

STAUNTON ACCESS MEETING

Date: 04/04/13

Time: 1.30pm

Location: Staunton Rangers office

1. Apologies

Jim Edwards

2. Present:

- Tim Speller, SGSCP tim.speller@hants.gov.uk (07841 493315)
- Adam Maskill, SGSCP adam.maskill@hants.gov.uk (07975 597142)
- Simon James, Beat Forester Forestry Commission simon.james@forestry.gov.uk (07771667141)
- Tracey Viney, Portsmouth Water (t.viney@portsmouthwater.co.uk)
- Sam Jones, HCC Access sam.s.jones@hants.gov.uk (07808 500672)
- Rob Earl, Hampshire Police Robert.earl@hampshire.pnn.police.uk (07769162633)
- Taylor Young, Hampshire Police taylor.young@hampshire.pnn.police.uk (07905 833264)
- Samantha Heath, Hampshire Police Samantha.heath@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
- Matthew Dean, Hampshire Police, matthew.dean@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
- Lynda Potter, Hampshire Police Lynda.potter@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
- Martin Healey, East Hants District Council Countryside Manager martin.healey@easthants.gov.uk (07990 775782)
- Mike Ashton, CTC mikeashton1@googlemail.com (02392 92596953)
- Sue Montilla, BHS Rep (07821 165222)

3. Minutes and matters arising (18/12/12)

Mike A had made representation to Havant Borough Council re additions to the Havant Cycle Map as a reprint was planned for April 2013. **Action MA.**

4. Progress report-Small Grants Project

Good publicity continues to appear as a result of the first stage of the project. The Forestry Commission had completed the cutting back along the track running north from the Havant Thicket car park. The FC tractor and blade was due in to start scraping back along the same track now the ground was drying out. **Action SJ.**

A grant was being submitted to surface the informal track between the HT car park and the main track. **Action SJ.**

A new display board would be erected in the car park to remind visitors of the Do's and Don'ts when using the area. **Action SJ.**

The grant funding from HCC for this project has now been paid. Users of the new section of track were being monitored by Staunton rangers and volunteers. This would continue until further

notice. Initial results suggest that there has been no increase in motorcycle traffic. The majority of users are dog walkers. **Action AM.**

M.A suggested an opening event during the Summer when all the maps/mapboards and signage has been sorted. A date would be confirmed as soon as possible. **Action T.S**

5. Equestrian access

Sue M requested that the area between the two new field gates and the bridle gate, at the Western end of Rowlands Castle bridleway 29 and the Staunton Way, be filled with some scalping or similar hard surfacing. Also that the barbed wire on either side of the bridle gate be replaced with plain wire. **Action AM.**

The BHS and other riding/carriage driving groups had put together a training/awareness day for horse riders and ROW/Countryside staff. Simon.J asked if FC staff would be able to attend. **Action S.M.**

6. SGSCP map and permissive routes

Sam Holly, SGSCP Marketing Officer was working on the new map/mapboards for Leigh Park Gardens. A final draft is expected soon. **Action Sam.H**

The Ranger team would be working with S.H to produce and install the waymarking for the new cycle route and existing walking routes. **Action T.S/A.M.**

Portsmouth Water had provided 5K of funding towards this project. **Action T.V**

7. Police liaison/motorcycles/anti-social behaviour

After the Access meeting PC Earl visited the Shell garage at Witchers Gate to raise with the duty manager the issue of underage motorcyclists purchasing fuel. It is current policy not to sell to anyone under 16. Anyone using a jerry can is required to speak first with an assistant. PC Earl had also spoken to the Community Focus Team (CFT) to clarify if a post code is really necessary for a call out to Havant Thicket. Apparently it is not. A detailed forestry map would be e-mailed to the group which will show individual planting blocks together with the statutory Rights of Way. **Action S.M.**

A copy will be sent to the CFT. **Action PC Earl.**

The recent incident involving motorcycles and an ATV in Havant Thicket 570/30 was reviewed. The Police quick response team had not been able to locate the incident despite a grid reference being supplied by Staunton staff. It is hoped that the new map will help. Additionally, where possible a ranger will remain in the vicinity to act as a guide. PC Earl would produce an 'intelligence analysis' map/report of the area. **Action PC Earl.**

