Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority).

2 OSG Meeting Feedback and Minutes of 24 Jan 2008

SW outlined feedback from the OSG meeting held on 24 January 2008 (copy previously circulated):

Feedback specific to PTG

- Tourism & Conservation Partnership: SW to make contact with Claire Chapman to explain further the role of CCA and the potential outputs for the fundraising body. **SW**

- Agreement to include separate columns on the work programme to identify capital and volunteer breakdown.

- OSG considered branding to be very important (see item 6, below).

Meeting Frequency

The OSG also agreed to meet on a quarterly basis in future. The frequency of meetings of Task Groups and Sub Groups would also therefore be reduced accordingly. Group members welcomed this. To help attendance, the group also agreed that members could deputise if required.

3 Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the PTG meeting held on 17 January 2008 were agreed as a true record.

Matters Arising

Venue of meetings (item 1): SW reminded all to email PE (paul@northpenninesaonb.org.uk) with a note of where travelling to meetings from, to help identify the most convenient and sustainable venues for future meetings (with thanks to those who had already provided this information). To date, most likely venues will be Kendal, Penrith and Carlisle. NL offered to check availability of meeting room at the River Eden Trust as a possible venue for a future meeting. **ALL** **NL**

Feedback from Promotional workshop (item 1): SW emailed PTG feedback from workshop held at Skirsgill again. PE to forward copy to Nick Lloyd. **PE**

Terms of Reference (item 3): These have now been finalised and agreed by the OSG. SW to forward copy to group members. **SW**

Countryside Volunteering (item 4): AB to email group to develop thoughts on how best to contribute to the group. **AB**

National Trust membership of Task Groups (item 5): SW reported that the OSG had agreed the NT be invited to be a member of all 3 Task Groups.

4 2007 – 08 Activity Expenditure Summary

SW reminded the group of the background to this and referred to the summary (previously circulated) showing North Pennines AONB figures.

Group members had been asked to provide figures for their respective organisations in advance of the meeting. SW expressed thanks to those who had done so, but it was noted that figures were outstanding from a number of organisations. Once these are received, SW to collate them, leading to the development of a meaningful work programme for 2008-09.

As suggested at the first Task Group meeting, DR re-iterated that it would be useful for all to provide a simple note of what we do with regards to promotion of access in Cumbria. To assist this, SW and DR to provide a template for all to complete. **ALL**

5 2008 – 09 Work Programme & ROWIP Action Plan Reporting

SW referred to the original Work Programme template (circulated at previous meetings) and highlighted the need for this to be developed to more readily reflect the actions in the ROWIP.

The Status Report for the ROWIP was previously circulated. From this, SW to develop 2008 – 09 programme, listing what will be achieved. **SW**

Following discussion, it was agreed that whilst 'red' and 'amber' status was the priority, it was felt that 'green' targets needed to be reviewed on an ongoing basis, both to help show good and bad practice, and also to be able to report success / achievements to the OSG at times as necessary.

6 CCA Branding

SW reported that the OSG consider branding to be very important. He suggested the need for a Sub Group to progress this (possibly to include David Nightingale, Tony Brunskill, Keri Smith and Jane Watson).

7 CCA Website

SW introduced a paper (previously circulated) considering the issues in developing and managing the CCA website.

As described in the paper, SW explained that the website would become a 'home' for meeting papers (which need to be publicly available) as well as a 'signposting' site for the public to get information on access in Cumbria. The likely development and maintenance costs are detailed in the paper, together with the need for content editors.

SW explained that the content editors would be formed as a Sub Group of the Promotion Task Group and he offered to lead on this. **SW**

The group felt there is a strong link between website development and the branding issue (item 6, above), and that branding will be directed by how the website looks. Recommendations agreed.

8 Long Distance Routes

PJ introduced a paper (previously circulated) regarding long distance cycling, equestrian and walking routes.

He expressed disappointment over the lack of feedback from his first document. Since then, it has been restructured and re-presented as a set of proposals. He requested further feedback (by email) to ensure the right assumptions have been made. **ALL**

Following discussion, SW suggested the need for a Sub Group to set criteria for which routes we would want to promote. PJ agreed to initiative email group involving user representatives from the Wider Reference Group organisations with a view to generating criteria and list of routes to take to the OSG **PJ**

9 Indicators / Monitoring

SW advised of the need to develop indicators in terms of promotion. Satisfaction Surveys are one, but being dealt with separately. Need to develop realistic, worthwhile, measurable indicators – e.g. number of users / health / economy ?

SW to progress and circulate thoughts. **SW**

10 ROWIP Satisfaction Survey

DR introduced a paper (previously circulated) to consider the issues in developing a system of satisfaction surveying against ROWIP indicators.

11 out of the 32 actions in the Cumbria ROWIP have a satisfaction performance indicator (listed in para 1.2). There are a number of other

actions that lend themselves to satisfaction surveys (para. 1.4), resulting in a total of 16 overall actions.

The paper also describes the issues relating to the delivery of these surveys (para 2.1), the two options (para 2.3), and survey techniques (para 2.4).

In agreement with the Improvements Task Group, the group agreed the need for 'contracting out' due to time and to ensure consistency.

A number of changes to the recommendations were agreed:

3.1 Replace 'eleven' with 'relevant' (to encompass the additional actions listed in para 1.4)
3.2 Remove the references to repeating the survey in later years (due to funding issues).

It was also agreed to delete recommendation 3.5.

11 Any Other Business

SW sought information on 'Access to Nature' funding. JM explained that this is being administered by Garreth Lawler in their Manchester office. The focus is on 'community'. The funding is to be available from April 08 and will offer grants from £50K to £500K.

In response to a query from SW, DR suggested there was scope to work together to develop a suitable application. SW to seek the view of the OSG in relation to developing a Cumbria-wide project. **SW**

12 Subsequent meeting arrangements

The following meeting dates were agreed, in light of the dates set for OSG meetings (all to start at 10am unless advised otherwise):

- **Tuesday 3rd June 2008** (venue: Natural England, Penrith office) **ALL to note**
- **Tuesday 2nd September 2008** (venue TBA)
- **Wednesday 26th November** (venue TBA)

Annex 4

CUMBRIA COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS PARTNERSHIP

NOTES OF OPERATIONAL STEERING GROUP MEETING HELD IN THE BOARDROOM, CREA OFFICES, REDHILLS 11.00am – 13th March 2008

Present:	Rob Terwey (Chair)	Cumbria County Council
	Simon Boyd (Secretary)	Cumbria County Council
	Andrew Coleman	Cumbria County Council
	Mark Eccles (Vice Chair)	Lake District National Park Authority
	Kathryn Beardmore	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
	Barney Hill	Chair of ITG
	David Gibson	Chair of MTG
	Simon Wilson	Chair of PTG
Apologies:	Duncan Graham	
	Phil Gray	

ACTION

1 Welcome and Apologies

RT welcomed everyone to the fifth meeting of the Operational Steering Group.

Apologies were received from Duncan Graham and Phil Gray.

The OSG agreed the idea of having named substitutes at the meeting should the need arise. All to provide named substututes. **All**

2 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record subject to two minor amendments on Page 2 (Item 3 – Matters Arising) and Page 4 (Item 4 Task Group Reports). **SB**

3 Matters Arising

RT reported under Item 3 that admin support for the Partnership Board was still being sought. The County Council's Member Services team do not have spare capacity to take on this role. The issue was raised by RT at the Partnership Board but remains unresolved. **RT**

SB reported under Item 3 that clarification on whether Cumbria Constabulary had provision for rural community officers was sought through a meeting with Sgt Andy Baines. Cumbria Constabulary do not have the resources to fund this post at the present time. Andy Baines is happy to signpost issues to the relevant community officers. The OSG is keen to have a more strategic input from Cumbria Constabulary and RT will contact Assistant Chief Constable Graham Sunderland. **RT**

DRAFT

AC reported under Item 3 that the Ramblers Associaton (RA) had been invited to submit 3 performance management indicator ideas to replace the lost BVPI 178 indicator with the introduction of the new National Indicator set. The RA will be discussing at a meeting on 12th April, and will report back by the end of April. **AC**

DJG reported under Item 3 that the Definitive Map Sub Group has not yet been established. The MTG will be considering a report from Capita on the proposed development of the map at their next meeting, and from this will make recommendations on the work of the group for approval by the OSG. **DJG**
KB offered to pass on the YDNPAs lessons learnt from their own digitisation exercise to DJG. **KB**

RT reported on Item 3 that the Progress Review document for the LTP will be written in Summer 08 highlighting the merging of the LTP and ROWIP. The OSG will be copied into the content. **RT**

SB reported on Item 3 that an invitation letter had been written to John Darlington at The National Trust. No reply on the nominations for the Maintenance and Improvement Task Groups have yet been received.

AC reported that an active participation protocol has been added to the CCA Partnership Arrangements.

AC reported under Item 4 that the extent of land holdings owned by CCC had not yet been established. RT advised that each Corporate Director has responsbility for recording their Directorates assets, and that there is no one single point of contact. AC to investigate further and if indeed any land parcels should be considered for dedication as Open Access land. **AC**
KB added that the YDNPA through their LAF are seeking to dedicate higher rights on their land ownership.

DJG reported under Item 4 that an approach had been made to Jim Smith (Senior Area Engineer) for representation on the CCA MPV Sub Group. Jim had reported that there were no resources to make this possible and any problems/issues should be reported to the Highways Hotline.

AC reported under Item 4 that the funding contribution request received by Carlisle City Council had been clarified. All NW local authorities had received similar letters for funding to assist with the continuation of the NW Discovery Trail project officer post.

RT reported under Item 4 that a strategic policy framework for access to water was discussed at the Partnership Board. LDNPA would remain the lead body on undertaking this study but support would be offered from other partners as it progressed. **AC**

AC reported under Item 4 that copies of the bi-annual place survey consultation will be circulated to the OSG by e-mail. The Partnership Board had discussed the issue and decided:

- If the indicator is in the survey then use it
- A BVPI will be required to address satisfaction. Cumbria Strategic Partnership will continue to use BVPI
- The Citizens Panel could also be used to gauge user satisfaction.

