

Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum (LAF)

Meeting Minutes

Thursday 5th December 2019

Tywi Centre, Llandeilo, 6pm

Present: Members:

Mark Hadley (MH) – LAF Chair
Karen Burch (KB) – LAF vice Chair
Richard Leggett (RL)
Mo Rapley (MR)
Paul Barrett (PB)
Geoff Williams (GW)
Jillie Gardiner (JG)

Secretary (interim)

Caroline Ferguson (CF) – (CCC Acting Countryside Access Manager)

Advisors/ Observers/Speakers/Members of the Public

Jason Lawday (JL) - CCC Countryside Access Officer
Rob Williams (RW) – Trail Riders Fellowship (TRF)
Nigel Bailey (NB) – Walking Well St Clears
Phillip Morgan (PM) - NRW Team Leader Land Management
David Bleines (DB) - NRW People & Places Officer, South West

Apologies: Members:

Martin Murray (MM)
Michael Jones (MJ)
David Stacey (DS)

Advisors/Observers:

Cllr. Hazel Evans
Steve Pilliner (CCC)
Samara Hicks (CCC)

Absent: Jane Evans
Glyn Evans
Gerald Brown

*CCC in these minutes refers to Carmarthenshire County Council

**NRW in these minutes refers to Natural resources Wales

ITEM	ACTION
<p>Items 1 - Welcome & Introduction</p> <p>MH welcomed all to the meeting and introduced new observers/advisors</p>	
<p>Item 2 - New Members/Resignations</p> <p>CF – Jim Shadbolt resigned from the LAF MH/CF – sent thanks for his contribution to the forum</p>	
<p>Item 3 - Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were taken and recorded.</p>	
<p>Item 4 – Matters arising from Minutes - not otherwise Agenda Items</p> <p><u>Public Space Protection Orders</u></p> <p>CF – Following LAF observation, some media and/or press releases proposed to reinforce the powers currently enforced to tackle dog related issues. Enforcement officer also offered to attend LAF to answer questions.</p> <p>MH/KB – not necessary, please pass on thanks for offer.</p> <p><u>ROWIP</u></p> <p>MH – Good to see LAF comments have been taken on board, thanks to CF, thanks to CCC for producing plan.</p> <p>KB – LAF should review ROWIP annually to see how much is being achieved and provide advice if necessary.</p> <p>CF –Town and Community Council Liaison forum to be advised of new ROWIP in January. Considering a ROWIP launch event in Spring,</p> <p><u>ORPA Survey Data</u></p> <p>CF – Highways Systems Development Officer has confirmed video survey data can be uploaded to the WDM system for their records.</p> <p><u>BOAT Signposting</u></p> <p>CF – Only MH has provided a response to the signposting prioritisation. If no further responses received signposting will commence on CCC and MH info basis only.</p> <p>KB – will they be waymarked as well as signed from road.</p> <p>CF – Not automatically, waymarking not statutory, carried out if necessary.</p> <p>MH – GPS heavily used now, signposting unlikely to lead to increased use, see how project goes.</p>	<p>CF</p>

<p><u>Pembrey</u> CF – Statement from traffic management – Pay and Display not to be used for horsebox overspill.</p> <p>KB – Question over legality of car/4x4 and trailer in horsebox parking bay, police advice suggests vehicle and trailer not considered commercial.</p> <p>CF – NRW used to have large car park near railway bridge but reduced its size a number of years ago. As NRW sell annual permits to horse riders to use the forestry should they also consider providing parking rather than rely on limited CCC parking?</p> <p>PM – Will look into existing car park, reasons for reducing size.</p> <p><u>Brechfa Wind Farm</u> JG – Severn Wye have resigned from Wind Farm fund panel. Fund is for Community led developments, forthcoming event to work with community groups to make sustainable applications – must add value to community. Helpful if LAF members could attend an event to represent LAF and their user interests.</p> <p>PM – Could member of the fund attend LAF to provide a presentation, Moisha is fund manager, will send CF & MH email address.</p> <p>JG – An event to showcase successful project is being planned.</p> <p>GW – LAF shouldn't give support without sufficient background information.</p> <p>PM – There is a website which provides details of the fund.</p> <p>MH – LAF presentation to be arranged and members to approach Jillie if she would like to represent their interests at January event.</p> <p><u>NRW Barriers</u> MH – Issue now being discussed at Byways User Groups (BUG) meeting.</p> <p>PM – Barriers only to be closed following direct instruction from Police. Emergency key holder also under discussion. LAF might be added as consultee.</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>ALL/CF</p>
<p>Item 5 – Cycling on Footpaths</p> <p>CF – item deferred, likely to be discussed at a standalone meeting.</p>	
<p>Item 6 – NCN Barrier Removal</p> <p>CF read written update from CCC Transport Planner</p> <p>KB – What barriers are going to be used instead? Is unlawful motorbike use likely to increase if access is widened?</p> <p>CF will feedback queries.</p>	<p>CF</p>