A basic summary for any given post code could be obtained from www.crimemaps.co.uk Adam.M, Simon.J and PC Earl would form a sub-group to rota anti-social patrols during the Summer months. **Action A.M, S.J, PC Earl.**

Portsmouth City Council would be invited to the next meeting as they are a key player in the development of this area. Jeff Hutchinson is their Estate Manager. **Action T.S.**

Gary Morton the Environmental Health Officer for HBC had attended a previous meeting and would be contacted re helping with the anti-social issues. **Action T.S**

The PCs liaised re current initiatives in the Leigh Park estates including; leaflet dropping, direct contact with the housing agencies and signage. Cabbage Field Row a notorious problem area for the motorbikes was due to be ploughed up by a local farmer to discourage access.

8. ROW network

Sam J and Mike A would meet on Monday the 8th April to progress an action carried over from a previous meeting (Cath Hart). The aim being to link up the nearby communities with simple signage to inform users and give them more confidence. It is envisaged that the signs will be simple and vandal proof. The key locations proposed for these signs are as follows; 1.The junction of bridleways 123 and 120. 2.The junction of Tempest Avenue and Grasmere Way, opposite Tesco. 3. The junction of bridleways 121 and 120 and the track that goes north alongside Bells Copse. 4. The junction of the track alongside Bells Copse with the track running along the northern edge of Deer Slaughter Plain where it meets the north-south track by Havant thicket car park. **Action SJ/MA.**

9. Shipwright's Way

An update from Cath Hart the project officer would be attached to the minutes. **Action T.S**

10. Bittern Park Project

Jim Edwards the Leigh Park community rep' had submitted a written brief about the project. The aim being to restore access to Leigh Park gardens from the housing estates to the West. The newly formed Staunton Anglers Committee support this proposal as did those present. This item would be put on to the agenda for the next meeting so that a project can be started. Action T.S/J.E

11. AOB

Tracey.V updated the group on a new contract that has just been issued to thin 20% of the Corsican Pine plantation within the middle of Havant Thicket. This area is notorious for anti-social behaviour and recently this had included the use of motorbikes and chainsaws. The thinning contract should encourage the undergrowth and make the area much less attractive.

Tim.S reported on the use of mini cctv units in all the three 4WD vehicles at Queen Elizabeth Country Park. The experiment had proved a great success and an additional unit would be purchased for the Staunton vehicle. The Roadhawk cameras helped with evidence collection and gave the rangers greater freedom to operate safely.

On 02/04/13 Scott Salmon from the EA Crime Team came to meet staff and give a presentation on the group's activities. They work in partnership with both Hants CC and West Sussex CC and other government agencies. They are part of the SE Gain group (Government Agency Intelligence Network) which enables intelligence and resource sharing. The first point of call for all fly-tipping should be Havant Borough, however for larger or hazardous incidents the EA team should be involved. The e-mail line is intelligencesd@environment-agency.co.uk For passing information about general local crime the Crimestoppers tel number is 0800 555 111. This is an anonymous service where the caller is given a pin number for reference. Scott's e-mail is scott.salmon@environment-agency.gov.uk and his mobile 07841 493315.

The standard Police 0845 number is being phased out in favour of the 101 line.

T.S had made contact with Helen Harris the HCC Strategic Transport Manager for schools.

M.A raised surfacing issues on the SGSCP permissive cycling route and asked that the proposed Blue MTB route be for Havant Thicket be included in the future capital programme. S.J indicated that the Forestry Commission would consider this for a 2014 project.

Leaflets were given out concerning the Hampshire Horsewatch Scheme. This initiative is a partnership with the equine community designed to protect animals and property. Further information can be found on the the Hampshire Horsewatch's web-site www.nfed.co.uk/horsewatch or by phoning 07762 754788 or 07790 440478.

Andrew Purtill is the HCC Accredited Community Safety Officer for the area. Andrew is part of the CCBS department (the same as SGSCP staff) and will respond to 101 calls. Andrew.purtill@hants.gov.uk tel 0845600 1747. Andrew would be invited to the next meeting.

Mike.A raised surfacing issues on bridleway 121 at the western end of the Portsmouth Water land. **Action A.M**

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday the 11th July at 1.30pm in the Staunton Rangers office.