DRAFT

The panel is available three times a year.

SW reported under Item 4 that a response was still being sought from the Tourism and Conservation Partnership as to whether they will continue to be involved in the PTG.

AC reported under Item 6 that CROWLIG had been informed about the proposed role and remit of the wider reference group by the OSG, and the opportunity to engage in CCA through this channel. It was understood that CROWLIG had agreed to disband and to play an active role in CCA, noting that the partnership arrangements would be reviewed after one year.

4 Task Group Reports

Maintenance Task Group (MTG)
DJG reported the following feedback from the last MTG meeting. The OSG commented where applicable:

The MTG wondered whether there could be some identification on CCA minutes to establish which part of the partnership they represent. SB will work on a suitable footnote. **SB**

The MTG members were happy to meet on a quarterly basis in line with the OSG.

The MPV Sub Group held its first meeting and Steve Pighills was elected as the Chair. The secretary role will be agreed at the next meeting. **DJG**

The first area of work for the MPV Sub Group will be to assess the Unclassified County Road (UCRs) routes which are promoted on the CCC web site as having vehicular rights. The Sub Group will need to establish and maintain contact with landowners.

DJG reported the views of Michael Bartholomew (representing YDNPA LAF) and his concern over the promotion of UCR routes. DJG referred to the DEFRA guidance on this, and the concern of other members as to whether it was appropriate for a LAF representative on the task group to lobby for a specific quiet green lanes policy.

RT advised that LAF representatives within the Task Groups should really express the “whole” views of their LAF - which should include differing views if the LAF does not have a consensus of opinion on an issue. It was important to ensure that everyone’s views are fairly listened to and that meeting protocols are upheld by the Chairs of the Task Groups. **RT**
RT offered to take this matter back to the Board to confirm this point.

DJG reported on the ciruclated paper from Steve Pighills that would clarify UCRs within the Cumbria wide Hierarchy of Trail Routes Programme. The OSG members would return comments to DJG by 20.03.08 after which this paper would be circulated to MTG members. **ALL DJG**

DJG reported on the web site suggestions from Steve Pighills for the UCR web pages hosted by Cumbria County Council. The OSG decided that a Sub Group of DJG, KB and David Robinson should agree the wording of the web pages. This will then be ciruclated to OSG members. **DJG, KB, DR**

DRAFT

DJG reported that both the Capita Symonds report on the Definitive Map project and ROWIP Annual Action Plan documents had been circulated to members for comments.

Improvement Task Group (ITG)
BH reported the following feedback from the last ITG meeting. The OSG commented where applicable:

The ROWIP Annual Action Plan has been split into requisite actions for MTG, ITG and PTG. These will be submitted using a "traffic light" report to the OSG on a quarterly basis. Those reported as "red/amber" will set out the issues involved and the support required to turn them "green".

The ITG wondered whether there could be better leverage of funding if bids for some projects were coordinated around the county. The LDNPA would like to know more on the CCC ROWIP Intereg bid for example and perhaps conversely the LDNPA proposed bid to Access to Nature through Big Lottery funding. The OSG agreed that a funding sub group should be established. **BH/AC**

Satisfaction Survey
The ITG tabled the satisfaction survey paper at its last meeting and received additional comments through the PTG. The ITG recommended two possible ways forward:

1. Simply use relevant actions in the ROWIP

2. The ITG produce a brief for satisfaction surveys based on the relevant actions in the ROWIP and invite consultants to tender for it. The tender would outline work involved and should include target audiences and an audit of the existing surveys that partners undertake. There should be a flexible approach to survey delivery – perhaps volunteers could be used where appropriate. It should also be designed so that partners can 'pick it up and run with it' for repeat surveys.

The first survey should take place in Summer 08 so that a baseline can be established before any ROWIP improvements take place.

A £15,000 budget is estimated to undertake this work. The costs would be split proportionally between the access authorities. The work could be taken forward by a sub or steering group.

The OSG agreed that this was an excellent report and that a sub group should take this work forward. The survey should look to be undertaken on an annual basis. **BH**

Arnside Viaduct
The ITG received a paper on the Arnside Viaduct project at their last meeting, presented by Ian Brodie. The County Council were not represented at the ITG.

The ITG made it clear that a walkway across the viaduct was not a priority in the ROWIP, however a walkway combined with a cycelway would score much more highly. The ITG recommended that a feasibility study with

DRAFT

Network Rail and other partners be explored.

Promotion Task Group (PTG)
SW reported the following feedback from the last PTG meeting, the OSG commented where applicable:

Both the Annual Action Plan and user satisfaction paper were covered and supported at the last meeting.

Branding was discussed at the meeting and the PTG members thought that this should be web led.

The audit of PTG activity is still ongoing and will form the creation of a work plan for next year.

The PTG have found it difficult to identify indicators to measure promotional work. Suggestions included satisfaction surveys, present publicity, attendance at events and media profiles. Further work will be undertaken on this. **SW**

Attendance at the last meeting was low and dates for future meetings have been set and circulated around the group. There has been no representation from the Forestry Commission – this needs to be followed up. **SB/SW**

5 CCA Web Site

SW reported that a paper on the CCA web site was taken to the last PTG meeting. It outlined that the site would be a geographically based portal, with a separate section for information on the CCA Partnership – particularly access to the meeting papers, agendas and minutes.

There would be clear development and design costs. SW estimated £2,000 for a small site plus a hosting fee. There would also be a need to content manage the site when it has been established, this could be done by a small group of PTG members.

SW has had difficulty in contacting Joanne Claxton (Senior Corporate Web Development Officer) to assess if the County Council could host the proposed site. The domain name www.cumbriacountrysideaccess.org.uk has already been purchased. SB will contact Joanne Claxton and feedback to SW. **SB**

RT will assist by contacting Cumbria Tourism so that they can offer any advice on web site design and hosting. **RT**

The PTG suggested that a small sub group should work up the site structure and design before tendering to designers. The OSG supported this. **SW**

The PTG thought that the funding costs for the web site should be born by all key partners involved in both the CCA Partnership and promotion work.

DRAFT

This could include CCC, LDNPA, YDNPA, Cumbria Tourism and the AONBs. The OSG agreed that the cost of the web site should first be identified by the PTG and then the partners can agree funding. **SW**

6 Performance Management

BVPI

DJG reported that the MTG thought that by fully filling out the surveying form then the data required for the 'ease of use' and 'not on the definitive line' could be derived. The form could also be adapted to measure customer satisfaction. Consideration would also be given to the work being undertaken on BVPI by the Association of National Parks.

The OSG thought that a measure of the use of Rights of Way should also be established, perhaps this could be achieved through counters on representative routes around the county.

The OSG agreed that:

- BVPI could be tweaked so that a single survey provides data for both 'ease of use' and 'not on the definitive line'
- Partners to agree representative Rights of Way to measure use. **ALL**

7 Long Distance Routes

SW reported that a paper on long distance routes was tabled by Peter Jones (Ramblers Association) and discussed at the last PTG meeting. The OSG discussed the subject and agreed:

- Criteria determining what is a long distance route will be agreed by the OSG **ALL SW**
- Consideration in determing a long distance route should also consider maintenance and waymarking implications
- The PTG should identify those long distance routes which are no longer fit for purpose.

8 Wider Reference Group

AC reported that the Terms of Reference for the Wider Reference Group (WRG) have been amended following OSG suggestions at the last meeting. The OSG agreed the drafted Terms.

The OSG agreed to remove organisations from the WRG which are already involved in the CCA Partnership e.g. CCC, LDNPA, YDNPA, NT, Ramblers Association and Cumbria Fire & Rescue Service. **SB**

The OSG agreed that an invitation letter should be sent out, perhaps including a paragraph on the Annual Workshop. **SB/AC**

9 CCA Annual Workshop

The OSG discussed the planning of a CCA Annual Workshop. The OSG agreed that a sub group of the PTG should tackle the organisation of the event and invite help from organisations on the WRG. **SW**

DRAFT

10 Any Other Business

BH reported on the Natural England (NE) Higher Level Stewardship – targetting for access. NE has five priority themes – Historic Environment; Biodiversity; Access; Landscape; and Resource Protection (flood risk etc.)

The target map is based on 1km grid squares with a population of or over 1,500 plotted against existing access provision. The access data sets used were:

- Public Rights of Way
- CROW access land
- National Nature Reserves
- Local Nature Reserves
- Woods for People
- English Heritage parks & gardens
- National Trust land

NE have indicated that they would like comments and additional information submitting by 11.04.2008. The contact officer in the NW region is Anna Righton.

BH suggested that a Cumbria wide approach be adopted and BH will speak with Mark Eccles as to whether this can be co-ordinated by Dave Robinson. **BH**

BH also suggested that the ROWIP proposals density map is a more appropraite mapping tool to be used for this area of work. The OSG agreed. **BH/AC**

11 Date of Next Meetings

The following meeting dates and venues have been confirmed for Operational Steering Group meetings:

- 18th June 2008, 10am, Council Chamber, County Hall, Kendal.
- 16th September 2008, 11.30am, Boardroom, CREA, Redhills, Penrith.
- 9th December 2008, 10am, Windermere Room, Skirsgill Depot, Penrith.

The following meeting dates and venues have been confirmed for Partnership Board meetings:

- 16th September 2008, 9.30am, Boardroom, CREA, Redhills, Penrith.

DRAFT

Item No. 9

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 23 September 2008

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 3 September 2008. The minutes of this meeting will be circulated at the meeting. The next meeting will be on 4 March 2009.

Access for All Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Access for All Advisory Group will be on 14 November 2008.

Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Bridelways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group will be on 8 October 2008.

Air Sports Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Air Sports Advisory Group will be on 13February 2009.

Water Sports Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Water Sports Advisory Group will be on 2 December 2008.

Rock Sports Advisory Group

The first meeting of the Rock Sports Advisory Group will be on 22 October 2008.

Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group

The next meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group will be in October 2008.