<p>Item 7 – RA Paths for People Project</p> <p>CF – following on from Oliver Wickes recent presentation to the LAF, CCC have met with Oliver again to push the project forward in the County. There are 4 Community Councils looking to sign up to the scheme already.</p>	
<p>Item 8 – Towy Valley Path</p> <p>CF read out written update from Sam Palmer</p> <p>PB – Updates not being received despite signing up for information.</p> <p>CF – suggested TVP to be removed from agenda for the time being, to instead be discussed under AOB as appropriate.</p> <p>All agreed</p>	
<p>Item 9 – Issue Reports</p> <p>RL gave a synopsis of his quarterly analysis, to be circulated to members via email.</p> <p>MH – How many signs are installed annually?</p> <p>CF – Alan Warner should have a record.</p> <p>RL – Are damaged ones being replaced?</p> <p>MH – Can we have a report from Alan W?</p> <p>CF Will make request.</p> <p>CF suggested that issues reporting should continue but there should be something meaningful in terms of advice to CCC, perhaps annually, coming out of the reports rather than the quarterly evaluation only being minuted.</p> <p>All agreed, MH & RL to develop advice note annually.</p>	<p>MH</p> <p>CF</p> <p>MH/RL</p>
<p>Item 10 – LAF Conference</p> <p>CF provided a synopsis of the conference content & discussion and will circulate minutes to members once NRW have issued them.</p> <p>Interest in Public Service Boards and link with LAF, invite to be extended to local PSB</p>	<p>CF</p> <p>CF</p>
<p>Item 11 – County Walks Promotion</p> <p>MH read email from Huw Parsons regarding walking promotion in 2020.</p> <p>RL – test of improved promotion techniques offered, lost opportunity.</p> <p>GW – there are 4 apps where Carmarthenshire Walks can be obtained.</p> <p>KB – would like to know what promotion is being used by CCC</p> <p>RL – promotion can fit in with many groups and projects, needs to be easy like interpretation boards, gpx files, “make access accessible”</p> <p>KB – can we request attendance?</p> <p>NB – How do County Walks come into being?</p>	<p>CF/SP</p>

<p>CF – most were developed using great funding through 1990 and 2000’s, suggestions taken but need to be sustainable and attractive to users.</p>	
<p>Item 12 – Countryside Access Staff</p> <p>CF update LAF on Ranger transfer to environment.</p> <p>MH – Can Leisure be invited to LAF to outline their role in access provision?</p>	<p>CF</p>
<p>Item 13 – AOB</p> <p>KB – <u>Equestrian Access on NRW Land</u>; problems reported to CCC used to be resolved with help from NRW when possible, now falls to CCC only, are NRW still willing to assist?</p> <p>PM – will look into this.</p> <p>CF – <u>Area Statements</u>; workshop being organised in Carmarthenshire for all LAFs in the SW region. Will be run by David Bleines, date a venue tbc.</p> <p>DB – Will circulate invite to all members with outline of event aims.</p> <p>JG – <u>Forestry Waymarking</u>, funding has been achieved for signposting in Brechfa in line with French numbering system, need to re-submit project idea to NRW for approval.</p> <p>PM – NRW have some concerns, junctions without trees.</p> <p>JG – posts can be put in if no trees present.</p> <p>PM – there is a commitment from windfarm developer to develop waymarked trails, 2 projects could be put together rather than running 2 separate schemes.</p> <p>MH – make sure it is what users want, important to keep communication open.</p> <p>JG – windfarm developers no longer responsible for signposting forestry entrances to provide access info, NRW now responsible.</p> <p>PM – will discuss with developers in January.</p> <p>JG – <u>Brechfa Windfarm Public Liability</u> cover question still not answered satisfactorily.</p> <p>PM – proof of cover has been provided.</p>	<p>PM</p> <p>DB</p> <p>PM</p>

Item 14 – Future Agenda Items

Sustrans Paths 4 All

Marketing & Promotion of Walking/County Walks

Leisure role in Access

PROW Signposting

Public Service Boards

Brechfa Community Fund

Item 18 – Next meetings

12th March 2020 – Carmarthen Leisure Centre

11th June 2020 - Tywi Centre, Llandeilo

10th September 2020 – Carmarthen Leisure Centre

3rd December 2020 - Tywi Centre, Llandeilo