

LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

LAF meeting on 18 June 2009 – Agenda Item 9

Warwickshire County Council – CAROWIP – planning for 2009-10

Part A lists the activities which we routinely undertake as part of our normal work. 'Business of Usual'

Part B lists those actions which are underway and which it is proposed to complete.

Part C lists those actions which have either been stopped, or not yet started. If these are to be progressed, then it will be at the expense of something in Part A or Part B. These are activities which we would like to progress.

Part D lists those actions for which a decision has been taken not to progress.

WCC Countryside Access Team would welcome the views of the Forum on the actions to be pursued during the 2009-10 financial year.

Questions to consider:

A Should any of the Actions in Part C be prioritised?

If the answer is yes, what activities from Parts A and B should be slowed or stopped.

B Does the Forum agree that the Actions in Part D should be postponed indefinitely?

Also attached for the Forum's comments is the final draft of The List of Recognised Promoted Routes.

A 'Business as usual'	
Bridges	
N02f P05a	Undertake a programme of works to deal with the 6 large (over 8 metre span) missing bridges
P05b	Continue the programme of bridge repair
P05c	Develop an inspection programme for all known bridges on the public path network
Practical works and maintenance	
A01a	Continue to remove stiles and unnecessary structures from the rights of way network
H02a	Continue to remove stiles and unnecessary structures from the rights of way network to allow access for more people
P02a	Identify field edge paths which require regular clearance
P02b	Develop a seasonal field edge path clearance programme
P02c	Identify utility paths which require regular spraying or clearance programme
P02d	Develop a utility path clearance and spraying programme
P04a	Follow the policy on 'Gaps, Gates and Stiles on footpaths and bridleways' when replacing or repairing existing boundary crossings
P04b	Follow the policy on 'Gaps, Gates and Stiles on footpaths and bridleways' for boundary crossings when authorising new structures
P04e	Seek landowners' consent for installation of dog-gates alongside stiles especially surrounding centres of population (NB only if unable to install gate or gap instead)
Ensuring compliance	
N03b	To ensure that all classes of NMUs are catered for in the design of road crossing and road junctions
P01b	Continue to take legal action against persistent non compliance with legislation
R05b	Work with district and borough planners to ensure applications affecting existing rights of way are advertised and treated as a material planning consideration
Promoted routes and promotion activity	
S01a	Maintain a list of Recognised Promoted Routes ('the List')
S02a	Develop a procedure for adding routes to the List
S02d	Support and assist the development of the North Arden Trail (this project has recently been awarded £422,500 by Heritage Lottery Fund)
Supporting and working with others	
E02a	Free talks will be given to any group willing to work to manage, promote or improve the path network
E07a	Provide support and training for volunteers and other partners
N01a	Support applications for agri environment schemes which include constructive access elements
N05d	Work in partnership with Safer Routes to School Officers to develop and secure improvements to the utility path network
P07a	Continue with the existing P3 Scheme and encourage other parishes to join the Scheme
P08a	Support voluntary groups which undertake practical, promotional and research work on the path network
T01b	Support A Coventry Way Association in supporting their annual event, and offer similar support for other key events.

Administrative or internal	
A02a	Publicise appropriate routes once improvements have been carried out
E03b	Maintain up to date web pages including network changes and closures
E07b	Share training and best practice, and ensure that some within the team have the skills to train others
P06a	Make reporting defects and other obstructions as easy as possible for path users
P11a R08a	Develop written working practices to formalise internal procedures
R04a	Continue and complete the digitised data checking process towards a digital record
R04b	Establish IT framework to allow full network survey, including inventory information, and input data into GIS
Legal orders and improvements to connectivity	
R01a	Progress the review in accordance with the Policy covering the Definitive Map Review at the current rate
R02a	Offer reduced fee PPOs on paths newly recorded or upgraded by DMMOs for applications made within 3 months of confirmation
R02b	Pursue PPOs where they can be made in lieu of DMMOs
R02c	Offer reduced fees to landowners who are willing to create additional paths or links as part of a "New Paths for Old" package
R02d	Give priority to all PPO applications which remove or improve crossings of railway lines or heavily trafficked roads or which remove the need for excessive road walking
R05a	Seek additional routes and improvements to existing paths commensurate with increase in population or vehicle movements on large development sites
R05d	Seek developer contributions associated with all large developments
R06a	Seek agreements which add routes constructively to the path network
R06b	Seek agreements in lieu of DMMO's
R07a	We will use schemes under the 'New Paths for Old' umbrella to improve and develop the rights of way network for the public by combining public path orders and other legal agreements
Country Parks (business as usual and projects underway)	
A03b	Promote use of Country Parks and greenways as safe gateways to the countryside
H05c	Promote use of Country Parks and greenways, for health benefits
N06a	Develop 2 new greenways – Kenilworth Berkswell and Leamington to Rugby
S02b	Support and assist the development of Sustrans routes
S02g	Develop the two proposed greenways (Leamington-Rugby and Kenilworth-Berkswell)
S08a	Promote the opportunities for safe cycling in Country Parks and greenways and bridleways

