

GREEN ROADS WORKING GROUP AND COLTON PARISH PILOT STUDY

Notes and actions from meeting: Thursday 30th September, Cumbria Highways, Kendal

Present: Keith Masser (CCC, Area Highways Engineer) – **Chair**
Colin Barr (chairman of Colton Parish Council)
Rod Wilson (CCC Cllr)
Tony Hill (LDNPA Ranger)
David Gibson (CCC, Cumbria Countryside Access Partnership)

Apologies: Claire Salisbury (CCC Cllr), Tony Beaty (Cumbria Highways), Kevin Lancaster (CCC Cllr & member of Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority), John Atkinson (Bethacar Moor Commoners Association and local farmer), Mandy Lane (Colton PC Clerk)

1. Actions from previous meeting

- KM – Clarify Cumbria Highway's records on the status and derivation of green roads:
KM confirmed that CCC does not inspect green roads unless a specific complaint has been made.
- Draw up a statement of the present position wrt Colton's green roads
KM provided a list of unsurfaced roads in South Lakeland, although not a definitive list, it is valid in terms of access.
- DG: - Put together a diagram explaining the relationship between the various organisations and groups dealing with green roads.
Outstanding
- Get a quotation from Capita for condition survey of one green road.
Quote of £240 per day. Estimate of a couple of days work plus cost for report writing. Approx overall cost of £1000.
- TH: - Get a quotation from the 'Fix the Fells' team for a condition survey of one green road.
Quote of £250 for survey and report. The landscape repair approach uses a sliding scale of repair work (low, medium, high)
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2. Discussions from Actions

- KM provided a map of Colton's green roads, taken from the Hierarchy of trails website, although there was some uncertainty over some of the route information i.e. dual status routes or where some routes run into bridleways etc. *TH to check whether U5203 and U5204 are unclassified green roads or byways.*

- Discussion as to the age and validity of the information available in the map system i.e. Pre NCRC?
- Suggestion of the maps to be sent to the Parish Council's to check on U roads, although discussions decided that Parish Councils may not hold the correct information.
- KM confirmed that the current list will be kept updated for the future along with any new adoptions
 - *Action: Recommendation that as Colton is a pilot scheme that the records should be updated and kept up to date - KM*
- The 1929 transfer maps are generally accepted to be the definitive list at that point.
 - *Action: Work needs to be done on the records that we currently have to make them compatible and comprehensive – KM*
- DG reported that there is no CCAP website that is accessible to the general public due to funds. However, if a website were to be built it would be used more as an internal tool rather than public facing. The only way of sourcing information from the CCAP currently is by telephone.
- A suggestion was made for more local buy in as otherwise the task will be almost insurmountable. There was a wish expressed that this group and the pilot scheme be used as a way forward to teach others. Although there is still the issue that UCR's come under the remit of Highway Engineers and Local Committee so a way we can all work together needs to be ironed out. It was agreed that one of the aims of this group is to look at Colton and use it as an example of what can be achieved with management and funding etc, although with current funding priority it's not going to be easy.
- KM confirmed that £250 could be made available for the survey on the A5064 through 'Fix the Fells' and TH was asked to carry out the survey before the next meeting. More information would need to be provided on the quotation for carrying out the survey by Capita before any funds could be made available.
 - *Action: TH to carry out survey & DG to get quotation for surveying the U5213*
- It was questioned what would we actually need to spend on the network to reach a serviceable level & what would that serviceable level be. It was suggested that a serviceable level would be for farmers with 4wD and trailer and for rambles to have access and use reasonably dry-shod. It was also discussed as to who the main beneficiaries were and who should be meeting the costs.
- Signage issues for service users were raised, as there is uncertainty over route maintenance. Along with maintenance of routes by either motorised vehicles / bikes etc. KM suggested using the two surveyed routes to

identify an improvement / maintenance / management regime that would secure the long term viability of the routes. TH suggested route specific signs that include the community and users to appeal to the better nature of the general public.

- TH requires clarification of his position within the group as UCR's do not fall within his remit although he will be paid by CCC to carry out the survey of the U5064.
- KM suggested that the focus for the next meeting should be for one or two routes only to identify a forward plan and objective.

3. Actions

- KM - Recommendation that as Colton is a pilot scheme that the records should be updated and kept up to date
- Work needs to be done on the records that we currently have to make them compatible and comprehensive
- DG - Put together a diagram explaining the relationship between the various organisations and groups dealing with green roads.
- To obtain quotation for surveying the U5213
- TH - Check whether U5203 and U5204 are unclassified green roads or byways.
- To carry out survey on the U5064

Next meeting: Thursday 6th January 2011 2pm at Cumbria Highways Office, Kendal