

**HEART OF FOREST FORUM
ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY WORKING GROUP
ACTIONS OF MEETING OF 14th January 2016**

Item	DESCRIPTION	For Action by
1	<p>Absence apologies from: Bryan Weston; Mike Ballantyne; Alan Blackburn; James Lowe; Shawn Brotherhood; Terry Kirby; Geoff Pursglove; Richard Groves</p> <p>In attendance : Lynne Pass – LRBA / BHS; Graham Morrison – HOFF Trail Network; Bethan Scragg – NFC; Goff Lewis – NWLDC; Roger Poole – Local Resident; Graham Knight – Moira Replan & HOFF; Cllr Pat Thomas – Ashby Woulds Town Council; Dot Morson – S. Derbyshire Ramblers; Gail Archer – Swadlincote TIC; Vicky Allen – LLAF; Sam Lattaway – NFC; Steve Palmer – Local Resident; Alan Dowell – Forestry Commission; Mary Holland – LRBA / BHS</p>	
2	<p>Previous Meeting Actions:</p> <p><u>Willesley Lake</u> – Sam Ireson reported to the group that she has written to the landowners regarding reinstating the path around the lake. To date no response had been received. If the landowners do not respond or agree to reinstating the path the only other option will be for someone to apply to the Council for a Modification Order. Sam Ireson to report any progress to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Obstruction of Public Footpath P107</u> – Sam Ireson reported that Legal Action is progressing. Group will be updated at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Minorca Restoration</u> – Discussions with the Planners and UK Coal are ongoing regarding the restoration of the site. The proposed N-W bridleway and E-W bridleway through the site are under discussion due to safety issues identified where they will exit onto Bosworth Road and Gallows Lane. Group to be updated at next meeting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">SI</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SI</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SI /RP</p>
3	<p>Live Projects Update</p> <p><u>Project Priorities</u></p> <p>A. Hicks Lodge to Moira Furnace –</p> <p><u>Section A Hicks Lodge to Newfields Road</u> – Alan Dowell reported that works have started. The sub base is complete and the whole route should be completed by the end of January. Once the route is completed it will be dedicated as a Public Bridleway. Sam Ireson & Alan Dowell to discuss the dedication once construction complete.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AD/SI</p>

<p><u>Section B Measham Road Housing Development</u> – Work on the development has begun. Cllr Pat Thomas reported that the site had become inundated with water when the developers broke through a culvert. There are also ongoing issues with the water being pumped off site. The Environment Agency is involved. The development is progressing in the northern half of the site. Any progress with the development to be reported to the next meeting</p>	ALL
<p><u>Section C Measham Road to Moira Furnace</u> – Discussions are ongoing regarding additional funding for the scheme, in addition to the NWL £40k. Landownership of the route needs to be confirmed by NWLDC and then landowners written to requesting their agreement to the surfacing of the route. Sam Ireson to update the group at the next meeting.</p>	SI
<p>Cllr Pat Thomas reported that the owner of the property adjacent to the route on Measham Road may be submitting a Planning Application for housing on the site. LCC and NWL to look out for the Planning Application and consider the proposed surfacing of the path when submitting comments.</p>	SI / NFC
<p>B. Hicks Lodge to Ashby Link -</p>	
<p>The Planning permission for the housing development, which included a link between Willesley Lane and Hicks Lodge went to appeal but was dismissed before Christmas. Sam Ireson to write to the landowners again to see if they are willing to accommodate the route anyway. Sam Ireson to report any progress to the next meeting.</p>	SI
<p>The County Council is in receipt of a Modification Order to add a footpath between Willesley lane and Hicks Lodge as well as a spur footpath into the woodland. Now that the planning process has been completed the application will be processed.</p>	
<p>C. Willesley to Ivanhoe Trail Link –</p>	
<p>Graham Morrison reported that the landownership of Pastures Lane remains unknown. The land is not registered with the Land Registry, LCC Highways department have no records that it ever existed as a Public Highway and Roger has made enquires with potential landowners. Roger Poole suggested contacting the Coal Authority. Graham Morrison to update the group at the next meeting.</p>	GM
<p>The Woodland Trust have also confirmed that they are still supportive of the development of the route although they are due to develop Access for All surfaced paths elsewhere through the woodland.</p>	