Rachel Briggs
5 September 2008

Annex 1

Minutes of Meeting of Access on Foot Advisory Group Held on Wednesday 5 March 2008 Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes

Present:

Michael Bartholomew (MB)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Brian Jones (BJ)	Ramblers Association
John Brock (JB)	Ramblers Association
Howard Medlock (HM)	Ramblers Association
Ernie Robin (ER)	Ramblers Association
Malcolm Petyt (MP)	Ramblers Association
David Gibson (DG)	Ramblers Association
Bernard Ellis (BE)	Ramblers Association
John Sparshatt (JS)	Long Distance Walkers Association

YDNPA Officers present:

Alan Hulme (AH)	Ranger Service Manager
Rachel Briggs (RB)	Access Development Officer
Steve Hastie (SH)	Area Ranger, Ribblesdale
Matt Neale (MN)	Area Ranger, Upper Wenlseydale
James Lamb (JL)	Area Ranger, Swaledale
Phil Richards (PR)	Area Ranger, Lower Wharfedale
Hannah Fawcett (HF)	Wildlife Conservation Officer

1. Welcome and apologies

MB welcomed everyone to the meeting. Introductions were made.

Apologies were received from Ken Miller (KM), Mike Shearing (MS), Peter Bradfield (PB) Keith Wadd (KW) and Ernie Robins (ER).

2. Approval of the notes of the last meeting

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

Matters Arising from the notes

MB asked for an update on Grimwith Reservoir. PR said that there had been a meeting of the YDNPA, Yorkshire Water and the land agents. They had come to the agreement that there were to be three new access points onto the moor and that the work would be completed (and funded) by Yorkshire Water by mid April. MB thanked PR for all his work on this matter.

3. Terms of reference

MP questioned the meaning of point 2(iii). It was agreed that this needed to be kept as broad as possible but that 'in relation to access' should be added to read:

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

It was agreed that point 6 should be amended to read:

6. The Chair of the group will be elected on an annual basis.

It was agreed that point 7 should be amended to read:

7. The secretariat will be provided by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

RB to amend the terms of reference.

4. Work Programme

AH asked members of the group to think about topics for discussion and areas of work for subsequent meetings. Anything mentioned throughout the meeting would be placed on a flipchart and incorporated into future agendas.

5. Open Access Management and Development Plan

AH presented the draft plan and asked members of the group for comments. He explained that it had been to the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum and that it would go to Access Committee on 17 April. It will then be reviewed annually.

Section 1.0

There were no comments on section 1.0.

Section 2.0

BJ asked about funding for open access and whether the costs are high. AH explained that open access is funded by Defra and is part of the main National Park settlement. It is therefore, the decision of members as to what priority open access is for the National Park and what proportion of the budget it receives.

MB asked if the additional work for the Rangers on open access has meant that work on public rights of way has been diluted. AH told members of the group that four additional Access Rangers were employed in 2001 to cover the additional duties. JB asked for an example of the work carried out on access land. SH explained that there had been boundary work i.e. crossing points and access points created, promotion of certain trails where there had been nature conservation concerns prior to launch in May 2005, monitoring of SSSI's etc and the management of restrictions and fire closures.

Section 3.0
MP said that the figure of access land going from 4% to 62% is not realistic as it suggests an overnight increase of 58% and does not take into account that there was some previous tolerated access. It should say it was an increase to 'access as of right'.

MB expressed a concern with regards to the 62% figure of open access. He didn't feel the number of people using access land reflected the amount of land available as much of the terrain is not suitable for walking on.

There was a question as to what the figure may be in 3.3(g). AH said he had changed this slightly and would be measuring the number of brand new pieces of infrastructure as well as the number of existing pieces of infrastructure that had been enhanced and that the YDNPA had taken over the responsibility for. AH told members of the group that by March 2009 there will be a full list of infrastructure available.

MP asked AH if an example of how the Relevant Authority Guidance (RAG) has been used for a restriction, be taken to a future meeting. This was agreed.

MB had some concerns over how information was getting to the public via the website. He suggested an area for comments. AH said he would look into it.

Section 4.0
There were no comments on section 4.0.

Section 5.0
MP suggested splitting this section to make it more coherent. The suggestion was that 5.1 – 5.2 be section 5.0 and that everything else comes under a new section.

MB queried the performance indicators in 5.4 (g). AH said these would be decided by officers but asked if anyone had any other ideas for accountable performance indicators to let him know.

Section 6.0
DG thought that there should be a sentence stating that Natural England no longer fund open access and that funding is now from Defra.

DG suggested that 6.3 should say that where open access is priority C in the YDNPA work programmes, that this is the third of a list of 5 (A, B, C, D, E).

Section 7.0
There were no comments on section 7.0.

AH to make the amendments to the draft plan. Any drafting points to be sent to AH separately.

Open Access Action Plan

MP asked if the plan had a time period and if so could it have a date on it. AH said that it should say for 2008-2013.
BJ noted that the columns didn't work quite right and that they should be looked at.

Principle a)
MB asked about the newsletter that is sent to landowners. BK asked if the members of the Access on Foot Advisory Group could be added to the distribution list. AH agreed.

BJ asked what liaison there had been with the users. AH said that open access had been in the Visitor (the YDNP free newspaper) and that there was up to date information on the website. MB suggested that the information on the website could be improved. BJ thought that training for National Park Centre staff was essential.

Principle b)
HF asked if there had been any monitoring of breeding bird sites or had the monitoring just been on SSSI's? SH explained that most of the SSSI's took in the main breeding bird areas.

Principle c)
MB asked what the YDNPA could do to help navigation skills. MN explained that pathfinder training courses are run twice a year. AH saw this as an area of work the Access on Foot Advisory Group could address.

Principle d)
MP thought that 1 new stile/gate per ranger area per year was modest. AH said that this would equate to 40 new pieces of infrastructure over the five years of the plan. He also stressed that this was new infrastructure and did not cover all the infrastructure that already exists and maintained by the rangers.

AH to make the appropriate amendments to the Action Plan and to recirculate to members after Access Committee on 17 April 2008.

6. Why people don't complain

AH explained that the paper was put together by ER after discussions at the previous meeting.

JS began by saying that he finds it hard to complain about access issues. He thought an area on the website saying 'Comments on the Rights of Way' would be a good idea.

AH told members that he had been collating comments since the 22 January and that to date the YDNPA had received 22 reports of issues on PROW. Reports, in the main, come directly to the ranger as most reports come from the Ramblers Association. However, others come in through the global email linked to the website. He also explained that the Dales Volunteers do parish path surveys of all the PROW so that all issues are picked up within a two year cycle.

MB summed up the discussion by saying that YDNPA officers are on the case and have a programme in place where comments are picked up. He added that all complaints should be acknowledged on receipt and once the problem had been rectified. This would be done where appropriate.

7. Minutes from the Access for All Advisory Group

The minutes from the Access for All Advisory Group were noted.

8. Member Round Up

MN told members of the group that a bridge was currently being installed at Cotter End.

SH had a question with regards to responsibility on PROW.

JL informed the group that he had been doing some work in Arkengarthdale, as reported by JB.

9. Any Other Business

The issue of planning applications with implication on PROW was raised.

HM said that planning applications don't always show the PROW. DG reiterated this and said that John Prescott had taken away the requirement to show the PROW in attempt to speed up the process. He added that this was been added back in as a requirement on planning applications.

MN went through the stages of a planning application to clear up any issues.

The date of the next meeting will be 3 September. The meeting will start at 1.30 and will be held at the Dales Countryside Museum. The Ramblers Association representatives will meet at 12.30 for a lunch time meeting.

A representative from the Duke of Edinburgh Award to be invited.

Annex 2

Unapproved Minutes of Meeting of Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group Held on Tuesday 18 March 2008 Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes

Present:

Zahra Smedley (ZS)	British Horse Society
Ross Sutill (RS)	British Horse Society
John Pitcher (JP)	The Bike Livery
Stuart Price (JP)	Dales Mountain Biking
Duncan Morrison (DM)	Mountain biker
Pat Whelan (PW)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Deborah Millward (DMi)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Ken Miller (KM)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Rachel Briggs (RB)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Mark Allum (MA)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Gareth Evans (GE)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Paul Wilkinson (PW)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

1. Format of Meetings

RB explained to members of the group that the Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group (BARBAG) had been established to look at specific issues, surrounding recreational activities, that were outside of the remit of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum (YDAF). Reports from each of the Advisory Groups would be taken back to the YDAF. Therefore, it would be beneficial for the Chair of the group to be a member of the YDAF for reporting purposes. The BARBAG agreed that KM should be the Chair.

KM elected as the Chair of the BARBAG.

KM went through the terms of reference for the group. It was agreed that a sentence should be included so as to allow others to join the group where appropriate.

The terms of reference were agreed and adopted by the BARBAG

2. Presentation on Carriage Driving

PW gave a presentation on carriage driving, and in particular carriage driving in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. She explained that she, along with another local representative of the British Driving Society (BDS), were researching possible circular routes for carriage drivers. It was thought that this would help officers of the YDNPA and that eventually a joint leaflet of routes could be produced.

KM asked about parking issues as he was not aware of any provision for horse box parking in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. GE added that Stainforth car park has recently been refurbished and now includes larger bays for horse boxes as well as

mounting blocks. It was agreed that this could be an area for the group to look at – to identify suitable car parks for designated parking areas.

3. Presentation on the Pennine Bridleway

GE gave a presentation on the Pennine Bridleway (PBW) and in particular the 52mile section running through the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

There were some concerns from SP and DM that the work on the PBW has created a route that is no longer a challenge to them. DMi reminded them that the PBW National Trail is also for horses and that it should be created with horse riders in mind. GE reiterated this and said that the route is for everyone – horse riders, cyclists and walkers.

KM asked about gate latches in relation to use by disabled users. He asked that trombone handles be used wherever appropriate.

GE invited SP and DM on a site visit to look at areas of the PBW that had not yet been improved.

RB to arrange a site visit for SP and DM to look at the PBW.

4. Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority – Planned Works

Horsehead Pass

SP thought that Horsehead pass was in a challenging ride for mountain bikers and asked that it be left alone. MA explained that the work was for drainage and not resurfacing. SP accepted that this work was necessary although still concerned.

RB to ask Iain Mann to discuss with SP before any works take place

Reeth High Moor

It was explained that this work was some resurfacing on the circular route from Surrender Mill.

