

Proposed Country Park - Countesthorpe

We understand that Blaby DC have now agreed to take responsibility for this potential park.

The Leicestershire Local Access Forum (LLAF) had a dialogue with the Parish Council when they were originally looking at this as per the attached original approach and under the circumstances would offer any assistance in the design of the park that you feel appropriate. We have looked at management plans for numerous parks and open spaces.

Our primary interest is to use such spaces to link parts of the wider path and bridleway network to encourage more people to enjoy our open spaces and take more exercise for their general health and wellbeing. Encouraging all sections of the community to take more exercise, particularly open air exercise, is important for achieving Government targets on physical and mental health. Road safety is another of our major concerns especially getting all vulnerable users off the roads which is a significant aim in the Local Transport Plan.

When we were involved with the Parish we were aware of many representations to them by a significant number of people about the needs of horse riders, and took the view that where demand has already been demonstrated by usage it is preferable that this be accommodated. Green open spaces, especially in urban fringe areas, need to cater for as many interests as possible in order to give best value whilst at the same time, having a regard in the planning for the safety of all users.

If you would like to share your draft plans with us we will be happy to look them over and see whether we can make any constructive suggestions

Terry Kirby

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