<p>Graham Morrison also reported that he and Bethan had attended a site meeting with Laura Shepherd from the Woodland Trust and the project team regarding the proposed Access for All routes at Willesley Wood. Graham confirmed that he was very impressed with the proposed project and recommended that the group support the scheme. Sam Ireson to send a letter of support to Helen on behalf of the group.</p>	SI
<p>D. Conkers to Rosliston Link</p> <p>Marion Farrell and Jenny Southwell were unable to attend and update the meeting.</p>	
<p>E. Village Hall, Moira to Maybury Wood Link</p> <p>Cllr Pat Thomas reported that the proposed route of the footpath between the Village Hall and Maybury Wood has been identified. There are however ongoing discussions regarding S106 monies and landownership. Update to be provided at next meeting.</p>	BW / PT
<p>Interpretation and Orientation Masterplan</p> <p>Bethan reported that discussions are ongoing regarding how to let the work and trying to get the best value for money. Bethan to update the group on progress at the meeting.</p>	BS
<p><u>Other Project Updates</u></p>	
<p>Millennium Milepost</p> <p>Sam Ireson reported that discussions regarding landowner agreement were ongoing. Sam Ireson to update the group at the next meeting</p>	SI
<p>Alternative Route for Ivanhoe Way</p> <p>No action required until new link between Hicks Lodge and Newfields Wood is completed. Once completed and route dedicated as a Public Bridleway, Sam Ireson to progress the change of route for the Ivanhoe Way.</p>	SI
<p>Maybury to New Albion Link</p> <p>Sam Ireson reported that the comments supplied on the New Albion Restoration Plan were passed to Veolia via the LCC Mineral Planners. In principal Veolia are happy with the suggested changes, however they are currently finalising the purchase of land off Tapton Estates, which once completed will enable them to confirm their</p>	

	<p>agreement. Veolia may be submitting a revised restoration plan in the vicinity of the lake. Currently it looks as if restoration of the site may be delayed due to the presence of Great Crested Newts.</p> <p>Sam Ireson also reported that she has had discussions with Phil Metcalfe of the NFC regarding links between New Albion and the adjoining National Forest owned land, and the National Forest Company have agreed to in principal to the creation of the link(s). Sam Ireson to provide an update to the next meeting.</p> <p>Countryside For All</p> <p>Sam Lattaway reported that the project is moving forward steadily. He is currently looking into a potential funding bid. Sam Lattaway to update the group at the next meeting.</p> <p>Horse Riding Access south of A42 to Minorca Site</p> <p>Roger Poole reported that discussions were ongoing. Roger Poole and Alan Blackburn to update the group at the next meeting.</p> <p>Proposed Bridleway Circuit Update</p> <p>Roger Poole reported that he and Alan were looking at revising the route, possibly including an extension to the Moira – Measham Trail. Roger Poole to provide Sam Ireson with a plan and project outline for distribution to group members for comments. Alan Blackburn and Roger Poole to update the group at the next meeting.</p>	<p>SI</p> <p>SL</p> <p>RP/AB</p> <p>AB / RP / SI</p>
4.	<p>Funding and Bids:</p> <p><u>Black to Green</u></p> <p>Bethan requested that all volunteers who attend the group be registered as a Volunteer for the Black to Green project to enable their volunteering time to be counted as Match Funding.</p> <p>Bethan reported that a variety of events are organised over the coming months including a Bio Blitz event at Hicks Lodge on 23rd April, Conservation events, Youth engagement events and a Training and Education Learning Programme.</p> <p>Bethan also reported that there is now a Black to Green Facebook page. Project Evaluation Consultants are also in place and will be involved with the Access and Connectivity Group.</p> <p>Graham Knight asked if anyone had any everyday life photos of the</p>	<p>BS / ALL</p> <p>BS/GK/ALL</p>

	area from the past. They have a lot of industrial photos so could do with some different images, and also any stories of the area.	
5.	Future Project Proposals for Discussion No project proposals to discuss	
6.	HOFF Update Graham Knight reported that the HOFF are considering meeting yearly rather than quarterly. Graham to update the group at the next meeting.	GK
7.	Any Other Business <u>Alan Leather</u> Sam Ireson informed the group that Alan Leather will no longer be attending as he has now passed on the Black to Green project to Bethan. Sam read out his email thanking the group for their work. In response Sam Ireson has passed on thanks to Alan on behalf of the group. <u>Hanging Hill</u> A request was made for an update on the National Forest Company's proposals for Hanging Hill. Sam Lattaway reported that discussions were ongoing and it was a long process. Sam Lattaway will update the group at the next meeting. <u>Heritage Walks in the Heart of the Forest Book</u> Dot Morson showed the group a walking book she has produced titled "Heritage Walks in the Heart of the Forest". The price of the book is £3.50.	SL
	Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 21 st April, 2pm at NFC Offices, Moira	

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