Other Works

There are some planned works to the cobbles at the tunnels area of Thwaite Lane in Clapham. This is because horses can't currently get up the slope. DM and SP asked if mountain bikers could be consulted on this work as the new surface will mean that mountain bikes will no longer be able to get up the slope.

RB to ask Steve Hastie to talk through the work with SP and DM

KM asked if officers of the YDNPA could work with officers from NYCC and CCC on routes that crossed boundaries. He had a particular issue with a route from West Scrafton which crosses into Nidderdale and then stops. MA said that officers were aware of problems of

routes crossing into Nidderdale and that there had been discussion with NYCC and Nidderdale AONB.

DM asked if there was the possibility of a Horton link which would go from Old Ing to Harber Scar Lane. MA said that we were aware of the usefulness of such a link and have looked at the two possible options in the past.

MA to investigate if a link is now possible

KM asked what information was available on mountain biking in the Yorkshire Dales. GE directed him to www.mtbthedales.org.uk. MA added that they are hoping to have downloadable pdf's on the website soon.

5. Action Plan for the Group

SP asked if the YDNPA would consider doing some surfacing works to the bridleway from Tan Hill to Great Punchard Gill. He recognises that this is a high remote moorland area and that any work would have to be sensitive to this.

MA will discuss with James Lamb

PW asked for support from the group to contact the Ministry of Defence (MoD) with regards to access to Downholme Moor in Swaledale. It was agreed that RB would speak to JL about setting up a meeting with the MoD.

KM thought that it made sense to have good circular routes from the two main horse trekking centres in the Yorkshire Dales in Malham and Arkengarthdale. In particular the bridleway between Langthwaite and Fremington was mentioned as a bridleway that is currently unusable to horse riders.

MA will discuss with James Lamb

6. Any Other Business

KM asked one of the mountain bikers would do a presentation at the next meeting.

SP or DM to give a presentation on mountain biking at the next meeting.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Bridleways and Restricted Byways Advisory Group will be on 8 October 2008 at the Dales Countryside Museum. The meeting will commence at 6.00pm.

Annex 3

Yorkshire Dales Green Lanes Advisory Group Meeting
29 April 2008
The Victoria Centre, Settle

Notes of Meeting

Present:

Chair:
Dr Malcolm Petyt, YDNPA Recreation Management Member Champion

Members:
Jon Beavan (Businessman & LAF)
Michael Bartholomew (GLA& LAF)
Stuart Monk (NYTMAG)
Mark Dale (4x4 users)
Clare Robinson (Natural England)
Ben Heyes (Landowner representative & LAF)

Officers in attendance:
Jon Avison (YDNPA)
Mark Allum (YDNPA)
Kathryn Beardmore (YDNPA)
David Gibson (CCC)

Apologies:
Neil Hesletine (Farmer)
Doug Huzzard (NYCC)

1. Welcome and introductions

Clare Robinson was welcomed to her first meeting of the group.
Geoff Wilson has resigned from the LAF and therefore also from the Advisory Group.
Mark Sandamass sent his apologies and has decided to resign from the group as pressures of work are keeping him from attending.

2. Notes of previous meeting and matters arising

I. Noted that follow up work on West Cam road has yet to be completed and the temporary TRO on the Cam High Road is still in place.

II. Balance of the group. Following the resignation of the two group members there is a need to recruit two new members. It was noted that it is important to maintain the balance of interests within the group, and therefore it would be ideal to have someone representing motor vehicle users, and someone representing mountain biking or horse

riding.
Action: suggestions for possible members to Jon Avison. All

III. Management options. SM raised the issue of the management options available to the group as Access Committee had gone for full TROs where the GLAG had advised partial restrictions. SM felt that as a result there were only two management options: full TRO or no TRO.

IV. Access Committee. JA updated the group on the decisions reached by the Access Committee at their meetings in January and April 2008.

V. GLAG members asked for a report outlining their advice alongside what the Access Committee had agreed. It was noted that whilst much discussion focussed on routes being considered for TROs, this was only part of the picture and Access Committee had taken the GLAG advice on most occasions.
Action: copy of advice and access committee decision to be circulated to the group KB

VI. Images in reports. Some members had requested that additional images are included in the reports to show specific issues or points which are often missed in the 400m interval photos. It was agreed that some additional photos may be justified but that it was important that this does not unbalance the representation of the route.

VII. Natural England would like to be consulted on routes that are adjacent to SSSIs as well as on routes that pass through them.
Action: MA

VIII. TRO signs. JB asked about the signage that would be placed on the TRO routes. MA had looked at this and confirmed that YDNPA can use 450mm diameter signs on one side of the carriageway only, and that these do not have to be mounted at a specific height. This should allow the signs to be less visually intrusive. JB also asked whether non-reflective material could be used.
Action: MA to investigate

3. Proposed byway sign

The proposed sign for use on byways had been circulated. The final signs would be at A5 size and placed on byways without TROs within the National Park. It was noted that there were no byways in the Cumbrian part of the Park and so the signs would only be used in North Yorkshire. Consideration would be given to placing them at both ends of routes and where other footpaths/bridleways join. The sign is intended both to inform other users of the possible presence of motor vehicles, and to indicate where motor vehicle users can go and act as a reminder of responsible use.

GLAG supported the signs but asked for careful consideration of the number of signs within the National Park. SM would like to see such signage extended to include unsurfaced UCRs.
Action: MA to order signs and arrange placement on the ground and on the Authority website.

4. Route assessment report – Edge Lane

The evaluation report had been circulated and the following key points were highlighted:

- Unsurfaced unclassified county road;
- A65 audible on sections;
- Route surface is generally good although some damage noted due to forestry traffic;
- 260 motor vehicle movements per month on average, approximately 65% agricultural. Balance of use shows walkers are around 75% of users;
- Some recreational motor vehicle use is local and some 'playing around' is occurring;
- Part of Pennine Bridleway with good connections.

<u>Recommendation</u>
The advice of the group was:

- Continue to monitor and maintain
- Consider encouraging users to stay on route by either signage or boulder placement

5. Route assessment report – Twisleton Lane

The evaluation report had been circulated and the following key points were highlighted:

- Adjacent to Whernside SSSI although no impact on the site noted;
- A range of natural and heritage features have been identified partly with the help of the parish council;
- Solid surface in the main with some rutting noted at the Kingsdale end;
- Level of use averages 17 per month, with around 60% agricultural;
- Balance of use is around 99% walkers because part of the route is also part of the Ingleton Waterfalls Walk;
- Potential issue of mixing motor vehicles with large numbers of walkers including children.

MB and SM circulated additional photographs showing 'damage' on the route. The general view was that the photos illustrated the effect of agricultural use of the route. SM also noted that a new gate has been placed giving access off the route into adjacent fields.

Through discussion it was also noted that residents appeared to be concerned about damage on the tarmac section and people parking around

Twisleton Hall, rather than vehicular use. It was also noted that an ice cream van parks on the unsurfaced section of the route.

JB noted that some caver access has probably been happening from Kingsdale to give access to a dive project site. He also believes that the track shows seasonal differences.

Recommendation
The advice of the group (with one dissension) was:
- Continue to monitor use and condition of the route

6. Route assessment report – The Red Way

The evaluation report had been circulated and the following key points were highlighted:
- This is an unsurfaced unclassified county road situated in the National Park, but has no recorded status beyond the Park boundary;
- Passes through East Nidderdale Moors SSSI which is noted for its assemblage of rare bird species,
- Very tranquil and wild area;
- Route has two distinct parts: up to the grouse butts and then the section over the moorland. Route surface to the grouse butts is wide and stoned and maintained for land management access. Over the moorland the route is a narrow single-width track. Overall condition is good with some damage noted around Slip Wath ford.
- Level of use on the track section is 148 motor vehicles per month consisting of 105 4x4s and 30 motor cycles. Only the motor cycles go beyond the grouse butts.
- This is a remote route and not used greatly by other users. Use by all would increase if route was recorded on the definitive map.
- Levels of use, both recreational and agricultural, are low
- Motor vehicles would be highly incongruous on this route, as would any engineering works

CR believes that the National Park will need to consider its responsibility as competent authority under habitat directive, particularly if BOAT status was decided. Natural England would expect management to be proactive and not wait until damage to the SSSI occurred.

There was general agreement that this was a highly sensitive route which needed careful monitoring, to ensure levels of use did not increase and no damage occurred as both would change its character. The use of a pre-emptive TRO was discussed but no conclusions could be reached.

It was noted that this is a cross boundary route and that only NYCC could place a TRO along its full length. The views of both NYCC and Nidderdale AONB on management of the route were not known.

Recommendation
No consensus could be reached for this route. The key points were:

- There is a need to resolve the status of the route
- One member felt a pre-emptive TRO was justified
- Other members felt that the route should not be allowed to deteriorate and it should be monitored and revisited in 6 months.
- The views of officers from both NYCC and Nidderdale AONB regarding management of the route should be sought.

7. **Route assessment report – Marsett Bottoms**

The evaluation report had been circulated and the following key points were highlighted:

- The route is a short unsurfaced unclassified county road;
- Runs through Semerwater SSSI;
- Three fords on the route and sections of stone setts;
- Considerable water erosion of the route has occurred. Of particular note is the descent from Stalling Busk and the middle ford.
- Level of use is 152 motor vehicles per month including 74 motor cycles. Around 35% of the traffic is agricultural. Balance of use shows 67% of users are walkers
- Important link for all users and part of the round the lake walk.

Recommendation
The advice of the group, which was consensus, was:

- Repairs to the route are needed. It was suggested that there be a partnership between the Raydale Project, NYCC and YDNPA to repair the route. Natural England were concerned about the overall hydrology of the site and that repairs would have to be sensitive to this.
- Continue to monitor and revisit management following repair.

9. Future of the group

Everyone felt that there was value in continuing with the Advisory Group although it was suggested the meetings only take place once or twice a year. Priorities for the group to consider in the future:

- Revisiting routes which had been deferred for further monitoring and/or repair
- Conducting a review of other routes which are used by motor vehicles and were not initially considered 'sensitive' to use.
- Monitoring reports on routes that have been closed.
- Another possible issue may be to look at how to reduce agricultural use with heavy vehicles

MP thanked the group for all their hard work and commitment over the last 18 months.

