

CORNWALL COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS FORUM (CCAF) MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26 JANUARY 2016

Date: Tuesday 26 January 2016
 Time: 2.00 pm
 Venue: Committee Room - Cornwall Council, 39 Penwinnick Road,
 St Austell, PL25 5DR

Present: Nicholas Jeans (Chairman), Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher, Ellie Bennett,
 Tony Blumenau, Kevin Boshier, Edward Chapman, Steve Church,
 Robert Fraser, Jacqueline Merrick, Andrea Sandford, Caroline
 Sargent, James Scobie, Janet Shearer and Richard Tufnell.

Also in Attendance: Rowena Brebner- Democratic Officer, Mike Eastwood - Countryside
 Access Team Leader

Apologies: Adrian Bigg, Carolyn Boyce, Jim Candy, Joyce Duffin, Howard
 Farmer and Bill Maddern

Minute no		Action by
CAF/40	Welcome and Apologies for Absence The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting, in particular Sophy Allen and Paula Holt from Natural England.	
CAF/41	South West Coast Path Sophy Allen, Natural England, gave a presentation to the Forum regarding the South West Coast Path (SWCP) proposals as follows:- • Access in Cornwall • The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 • Where we are working • Public Interest/Private Interest • Responsiveness to Coastal Change • Timetable • CCAF involvement in the coastal access implementation process • 'Mapping Review' meetings would be held with the authority • The 'least restrictive' option would be sought negotiating with landowners over access • There was a recognition that the designation of access on farmed land near the coast would change according to whether it was	LB/ME

	currently being farmed as arable or not During discussion, reference was made to the following:- • The Coastal Access Working group may wish to consider public transport links and possible tourist attractions alongside the SWCP proposals • Reassurance was sought that open access land between the path and sea, where farmed, would not interfere with farming practices • It was noted that the 2013 Coastal Access NE Publication advised that dogs should be on short leads when in the vicinity of livestock and under 'effective control' elsewhere The Countryside Access Team Leader advised that the Council would be working in partnership in a positive way despite the reduced financial resources available. The Chairman thanked SA and PH for their attendance. Following discussion it was AGREED that Sophy Allen would be asked to provide a list of the issues that had been identified by Mark Owen for the Coastal Access Working group to consider and respond to accordingly. An updated timetable would be provided to the Forum at the next meeting.	
CAF/42	Kelgh Kernow Project Steve Church introduced the report outlining the project proposal to create Kelgh Kernow (The Cornwall Circumnavigation Trail). Funding bids would be made and Local Action Groups (LAGs) were being approached for their support. During discussion reference was made to the following:- • A suggestion that a joint application to LAGs be made to avoid duplication; • It was suggested that it would be sensible to market the trail widely; • Concern regarding ongoing funding for maintenance of the trail; • It was suggested that as much of the route as possible should be available to all users but the difficulties of multi-use trail creation were	

	also pointed out. The Countryside Access Team Leader was supportive of the idea but advised that it would put extra pressure on the maintenance funds on routes that were currently not well used. He further advised that funding for multi-use trails was often more readily available. Following consideration it was moved by Steve Church, seconded by Jim Scobie and RESOLVED that the Forum supports in principle, the Kelgh Kernow Project as set out in the report circulated under agenda item 3. Noted That:- I. Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher declared a non-registerable interest in this item due to him being a member of a Local Actin Group (LAG) II. Edward Chapman declared a non-registerable interest in this item due to him being a member of a Local Action Group (LAG)	
CAF/43	Declarations of Interest (on matters included in the agenda) 1. Patrick Aubrey-Fletcher declared a non-registerable interest in Agenda Item 3. Kelgh Kernow Project due to him being a member of a Local Action Group (LAG) 2. Edward Chapman declared a non-registerable interest in Agenda Item 3. Kelgh Kernow Project due to him being a member of a Local Action Group (LAG)	LB
CAF/44	Minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2015 It was moved by the Chairman, seconded by Caroline Sargent, and RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 October 2015 were correctly recorded and that they be signed by the Chairman.	
CAF/45	Matters Arising (Not otherwise included in the agenda) The following matters were considered by the Forum:-	

	1) CAF/25/Access Restrictions by the Forestry Commission The Chairman advised that he had received an email from John Ebsary confirming that all maps would show Public RoW in future 2) CAF/25/Strategic Plan for Trail Development The Countryside Access Team Leader advised that Nigel Blackler was the point of contact within the Council about the development of a strategic plan for Cycle Trails. The Chairman advised that Rachel Bice had confirmed via email that she would be happy to meet and discuss the review of the Access Strategy due 2017. Following consideration it was AGREED that a working group consisting of the Chairman, Bob Fraser, Steve Church, Adrian Bigg the Countryside Access Team Leader would meet with her with a view to discussing the review of the Access Strategy due 2017. 3) CAF/25/Natural England Dedication of Access Land and National Nature Reserves – The Lizard The Countryside Access Team Leader advised that he had received a response from Richard Thomas, Natural England, to the effect that new permissive bridleways on the Lizard had been re-opened and that Natural England was looking to formalise these, but not as public bridleways.	NKJ/LB
CAF/46	Chairman's Announcements The Chairman made the following announcements:- 1) Cornwall Council Consultations The Chairman advised that following the discussion made at the last meeting, the Forum had made contact with the new Chief Executive, Kate Kennally raising this as an issue that needed to be resolved. A response had been received and Paul Masters, Corporate Director for Economy, Enterprise and Environment would liaise with Jon James, Natural Environment Manager to ensure this happened in the future.	JJ