B Specific actions (underway – to be continued)

E05a	Arrange publicity campaign to highlight the importance of dog worming, effects of livestock worrying and impact on wildlife etc.
S03b	Relaunch the existing Avon Valley Way between Stratford upon Avon and Marlcliff

C Specific actions (on hold or not yet started, requiring reallocation of resources)**Practical works and maintenance**

A01d	Develop at least one wheelchair accessible circular route of at least 3 miles in the countryside, outside Country Parks
A01f	Work with Fieldfare Trust to receive accessibility accreditation for a number of routes within Warwickshire (3 by year 4 and 10 by year 10)
A01i	Identify key routes for accessibility improvements
P02e	Carry out a survey, and develop an overhead vegetation clearance programme, for all routes with equestrian rights
P04f	Survey all routes with equestrian rights and develop a programme for improving gates and gate latches
P09d	Develop programme of surface improvements for access to school routes
S01b	Ensure that routes on the List are periodically inspected
S01c	Continue seeking improved infrastructure on routes on the List

Promoted routes and promotion activity

A02b	Countryside for All - Build on success of existing walks pack and develop pack of longer, more challenging routes and develop additional publicity material to promote them
E01a	To publish a countryside access magazine twice a year to inform users of the countryside, share best practice and promote rights and responsibilities
E03a	Develop website to educate and inform all countryside users
H05a	Countryside for All - Build on success of existing walks pack and develop pack of longer routes
S03a	Work with others to identify and improve a number of suitable waterside routes, and promote them as easy access walks
T02a	Develop series of gateway information boards in key tourism locations to promote local circular routes and other countryside attractions and businesses
T02b	Further develop use of the Warwickshire Web to provide information for visitors about the Warwickshire countryside
T02e	Develop a "Two Castles Walk" between Warwick and Kenilworth Castles

Supporting and working with others

S02e	Support and assist the development of a strategic equestrian route through the County
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Administrative or internal

E07d	Provide training for the Countryside Access Team in understanding overlapping disciplines e.g. agriculture, planning, ecology etc.
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Legal orders and improvements to connectivity

N02a	Identify and use key sections of roadside verge to create safe links for all NMUs
N02c	Identify key equestrian and cycling links and desired links, and prioritise and secure them
N03a	Establish safer crossings of major roads, 'LTP heavy traffic routes' other roads and railway lines for all NMUs
N08d	Survey all WCC landholdings and review and develop the countryside access path network
N08f	Assess provision of horse-riding routes in North Warwickshire and develop and progress a programme of enhancements
R02e	Promote creation orders to create links between existing paths or to improve strategic recreational routes over WCC land
R02f	Promote creation orders to create links between existing paths or to improve strategic recreational routes over land in non-WCC ownership

D The following actions have been postponed indefinitely

H01d	Promote existing Health Walks Schemes and support the growth of the Scheme
H02b	Targeted publicity for appropriate routes (<i>gap gate stile</i>) once improved
H03a	Work with existing "Walking the Way to Health" groups to establish and improve suitable routes
S04a	Develop and organise an annual walking festival, building on the success of the 2005 event
T01a	Publicise the annual walking festival throughout the UK
A01h	Provide four new sensory trails
E05b	Liaise with dog wardens to promote the responsible use of rights of way and the countryside by dog owners.
H01a	Encourage people to sign up to volunteering with existing practical groups
H01e	Provide led walks and walks with a theme e.g. history
H01f	Publicise the availability of information in order to increase the confidence of potential users
P01a	Continue annual ploughing and cropping campaign
P04g	Develop a strategy to exclude illegal motorised users from public footpaths and bridleways
P03c	Encourage P3 groups and other partner groups to sign paths with fingerposts displaying destinations and route times
P08b	Encourage other voluntary and community groups to undertake practical works on the path network
S01d	Identify key road links on the List and seek to create alternative routes
S06d	Work with heritage and environmental professionals on promotional material which links together topics e.g. history, archaeology, wildlife
S07a	Develop a series of stile free circular routes with information explaining the health benefits, timed circuits, etc from centres of populations
S08c	Promote family cycling on named trails
P03b	Develop a trial of improved roadside signage including fingerposts with destinations and route times, stile free routes, etc and monitor public response
S11b	Develop the existing walks and events programme to include guided cycling events