Annex 4

Unapproved Minutes of meeting of
Yorkshire Dales Access Forum Access for All Advisory Group
Held on Tuesday 8 May 2008
Yoredale, Bainbridge

Present: Phil Woodyer (PW) – Chair, Michael Bartholomew (MB), Ben Heyes (BH), Ken Miller (KM), Pat Whelan (PWh),

YDNPA Officers present: Rachel Briggs (RB), Craig Bellwood (CB)

Apologies: David Shaftoe, Judy Rodgers (JR), Frances Graham (FG)

1. Welcome and Apologies

RB Welcomed members to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Judy Rogers (JR), Frances Graham (FG) and David Shaftoe from Open Country.

2. Approval of notes of the last meeting

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

3. Leaflets

RB went through the content of the revised Access for All leaflet and asked for comments. It was noted that Ingleborough Cave had been removed from the leaflet. RB explained that this was due to a recent risk assessment carried out on the cave that highlighted various health and safety issues. The cave is now only accessible to groups, such as Open Country, that have carried out their own risk assessment. PWh thought that a letter should be written from all National Park Authority's to the Office for Disability Issues highlighting the fact that the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) has had a detrimental effect on the access to come areas. RB thought that the DDA had brought in far more benefits and that the issue at Ingleborough Cave was just one specific example of where access has been lost. BH explained that the issue was more an issue with other legislation, such as public liability. BH suggested that, for Ingleborough Cave, it might be a good idea to find an umbrella organisation to take on the responsibility for the access to the cave for visitors with limited mobility. RB said she would look into it.

RB to explore the suggestion of an umbrella organisation taking responsibility for access to Ingleborough cave.

There was some discussion with regards to the front cover photograph for the leaflet. RB asked if anyone had any suitable images which incorporated scenery, people with limited motilities and people with no mobility issues. All members said they would look for appropriate photographs and forward them to RB as soon as possible.

Any appropriate images to be sent to RB.

KM had an issue with the second paragraph within the introduction. He thought the leaflet sounded like it was focusing on wheelchair users and missing out other users. RB explained that the attractions and trails listed in the leaflet were suitable for everyone and that wheelchair access is the most difficult to achieve, hence why it is listed. KM thought that eventually the leaflet should have a section on sensory walks.

KM suggested that the back page be an area that can be pulled off and sent back in to the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority listing possible improvements to the guide. It was agreed that this was a very good idea.

RB to include a removable back page for comments on the guide.

RB asked for any drafting issues to be sent to her as soon as possible.

4. Tramper routes

RB gave an update as to how the Disabled Ramblers site visit had gone in November 2007. She explained that they would be taking their holiday on 15-16 July and would be visiting two routes in Swaledale. RB also told the group that someone would be testing the Settle Loop in June.

KM asked that when easy latches are being put in, that they have a trombone handle as apposed to a straight handle as these are much more accessible. CB added that sometimes straight handles are used as these are more stock proof.

5. Routes for improvements – external funding suggestions

CB asked members of the group to send any routes for potential improvements to RB by the end of September. This would then feed into the budget process for 2009/10.

RB asked if any members had any thoughts as to possible funding for improvements to PROW. BH suggested legacies. RB said that the odd legacy did come in but not very often.

PWh thought that there was some scope to access pots of money held with Parish Councils for projects in their areas.

Any suggested routes for improvements to be sent to RB by the end of September.

RB to explore the suggestions for possible external funding.

6. Member round up

MB – has become more active with Open Country.
KM – attended the meeting with Roy Helby from the Disabled Ramblers Association in November.
PW – informed the group that the Bendrigg Trust have just bought an off road wheelchair for 2 people. He said he would find out more.

7. Any Other Business

Date of next meeting is to be during the week commencing 10 November, 10am at Grassintgon.

Annex 5

Unapproved Minutes of Meeting of Water Sports Advisory Group Held on Tuesday 13 May 2008 Colvend, Grassington

Present:

Dorothy Fairburn (DF)	Country Land and Business Association
Chris Hawkesworth (CH)	British Canoe Union
Roger Dyson (RD)	Appletreewick, Barden and Burnsall Angling Club
Ben Heyes (BH)	Yorkshire Dales Access Forum
Rachel Briggs (RB)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Mark Allum (MA)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Ian Court (IC)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Alan Hulme (AH)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Steve Hastie (SH)	Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

1. Election of a Chair

RB explained to members of the group that the Water Sports Advisory Group (WSAG) had been established to look at specific issues, surrounding recreational activities, that were outside of the remit of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum (YDAF). Reports from each of the Advisory Groups would be taken back to the YDAF. Therefore, it would be beneficial for the Chair of the group to be a member of the YDAF for reporting purposes. The WSAG agreed that BH should be the Chair for the meeting and that this be reviewed when PW was present.

BH elected as the Chair for the first meeting of the WSAG.

2. Welcome and Apologies

Members of the WSAG introduced themselves to the group. Annex 1 shows further details of each member with their contact details.

Apologies were received from Phil Woodyer (PW) from the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum.

3. Terms of reference

BH suggested that the terms of reference be looked at after the first meeting once a purpose had been established.

RB and AH to work on the terms of reference and circulate with the minutes.

4. Issues surrounding canoeing

CH gave an informative presentation on canoeing, which was well received. A copy of the presentation can be seen in Annex 2.

BH asked DF to give the view of landowners on canoeing. DF stated that there are no navigation rights in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and that permission needs to be sought from landowners before canoeing their stretch of river. DF recognised three types of canoeist from the landowners point of view:

1. Event canoeists – these are simpler for the landowner as communication is good.
2. Individual Canoeists – these can be more difficult as some individuals think they have the right to paddle anywhere.
3. Canoe liveries – where canoe liveries make money from a stretch of river.

BH asked RD to give the view of anglers on canoeing. RD pointed members of the group in the direction of the Environment Agency publication 'Agreeing Access to Water for Canoeing'. He said that this was a good publication. BH asked RB to get copies for members. RD then spoke of the voluntary agreement that was part on a section of the River Wharfe from 1974 to 2006 with Leeds Canoeing Club. He explained that this allowed members of the club plus their guests to paddle the river in Autumn and Winter. BH asked CH for the BCU stance on voluntary agreements. CH explained that the agreement in question was not sustainable as it was only for 14 days of the year and because there was no spate agreement. He said that an example of a good voluntary agreement was on the River Ure at the Sleningford Caravan Park just outside the Yorkshire Dales National Park. He added that a good sustainable agreement has time and space zones:

Time Zones - e.g. the time of year or the time of day. Time of year is important for spawning gravels. Time of day is important for fly fishing as they generally fish in the early morning or late afternoon.

Space Zones – e.g. geology and water level.

It was suggested that it would be useful to carry out an audit of where water sports are carried out. This would then be used to highlight the issues. IC said this was very important in terms of wildlife conservation.

MA to co-ordinate the audit of water access in the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

5. Other Water Sports

The following list of water sports was identified by members of the WSAG:
Canoeing
Angling
Yachting
Rafting
Wind surfing
Gorge walking

Swimming – wild
Swimming – bathing
Scuba diving
Powered crafts (only applicable to Semer Water)

It was agreed that representatives from Yorkshire Water and the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust be invited to subsequent meetings.

RB to invite representatives from Yorkshire Water and the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust to the next meeting. Any further requests for invitees to be sent to RB.

Any more identified water sports to be sent to RB.

6. Any Other Business

CH thanked the group for the meeting and said that the BCU had welcomed the formation of a group to look at water sports.

RB and BH to look at dates for the next meeting and circulate to members.

Annex 6

Unsurfaced Unclassified Roads Liaison Group

Minutes of Meeting
North Yorkshire County Council
April 6th 2008

Present: Rachel Connolly, Mike Roberts, Jane Harrison, Malcolm Petyt, Doug Huzzard, Kathryn Beardmore, Councillor Tim Swales

1. Welcome and Introductions

Mike Roberts – Head of Highway Operations attended and chaired the meeting in place of Councillor John Fort.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from John Fort, Catriona Cook and Ian Burgess

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The notes of the last three meetings were circulated. In terms of accuracy it was noted that at the last meeting (31 March) that MP/MA had circulated a route assessment report rather than a sample of a TRO as stated in the notes.

In relation to matters arising the following were raised

- Safety for riders does need to include involvement of the consultees.
- It was suggested other incentives for volunteers could include meals out rather than the use of mountain bikes.

4. Progress Updates

Identification of dual status routes had been completed in the YDNP and this had been passed to NYCC. It was unclear if this had also been completed for the NYMNP and the AONBS

There was some discussion about identification of lost ways / missing routes and how this related to those incorrectly recorded or missing from the definitive map. No conclusions were reached, except that this was separate to the Countryside Agency 'lost ways' project which had now been abandoned.

TRO's in the YDNP – KB updated the group on the recent access committee decisions. The YDNPA had agreed to make 8 TRO's and was now consulting on the possibility of a further 5 (3 of these were the original experimental routes). To put this into context this was out of a possible 102 routes identified in the National Park with possible or proven

mechanically propelled vehicular rights. The issue of how this had been resourced was raised; since 2000 the YDNPA had spent £62k directly on green lane management and had between 2 to 2.5 FTE working full time on the issue.

5. Defect Investigatory Levels

DGH circulated possible UUR defect Investigatory levels which were levels when NYCC would investigate whether action was required (rather then necessarily take action). DGH was looking for volunteers to help identify appropriate criteria and then carry out the assessment. It was noted that the format would need to be the same format as that used the Highway Maintenance Plan (copy circulated at the meeting), and volunteers would need training in every aspect.

This issue was discussed and the following points noted:

- in relation to routes through forestry before extraction detailed records were made to ensure any route was restored to the same condition afterwards.
- Some aspects of drainage and adjacent vegetation may be the responsibility of the adjacent landowner.
- In relation to the example of footways, which had been circulated, there was an acceptance further down the categories (1a to 5) that the level of 'maintenance' and 'condition' ('maintenance standards') of UUR's would be more rural and less manicured in nature at category 5 rural footways.