	2) LAF, Exeter, November 2015 The Chairman advised that he had attended the above event and had circulated notes to the Forum. Two things to note were the fact that Bristol LAF had not restricted its dealings to countryside issues, but also included urban areas eg urban cycle-ways. Also, it was noted that a number of CCAF members had responded to the consultation on dog fouling and code for walkers. The Forum was advised that the Kennel Club had a consultation and a link to enable members to respond to this would be circulated. 3) Correspondence to Forum The Chairman advised that historically, the Forum had received a list of correspondence received since the last meeting which had proved useful. He requested that this be re-instated. 4) Venue of CCAF meetings – website The Chairman advised that he had been told that the meeting venue for this and the April meeting was incorrectly recorded on the website as being held in Truro and requested that this be rectified for future meeting dates.	LB
CAF/47	Coastal Access Working Group Steve Church confirmed that the Coastal Access working Group had not met since the last meeting.	
CAF/48	Consultation Response Working Group The Chairman confirmed that the Consultation Response Working Group had not met since the last meeting.	
CAF/49	Moorland and Open Access Working Group Bob Fraser confirmed that the Moorland and Open Access Working Group had yet to meet and elect a Chairman. The Chairman advised that he had circulated an email in respect of Bodmin Moor and suggested that the MOAWG should set up a meeting and pursue some of the RoW issues which had been mentioned in the email.	

CAF/50	Multi-Use Trail Working Group The Chairman advised that the Multi-Use Trail Working Group had visited the Truro Eastern park and ride scheme to consider the pedestrian and cycle links to the existing network in the Town. A report outlining the suggestions had been circulated to the Forum. Council colleagues had responded to these suggestions and the Strategic Transport Manager would be in contact with the Forum to discuss these further. The working group had also attended a meeting regarding the Truro Higher Town and Threemilestone cycle link and looked at the cycle links in the area. It seemed that the scheme had been designed by non-cyclists and a number of issues had been identified. The group had at the same meeting been given details of the proposed Bodmin-Camel Trail extension cycle link and had raised a number of points, particularly lack of provision for horse riders. Reports on both these projects had previously been circulated to Forum members by e-mail. It was also noted that the Truro Cycle Forum had formed and been involved in consultations for a number of projects. The MP for this area had met with the Truro Cycle Forum and would meet with the Strategic Transport Manager to take these proposals forward. The Chairman advised that a proposal to extend the Bodmin & Wenford Railway further along the Camel Trail past Boscarne to Wadebridge was being put forward and a feasibility study undertaken. The Forum would be involved in the consultation process regarding this but concern has expressed regarding the challenges of a multi-use trail with limited width.	
CAF/51	Rights of Way and Definitive Map Working Group The Countryside Access Team Leader advised that the Rights of Way and Definitive Map Working Group had met, the notes of which had been produced by Adrian Bigg and circulated to the Forum prior to the meeting. The Countryside Access Team Leader advised that a revised timetable for the consolidation work would need to be agreed as part of the revision to the	

	Access Strategy but achieving this would be dependent on the availability of resources to deliver the programme. The Forum was advised that the British Horse Society was hosting two events on 6 and 7 February 'Restoring the Record' based on the publication and members were invited to book online (the 6 February date was fully booked, but spaces were available for 7 February). The link to this would be circulated to the Forum after the meeting. The Chairman advised that a meeting was being arranged with the Strategic Environment Manager, Rachel Bice to discuss and progress the revision of the Cornwall Countryside Access Strategy. The Chairman drew the Forum's attention to a report of case law relating to 'enclosure awards'. The Countryside Access Team Leader advised that this Council did not have many enclosure awards, but this could form the basis of a research project for a volunteer from 'Restoring the Record'. He further advised that he would be hoping to recruit volunteers at the 6/7 February events to assist in collecting information in advance of the 2026 deadline. In response to a suggestion from a Forum Member the Countryside Access Team Leader agreed that he would consider ways of highlighting the importance of submitting claims for additional rights of way by this deadline using the local press etc. The Ramblers Association, the British Horse Society and the County Landowners Association could be useful contacts to assist with this. It was also suggested that the Town and Parish Clerks be informed via CALC. It was AGREED that the Chairman and Countryside Access Team Leader would discuss how best to consider publicity of meeting the 2026 deadline.	ME/NKJ
CAF/52	CCAF Work Programme The Countryside Access Team Leader introduced the revised Work Programme, copies of which were circulated at the meeting.	
CAF/53	Date, Time and Venue of Future Meetings The Forum noted the date of the next meeting.	

CAF/54	Any Business which the Chairman Considers to be Urgent Penwith Landscape Partnership – Heritage Lottery fund successful bid Steve Church advised that the above partnership had been successful in securing £2.7 million through the Landscape Partnership Programme. He wondered whether it would be appropriate for the Forum to be involved in the project. The Countryside Access Team Leader advised that he would place it on the CCAF Work Programme and discuss with Adrian Bigg, who had been involved in the bid and Colette from the AONB Partnership. It may be possible to invite the Project officer to give a presentation to the Forum at a future meeting.	
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The meeting ended at 4.55 pm.

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