REPORTS FOR LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM JAN 2020

NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS & RECREATION GROUP

A lot of their endeavours continue to be the Charnwood Forest project and there has been no recent meeting to report on.

Roy Denney, Representative

CHARNWOOD FOREST REGIONAL PARK

I continue to serve as a member of the board of the regional park which will continue whatever the outcome of the current bid for lottery support. I am also on the steering group of the Local Nature Partnership which is fronting that bid for funds to protect, promote and enhance the park.

There have been a series of workshops with the new independent chairman Atul Patel hopes to attend our next meeting and can give us a brief update. The bid document was submitted in September and we expect a visit shortly to raise any outstanding queries and the final decision should be made by March.

Roy Denney, Representative

NETWORK OPPORTUNITIES / UNRECORDED WAYS

The URW sub group has identified literally thousands of unrecorded and therefore unprotected routes. There are still about 60 of these we have classed as priorities from which volunteers can pick things of interest or convenient locality.

We have 23 volunteers interested on working on cases to varying extents but they need more direction and we must continue to try and visit most of them in small groups which is more fruitful than trying to get them all to one meeting. VA & JH met with 10 from the Lutterworth are in November. We also had our annual September evening meeting to which several came and at which an officer of the Ramblers from London came to explain what they are doing centrally. They are to launch a public app to get information about missing links and lost ways etc but we pointed out that in Leicestershire we had completed that exercise and it was help with research we really needed.

We still await the outcomes of our claim for Barrow/Cotes and another at Islay Walton.

MG has been working on the master index and we have shared the priorities with active volunteers.

There is nothing else to report on Network Opportunities at this stage.

Roy Denney

PLANNING AND TRAVEL COMMITTEE REPORT

The Rail Freight Terminal near Hinckley is moving towards an actual planning application and we continue to monitor the process having made recommendations to the developers. We continue to monitor the Network Rail crossings situation and study all Map Modification Orders.

We have recently responded to a consultation by Charnwood Council but otherwise it has been a quiet period.

Chairman - Roy Denney