DGH proposed that the approach taken to assessment of UUR's in AONB would be similar to that developed in the Yorkshire Dales. Outside of NPs and AONB's the area would be assed in terms of sustainability of the surface and the importance of the route to the network of right of ways (see paper circulated first meeting).

DGH agreed to seek volunteers by e-mail to help with the surveys, but actions for the group were to help identify volunteers to help with surveying and identify any defects that cause problems based on type of users using a particular route. Some suggestions were:

a horse rider would experience difficulty using a route is it had

- over hanging vegetation with less than ?? metre ground clearance
- loose cobbled surface of greater than ?? mm
- a washed out ford crossing

a walker would have difficult using a route if it

- standing water, and was flooded for more than .5 metre across full width of route, and to a depth of greater than 50mm.

It was noted that the assessment would identify features similar to the rights of way 'ease of use' survey.

The timetable for finalising the assessment was outlined as follows:

Feedback by 2nd June 2008 on defects
9th June circulate draft UUR management plan
2.00pm on 30th June UUR meeting at NYCC

Item No. 10

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 17 Juney 2008

Secretary's Report

Purpose of the Report

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

Access Committee Dates and Venues

Date	Venue	Time
17 July 2008	Grassington Town Hall	10.00
16 October 2008	Yoredale, Bainbridge	10.00

Any member of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum can attend the Access Committee as a member of the public. Please contact Rachel Briggs for a copy of the agenda and supporting papers. Please note, it is not a requirement for members of the YDAF to attend Access Committee meetings. Therefore, attendance at Access Committee is not an approved duty and members cannot claim expenses for attending such meetings.

Resignation of Forum Member

Geoff Wilson resigned from the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum in April 2008. On behalf of the National Park Authority we have thanked him for his commitment to the work of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum, over the past 6 years, and wished him well for the future.

Discovering Lost ways

See **Annex 1**, the Discovering Lost Ways E-Bulletin.

LAF Members' Information Handbook

The publication can now be viewed on Natural England's website at

http://www.countryside.gov.uk/Images/LAFhandBook_tcm2-32136.pdf

The handbook is going to be renamed as the LAF Information Source.
Natural England will not be providing hard copies, and will be regularly updating the on-line version.

English Access Forum

The first meeting of the English Access Forum was on 15 May 2008. Representatives were sought from each of the regions and for the Yorkshire and Humberside region there were three members interested. At the first meeting the region was represented by Richard Holmes, Wakefield LAF Member and Hazel Armstrong, East Riding of Yorkshire and Hull Joint LAF Chair. Michael Bartholomew acted as a reserve for this meeting.

The agenda from the meeting, and the draft constitution which was discussed are attached as **Annex 2.**

Rachel Briggs
May 2008

Annex 1

Discovering Lost Ways

E - bulletin , number 6, March 2008

Discovering Lost Ways review

Welcome to the last edition of the DLW e-bulletin.

The project, as originally set up, is to close following Natural England's decision to withdraw from archive research activity. This will allow us to focus on championing and re-evaluation of the relevant law and procedures. We are confident that this is the only way to deliver real and lasting progress towards a Definitive Map and Statement that is a living record of a rights of way network that meet's people's needs and expectations .

We have reached this decision as a result of the fundamental review of the Discovering Lost Ways project (DLW), initiated by Natural England in February 2007

The review has resulted in a better understanding of:

- the scale of the task and estimated costs of researching historic routes and recording them on the definitive map
- the character of the historic routes - why they are not currently recorded on the definitive map, their physical characteristics, whether they are currently used and simply not recorded, and how often they might occur
- how far the Archive Research Unit is 'fit for purpose' in facilitating research
- other resources required to transform research into routes, for example setting priorities, identification of landowners and households affected, site visits etc.
- the contribution and role (actual or potential) of different players - Parish Councils (representing local people), landowners, users, volunteer researchers, Local Access Forums, highway authorities and the Planning Inspectorate
- identification of requirements for amended or new legislation to streamline processes.

The review, which was informed by the evidence gathered from Pathfinder projects, and by the discussions and contributions made by stakeholders, concluded in February 2008 when Natural England presented its recommendation to Defra.

For anyone interested in learning more about the review outcomes these will be made available via our website (www.naturalengland.org.uk/leisure/access) over the coming months

The way forward for DLW

Our recommendation to Defra is that we intend to

- withdraw from archive research and
- refocus effort towards a re-evaluation of the relevant law and procedures.

and is based on the understanding that despite investing huge effort in developing, testing and refining a systematic archival research approach, capable of application on a national scale, the inherent problems in translating this evidence into claims which can survive current practice and procedures, and achieve sensible amendments to the definitive map, are such that the system is in effect unworkable.

Natural England does not believe this situation is acceptable. All parties want a definitive map system that secures routes which enhance the rights of way network, and want this system to be:

- achieved within a realistic timescale
- delivered at a reasonable cost
- implemented without imposing an undue burden on property owners

We have received confirmation from Defra that the Minister has approved the approach and supports Natural England's proposal to withdraw from it's programme of active research, and establish an Advisory Group to explore possible ways in which completion of the Definitive Map could be made more feasible.

In addition Defra wishes Natural England to

- share it's knowledge with stakeholders and all those wishing to conduct their own research into lost ways and NE will undertake further work in this area.
- consider how to offer small scale assistance to specific voluntary groups engaged in creative and productive methods for getting un-recorded and under-recorded rights of way shown on the definitive map and statement.

As advised by Natural England, Defra will not proceed with implementation of sections 53 to 56 of the CROW Act 200 until the proposed Advisory Group has reported it's conclusions.

We are now able to move forward in this important area of work and having taken advice from the Rights of Way Review Committee at its meeting on 18 March, we intend to establish an independently - chaired Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) charged with seeking to develop an agreed package of measures that would in the Group's view achieve real and lasting progress in recording rights of way.

Members of the RoWRC have been invited to put forward suggestions for membership of the SWG. Numbers will be limited but there will be equal representation from land management, user and highway authority interests.

Towards the end of April we are meeting with the stakeholders who participated in the review workshops. One of the topics we wish to discuss with them is how best to feed the views of the wider stakeholder interests into the SWG process.

Feedback from Local Access Forums (LAFs) during the DLW review on their potential role in the project

In the previous e-bulletin (number 5, September 2007), we asked for the views of LAF's on the future scope and direction of the Discovering Lost Ways project, to help inform the review of the project. The response to the survey was very high, particularly in view of the short timescale, so many thanks to all of you who took part and made valuable suggestions on the way forward. A summary of the responses is outlined below :

A total of 83 replies were received from LAFs, BHS, CLA, IPROW and individual LAF members. Many LAFs who responded stated they would be willing to work with the DLW project in order to share their extensive experience in research and expertise at a local level. However several LAFs felt that they wouldn't have the capacity to actually carry out research.

Primarily, LAFs felt their role could be to:

- Share their wealth of experience
- Play an advisory role
- Act as a filter to determine routes which would be selected for detailed investigation
- Share their good local knowledge and contact with local people
- Work closer with council officers
- Monitor progress, and help with field visits
- Take part in some negotiations with landowners
- Provide a strategic role to advise on policy and process
- Receive training which could then be passed on to others

The overall view was that DLW should focus on recording routes that have some benefit and would add to, or provide better links to, communities or to the existing rights of way network in order to create a cohesive and continuous network of routes. The heritage aspect of the rights of way network was also important to many users.

It was felt that user groups and local residents, including landowners, are probably in the best position to advise on routes to be researched.

Many respondents expressed the hope that a more streamlined, fast-track, less adversarial system for getting Definitive Map Modification Orders confirmed could be established. Some felt that trade offs and cost neutral compromises could be reached with landowners without recourse to lengthy and expensive litigation.

There was considerable concern that a lack of resources will prevent rights of way making it onto the Definitive Map before 2026 . Many respondents felt that the 2026 cut off date should be extended or abolished altogether. However, some felt that the 2026 cut off date should be retained, with milestone targets set for research and claim processes.

Concern was expressed at the backlog and length of time it currently takes for highway authorities to process orders. Many thought that there needs to be a radical change in legislation and in the

procedure for establishing new routes/ lost ways. It was recognised that Highway Authorities also need to have the resources to do the legal work involved.

As a way forward, many suggested a central source of information / guidance which they can access when carrying out research. This could include:

- a leaflet outlining how to make a claim (promoted by LAFs)
- an interactive website
- on-line mapping

The majority of respondents wanted to see clear objectives and measurable outcomes to take the project forward, along with input from the voluntary sector/LAFs.

Future communications

Although at the start of this e-bulletin we said it would be the last, this is not strictly the case. We intend to continue to use this method to communicate with you and keep you up to date with all Natural England's access and rights of way activity.

Contact details:

Please note that Gavin Stark, formerly the DLW research manager, will now be leading on the setting up and running of the SWG and any associated activity. All enquiries should now be directed to Gavin :

Gavin. Stark@ naturalengland.org.uk
(tel 01905 363 428)

Or write to:

Gavin Stark
Discovering Lost Ways
Natural England
Block B
Government Buildings
Whittington Road
Worcester
Worcestershire
WR5 2LQ

Website address : http//www.naturalengland.org.uk/leisure/access/default.htm

Annex 2

THE ENGLAND ACCESS FORUM

The Board Room
John Dower House
Cheltenham
Glos GL50 3RA

15 May 2008

AGENDA

12.30	Buffet Lunch – LAF members and Natural England staff
13.15	Welcome and Introductions by the Interim Chair for the day, Duncan Graham, and James Marsden, Executive Director of Policy & Evidence, Natural England
13.30	Draft Constitution - to agree (copy attached)
13.40	Round up of LAF's Strategic Progress and Challenges
14.10	Briefing on Major Access Initiatives a) Discovering Lost Ways (Amanda Earnshaw, Natural England) - the way forward, access to collected data, the stakeholder group, streamlining legislation and simplification of procedures for new routes etc. b) Review of National Trails and Routes (Terry Robinson, Natural England) c) Coastal Access (Paul Johnson, Natural England)
14.40	Making LAF's more effective How good practice can best be shared amongst all LAFs Developing and supporting Regional level working and organisation National Newsletter National Conference
15.20	Other Issues raised by LAFs Rights of Way Improvement Plans Gating Orders Advising Sustrans
15.30	Working together to influence the broad agenda on the economy, health, sport etc
15.40	Next steps, date of next meeting, close
	LAF members only
15.45	selection of Chair of the England Access Forum for future meetings

ENGLAND ACCESS FORUM - DRAFT CONSTITUTION for comment and approval on 15 May 2008

At a meeting on 24 January 2008, between representatives of Local Access Forums and Natural England, it was decided to establish a national forum on access.

