

YORKSHIRE DALES GREEN LANES ADVISORY GROUP

Friday 1 December 2022
YDNPA, Yoredale, Bainbridge

Present:

Chair: Nick Cotton, (YDNPA Recreation Management Member Champion)

Members present:

John Bevan (Businessman and LAF)
Malcolm Petyt (Walker, cyclist and LAF)
Graham Parker (TRF)
Nathan Yeo (4x4 users)

Officers in attendance:

Rachel Briggs (YDNPA)
Rebecca Greenfield (YDNPA)

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies: Mark Dale (4x4 user) Leo Crone (TRF & LAF) Neil Heseltine (Farmer & LAF), Andrew Macintosh (Natural England), Hannah Gardner (horse rider and LAF)

2. Notes of previous meeting and matters arising

A typing error was noted on page 2.

The minutes were agreed.

3. Annual green lanes report 2018/19

The annual report was reviewed. Points discussed were as follows:

Members asked why some figures of vehicle use looked so high compared to previous years (in particular for Marsett Bottoms and West Cam). RB explained that some data had been lost due to staff turnover and/or technical issues and that, whilst an average is taken for the months data is present, this may have an impact on the figures. It was agreed that RB would undertake a condition survey of Marsett Bottoms and West Cam would in 2023.

A question was raised asking how big quads bikes are classified (often with a trailer). RB was unsure but felt it was likely to be picked up as either a 4x4 vehicle or agricultural use. RB said she would find out the definitive answer.

MP was enthused that the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) compliance was at 94% and number of complaints and sightings has decreased. This illustrates that the management of green lanes in the Yorkshire Dales National Park is working well.

RB to undertake conditions surveys of Marsett Bottoms and West Cam during 2023.
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4. Green Lane Framework

RB explained to members that the green lane framework had been revised and asked for comments.

All agreed that that the report was well written and clear. MP asked if the report could be circulated amongst other Highway Authorities as an example of good practice. RB said the document would be freely available for anyone to download from the YDNPA website. <https://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/things-to-do/get-outdoors/where-can-i-go/green-lanes/green-lanes-management/>

5. Green lanes condition surveys:

Long Lane (Helwith Bridge)

JB informed members of the group that this is a route that he walks on a regular basis and, in his opinion, hasn't deteriorated. He did add that a sink hole was developing along the route and may need addressing.

RB inform the relevant Ranger of the deepening sink hole along Long Lane (Helwith Bridge).

GP told members that the Cumbria TRF were currently carrying out a survey of all routes with higher rights in the Lake District National Park and that the results will be reported back to the Lake District National Park Authority.

Ravenstonedale

The report was noted by members. GP said that members of the TRF don't use the route in wet conditions.

6. Any other business

JB raised an issue that had been brought up at the last meeting of the Yorkshire Dales Access Forum. The question concerned the use of electric off road motor bikes and whether members of the group had seen an increase in their use. GP said that there were more about, but that they don't have the range that regular motor bikes have. He didn't see it as a problem for the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

7. Date of next meeting

It was noted that this was Nick Cotton's last meeting as Chair, as he is standing down as the YDNPA Recreation Champion. He was thanked for his input over the years. The next meeting will be in November 2023.