We propose the name: the England Access Forum.

Its purpose is to:

- provide balanced views and feedback to Natural England about all relevant access matters;
- exchange information;
- co-ordinate effective joint lobbying across Government;
- provide accurate information on policy initiatives and feedback on their implications and implementation; and
- to exchange best practice.

It will be organised as follows:

- its constitution (this document) will be simple and informal;
- the forum will meet three times per year, March/April, October/November and one other, normally in the summer;
- membership will comprise 16 Local Access Forum (LAF) members, two nominated by each region (the process for nomination to be agreed by LAFs within their own region), and a smaller number of Natural England staff sufficient to provide support, expertise and Director level representation.
- The term of office for all individuals will be up to three years, but not exceeding their period of office as an individual LAF member:
- the Chair will be appointed from the LAF members;
- venues will be in Natural England offices around the country;
- the secretariat will be provided by Natural England who will liase with the Chair. Papers could come from either the LAFs or Natural England;
- communication between LAFs and the forum will be through LAF Regional Co-ordinators who will be involved in raising agenda items, disseminating papers, etc;
- Natural England will reimburse travel expenses according to its transport and subsistence policies; i.e. travel by sustainable means on public transport at standard rates. A simple mechanism for claiming expenses will be used;
- appropriate liaison will be fostered with equivalent UK and European bodies.

The value of LAF volunteer time and additional professional support members can draw on is recognised as a vital contribution to the Forum.

Additional points

- the Forum must be a constructive partnership not an occasion for LAFs simply to hold Natural England to account The emphasis is on understanding and working together;
- LAF members will be representatives not mandated delegates;
- there can be substitution for LAF members but every effort should be made to ensure continuity;
- each LAF region is free to determine how its two members are chosen;
- opportunities for regional development and inter-regional liaison will be explored;
- LAF regions will be encouraged to submit agenda items and to discuss agenda items prior to meetings. LAF Regional Co-ordinators have a key role to play.

4 April 2008

Item No. 11

Yorkshire Dales Access Forum – 17 June 2008

Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is for the LAF to consider how it wishes to respond to the consultation on the future management of five routes used by recreational motor vehicles in the Yorkshire Dales National Park:

- Carlton to Middleham High Moor
- Barth bridge to Garsdale
- Mastiles Lane
- Horsehead Pass
- Long Lane, Clapham

Background

The National Park Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England) Regulations 2007 enables the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority to make Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs). The Authority is considering whether to make permanent full time TROs on the routes listed above. This is the second round of consultation in respect of these routes.

Consultation

At the first round of consultation (under regulation 4) Members received full assessment reports for each of the five routes. These can also be viewed on the website www.yorkshiredales.org.uk or at the offices of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority at Grassington or Bainbridge.

At the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum meeting on 26 February 2008, LAF members asked that full time permanent TROs be placed on the five routes. A copy of the consultation response from the YDAF can be seen in **Annex 1.** The responses to the first stage of the consultation were considered at the Access Committee meeting on 17 April 2008 where it was agreed to move to stage 2 and consult under regulation 5 on proposals to make five full time permanent TROs.

Notice of the second stage consultation was sent to LAF members in May 2008. The papers listed in the notice are enclosed as **Annex 3 to Annex 12** with this LAF paper.

Comments on the second stage of the consultation must be sent to **Mark Allum** by **18 June 2008**. These comments will then be included in the consultation responses given to Access Committee on 17 July 2008 where Members of the Authority will make a decision on whether to make a TRO, as proposed on each of the routes.

YDAF to consider

Members of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum are asked to consider each of the proposals in respect of the routes and formulate a response to the consultation.

Rachel Briggs
May 2008

Annex 1

RESPONSE OF THE YORKSHIRE DALES LOCAL ACCESS FORUM TO THE CONSULTATION ON THE POSSIBILITY OF IMPOSING TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS ON 5 GREEN LANES.

At its meeting on 26 February 2008, the LAF considered each of the five routes specified in the consultation* and voted, *nem con*, for the following recommendations.

1. That TROs should be imposed on each of the five routes.

2. That the TROs should be 24 hour, 7 days a week, 12 months a year prohibitions on all recreational motor vehicles.

The evidence to support these recommendations is ample, but can be summarized as follows. The prohibition of recreational motor vehicles on these five routes will contribute significantly to the preservation of the amenity, and to the conservation of the natural beauty of the routes themselves and their surrounding landscapes.

Note: this response is guided by the duties of LAFs as specified in section 94 of the CROW Act, particularly 94 (6)(b) which states that LAFs shall have regard to 'the desirability of conserving the natural beauty of the area for which it is established.'

Michael Bartholomew
Chairman
28.2.8

*
Mastiles Lane
Long Lane (Clapham to Selside)
Horsehead Pass
Garsdale Foot to Barth Bridge
Carlton to Middleham High Moor.

Annex 2

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

(VARIOUS GREEN LANES IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES) (PROHIBITION OF MECHANICALLY PROPELLED VEHICLES)

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS 2008

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (as amended)

1 **NOTICE** is hereby given that the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority in exercise of its powers under s.22BB(2)(a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 is proposing to make Traffic Regulation Orders the effect of which will be to prohibit access by mechanically propelled vehicles to the roads more particularly described in paragraph 2 for the following purposes:

in respect of the road more particularly described in paragraph 2b) for the purposes of preventing damage to the road and conserving the natural beauty of the area; and

in respect of the roads more particularly described in paragraphs 2 a) c) d) and e) for the purposes of preserving the amenity and conserving the natural beauty of the area.

2 **a) CARLTON to MIDDLEHAM HIGH MOOR**

That length of road commencing at a point approximately 320 metres to the north west of Carlton Village at grid reference SE 0629 8494 then in a northerly direction for two kilometres crossing Melmerby Moor to join the unclassified road from Melmerby to West Witton at grid reference SE 0673 8683

b) BARTH BRIDGE to GARSDALE

That length of road commencing immediately to the south of a gate on Lunds Lane at grid reference SD 6942 8877 then in a northerly direction for approximately 1.6 kilometres to a point 40 metres to the east of Dry Tarn (grid reference SD 6947 9016) then from that point, first that length of road taking a north easterly direction for approximately 1 kilometre to join the A684 road at grid reference SD 6972 9110 and secondly that length of road taking a north westerly direction for approximately 1.5 kilometres to a point 35 metres to the south west of the A684 road at grid reference SD 6866 9130.

c) MASTILES LANE

That length of road commencing 10 metres to the east of Street Gate at grid reference SD 9052 6564 then in an easterly direction for approximately 7.5 kilometres to a point on Mastiles Lane approximately 0.5 kilometre from the B6160 road at grid reference SD 9705 6755

d) HORSEHEAD PASS

That length of road commencing at Halton Gill at grid reference SD 8792 7664 then in a generally north-easterly direction for approximately 4.3 kilometres to Raisgill, joining the C32 road at grid reference SD 9060 7864

e) LONG LANE, CLAPHAM

That length of road commencing at its junction with Thwaite Lane at grid reference SD 7511 6944 then in a northerly direction for approximately 6.5 kilometres to a junction of ways at grid reference SD 7829 7463 then from that point first in an easterly direction for approximately 0.5 kilometres to the B6479 road at grid reference SD 7878 7463 and secondly in a northerly direction for approximately 1.0 kilometre to a junction with Alum Pot Lane at grid reference SD 7797 7552

3 Exemptions will be provided in the Orders in relation to :

(a) use by emergency services or by any local authority or water authority in pursuance of their statutory powers and duties.

(b) use to enable work to be carried out in or adjacent to that road.

(c) use for the purpose of conveying persons goods or merchandise to or from land or premises adjacent to that road.

(d) use for the purposes of agriculture, land management or shooting on any land or premises adjacent to that road.

(e) use by mechanically propelled invalid carriages

(f) use by participants in certain specific organised Trials Events (in respect only of the roads described in paragraphs 2a) and 2c) above).

4 A copy of this Notice is available on the Authority's website at : www.yorkshiredales.org.uk
A copy of this Notice together with copies of the proposed Orders, Statements explaining the reasons for the Orders and Maps showing the extent of the restrictions, may be viewed during normal office hours at the National Park Offices at Yoredale, Bainbridge, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 3EL and Colvend, Hebden Road, Grassington, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 5LB

5 If any person wishes to make any objections or other comments relating to the proposed Orders they must do so by writing to Mark Allum at Colvend, Hebden Road, Grassington, Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 5LB, stating their reasons, by no later than 18 June 2008.

Dated 16 May 2008

Clare Bevan
Solicitor
Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority
Yoredale
Bainbridge
Leyburn
North Yorkshire
DL8 3EL

Annex 3

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

(VARIOUS GREEN LANES IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES) (PROHIBITION OF MECHANICALLY PROPELLED VEHICLES)

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (as amended)

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR CARLTON TO MIDDLEHAM HIGH MOOR – COVERDALE

The proposal is to make an Order that will have the effect of prohibiting use by recreational mechanically propelled vehicles (motor vehicles), seven days a week, 24 hours a day, along the route between Carlton in Coverdale and the unclassified road between West Witton and Melmerby, a distance of approximately 2.0km). The Order would be for the purposes of preserving the amenity and conserving the natural beauty of the area through which the route passes (the amenity is dependent to a considerable extent on the natural beauty). This route gives opportunities for local, moderate and strenuous walking, cycling and horse riding, and links well with other routes.

The amenity of the area: the feeling of wildness, remoteness, and associated tranquillity would be preserved by the Order as the presence of recreational motor vehicles, or anticipation of their presence, and/or evidence of their passing detract significantly from these qualities. Noise from motor vehicles using the route is likely to affect a large area due to the open character of the landscape, especially where it crosses Melmerby Moor. The route quickly leaves roads and habitation, and other signs of modern human influence, and there are no significant 'detractors' from the landscape setting or any major noise sources in the vicinity.

The natural beauty of the area the route runs through would be conserved by this Order; the landscape, natural and cultural heritage features are good, and include habitat of national importance. The presence of recreational motor vehicles would detract from the experience of these features.

This short route passes through a variety of landscape characters and habitats and offers strong contrast between valley and moorland, with fine views of Penhill and Little Whernside.

The section of the route over Melmerby Moor is on heather moorland over peat and the surface has been damaged by motorcycle use. This has resulted in the loss of heather habitat and deep ruts are present. While an engineered solution could be found to enable the route to sustain use by recreational motor vehicles this would, in itself, significantly alter the landscape and visual character of the route, and is likely to be to its detriment.

Further information about the amenity and natural beauty along the route can be found in the background report Carlton to Middleham High Moor - Assessment report on the use of recreational motor vehicles – January 2008.

Annex 5

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

(VARIOUS GREEN LANES IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES) (PROHIBITION OF MECHANICALLY PROPELLED VEHICLES)

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (as amended)

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR BARTH BRIDGE TO GARSDALE

The proposal is to make an Order that will have the effect of prohibiting use by recreational mechanically propelled vehicles (motor vehicles), seven days a week, 24 hours a day, along the route running from close to Barth Bridge in Dentdale through to Garsdale, a distance of approximately 2.6km (with an additional 1.5km spur route). The Order would be for purposes of the prevention of damage to the road, and conserving the natural beauty of the area through which the route passes.

The prevention of damage to the road: this route is largely a vegetation surface, over peat, much is sphagnum bog habitat which has naturally poor drainage, and retains water at any time of year. Increased use by motor vehicles would lead to significant and serious damage, particularly if this use was in wet conditions. The relatively low level of use by motorcycles, recorded at the present time, is already causing obvious damage to the fragile surface vegetation. While an engineered solution could be found to enable the route to sustain use by recreational motor vehicles this would, in itself, significantly alter the landscape and ecological character of the route, and so this would be detrimental to the natural beauty of the route.

The natural beauty of the area the route runs through would be conserved by this Order; the landscape, natural and cultural heritage features are outstanding, and include habitat of national importance. The presence of recreational motor vehicles would detract from the experience of these features.

This is a cross fell route between Dentdale and Garsdale and is scenically spectacular; offering dramatic views of Coombe Scar, Great Coum and The Howgills. Much of the route is over undisturbed blanket bog vegetation, which is an important biodiversity habitat. Over much of its length the route is largely trackless adding to the feeling of wildness and landscape beauty of the area.

Cultural heritage features in the immediate vicinity of the route include an extensive quarrying and lime burning complex.

Further information about the amenity and natural beauty along the route can be found in the background report Barth Bridge to Garsdale Foot - Assessment report on the use of recreational motor vehicles – January 2008.

Annex 7

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

(VARIOUS GREEN LANES IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES) (PROHIBITION OF MECHANICALLY PROPELLED VEHICLES)

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (as amended)

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR MASTILES LANE

The proposal is to make an Order that will have the effect of prohibiting use by recreational mechanically propelled vehicles (motor vehicles), seven days a week, 24 hours a day, along the route known as Mastiles Lane. (This runs from Street Gate, near Malham Tarn, through to Kilnsey in Wharfedale, a distance of approximately 7.5km). The Order would be for the purposes of preserving the amenity and conserving the natural beauty of the area through which the route passes (the amenity is dependent to a considerable extent on the natural beauty). Mastiles Lane gives opportunities for easy, moderate and strenuous walking, cycling and horse riding and carriage driving, as well as for educational groups and links well with other routes.

The amenity of the area: the feeling of wildness, remoteness, and associated tranquillity would be preserved by the Order as the presence of recreational motor vehicles, or anticipation of their presence, and/or evidence of their passing detract significantly from these qualities. Noise from motor vehicles using the route is likely to affect a large area due to the open character of the landscape, in addition the vehicles would be visible over long distances. The route is away from roads and habitation (until reaching Kilnsey), and other signs of modern human influence, and there are no significant 'detractors' from the landscape setting or any major noise sources in the vicinity.

The natural beauty of the area the route runs through would be conserved by this Order; the landscape, natural and cultural heritage features are outstanding, and include areas of international importance. The presence of recreational motor vehicles would detract from the experience of these features.

This is an area of dramatic upland limestone scenery and there are expansive views along much of the route including views of Great Close Scar, and the limestone scars around Clapham High Mark and Lee Gate High Mark. The majority of this route lies within the Craven Limestone Complex Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and its constituent Malham-Arncliffe Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The grass sward along the route is vulnerable to damage by motor vehicles. There is no significant damage at present. While an engineered solution could be found to enable the route to sustain use by recreational motor vehicles this would, in itself, significantly alter the landscape and visual character of the route, and is likely to be to its detriment.

Mastiles Lane is an important Medieval monastic route that is of archaeological and historic importance in its own right. The route passes through a roman marching camp - a

scheduled ancient monument site. This area had suffered severe damage from motor vehicles prior to the closure of the route to recreational motor vehicles in March 2004, and has since been repaired. There are also many other features of cultural heritage importance on, and adjacent to, the route including monastic cross bases, wall furniture, stock underpasses and earthworks.

Further information about the amenity and natural beauty along the route can be found in the background report Mastiles Lane - Assessment report on the use of recreational motor vehicles – January 2008.

Annex 9

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

(VARIOUS GREEN LANES IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES) (PROHIBITION OF MECHANICALLY PROPELLED VEHICLES)

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (as amended)

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR HORSEHEAD PASS

The proposal is to make an Order that will have the effect of prohibiting use by recreational mechanically propelled vehicles (motor vehicles), seven days a week, 24 hours a day, along the route known as Horsehead Pass. (This runs from Halton Gill in Littondale through to Raisgill in Langstrothdale, a distance of approximately 4.3km). The Order would be for the purposes of preserving the amenity and conserving the natural beauty of the area through which the route passes (the amenity is dependent to a considerable extent on the natural beauty). The Horsehead Pass route gives opportunities for moderate and strenuous walking, cycling and horse riding, and links well with other routes and open access land.

The amenity of the area: the feeling of wildness, remoteness, and associated tranquillity would be preserved by the Order as the presence of recreational motor vehicles, or anticipation of their presence, and/or evidence of their passing detract significantly from these qualities. Noise from motor vehicles using the route is likely to affect a large area due to the open character of the landscape, in addition the vehicles would be visible over long distances. The route is away from major roads and habitation, and other signs of modern human influence, and there are no significant 'detractors' from the landscape setting or any major noise sources in the vicinity.

The natural beauty of the area the route runs through would be conserved by this Order; the landscape, natural and cultural heritage features are outstanding, and include habitat of national importance. The presence of recreational motor vehicles would detract from the experience of these features.

Horsehead Pass is in a remote area of the National Park linking the two quiet valleys of Littondale and Langstrothdale. The route offers spectacular views of Fountains Fell, Pen-y-Ghent and Ingleborough as well as of the valleys and hamlets. The route crosses a number of important habitats including calcareous grassland, and a mosaic of wet bog with cottongrass and sphagnum, acid flushes, and acid grassland.

Further information about the amenity and natural beauty along the route can be found in the background report Horsehead Pass - Assessment report on the use of recreational motor vehicles – January 2008.

Annex 11

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

(VARIOUS GREEN LANES IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES) (PROHIBITION OF MECHANICALLY PROPELLED VEHICLES)

TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (as amended)

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR LONG LANE – CLAPHAM TO SELSIDE

The proposal is to make an Order that will have the effect of prohibiting use by recreational mechanically propelled vehicles (motor vehicles), seven days a week, 24 hours a day, along the route known as Long Lane. (This runs from the junction with Thwaite Lane near Clapham through to join the B6479, a distance of approximately 7.0km. An additional spur runs through to Alum Pot Lane). The Order would be for the purposes of preserving the amenity and conserving the natural beauty of the area through which the route passes (the amenity is dependent to a considerable extent on the natural beauty). The Long Lane route gives opportunities for easy, moderate and strenuous walking, cycling and horse riding, as well as for educational groups and links well with other routes.

The amenity of the area: the feeling of wildness, remoteness, and associated tranquillity would be preserved by the Order as the presence of recreational motor vehicles, or anticipation of their presence, and/or evidence of their passing detract significantly from these qualities. Noise from motor vehicles using the route is likely to affect a large area due to the open character of the landscape, especially where the route traverses Long Scar. The route is away from roads and habitation, and other signs of modern human influence, and there are no significant 'detractors' from the landscape setting or any major noise sources in the vicinity.

The natural beauty of the area the route runs through would be conserved by this Order; the landscape, natural and cultural heritage features are outstanding, and include habitat and species of international importance. The presence of recreational motor vehicles would detract from the experience of these features.

This is an area of dramatic upland limestone scenery and there are panoramic views along much of the route including views of Ingleborough, Moughton Scars and Pen-y-Ghent. The majority of this route lies within Ingleborough Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC). A significant section of the route as it passes over Sulber is within a National Nature Reserve (NNR). The primary ecological concern on this route is the populations of Yorkshire Sandwort found on and adjacent to the route. This is a rare montane plant confined to a small number of sites in northern England.

Cultural heritage features in the immediate vicinity of the route include a presumed early Medieval longhouse, and the remains of a village/settlement believed to date from the Iron Age/Romano-British period.

The grass sward along the route is vulnerable to damage by motor vehicles. There is no significant damage at present. While an engineered solution could be found to enable the route to sustain use by recreational motor vehicles this would, in itself, significantly alter the landscape and visual character of the route, and is likely to be to its detriment.

Further information about the amenity and natural beauty along the route can be found in the background report Long Lane (Clapham to Selside) - Assessment report on the use of recreational motor vehicles – January 2008.