

MEETING : CHESHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM
DATE : 16 DECEMBER 2011

REPORT OF : COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS
Contact : Genni Butler & Denise Snelson
Officer 01270 686059 or 01606 271931

RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN - CURRENT PROJECTS

Updates on current projects are provided for both Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester overleaf.

RECOMMENDED:

That the report be noted.

APPENDIX - PROGRESS ON THE RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN – CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Project	Completion date	Partners	Detail and work completed 2011-12	Update December 2011
Bollington – bridge over canal at Clarence Mill to link towpath (FP52 Bollington) with Clarence Road	ongoing	Bollington Civic Society, British Waterways, Friends of Bollington Recreation Ground, adjacent landowner	Project lead = Richard Doran & Civic Society. PROW involvement = helping with any shortfall and dealing with the dedication of a PROW across new structure and down British Waterways' track to park & adjacent circular loop. Opportunities identified and approach made to BW.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial BW response received: suggesting permissive path – responses chased August, September & November 2011
LTP Area Programme Crewe and Nantwich – Crewe to Nantwich Greenway	Spring 2012	SUSTRANS, Highways, Weaver Valley Regional Park	Creation of new bridleway link between Crewe (Queen's Park) and Nantwich Riverside over land owned by the Beam Heath Trust. Part of the Sustrans 'Connect 2' project using the People's Millions Lottery Money. Landowner negotiations continuing Planning permission secured Commons Land permission in application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowner requires alternative route Planning permission, common land consent re-applications required ROW Committee re-approval being sought December 2011
Seven Sisters Lane, Ollerton (ROWIP Ref. H20)	March 2015	North Cheshire Riders, Highways, Landowners	Safety issue for riders on busy lane, used to access bridleway network. Surface improvements sought on connecting bridleway No. 6 also.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highways Road Safety Officers engaged to investigate solutions
Gritstone Trail crossing of A54,	March 2015	Landowners	Seeking to improve crossing of A54 in Wincle. Road safety officer report received. Two landowners approached.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowners approached, but unwilling to offer permissive route Highways solutions being investigated
Long distance horse ride (ROWIP ref. X15)	March 2012	North Cheshire Riders, Hoof Cheshire, local businesses	Development of long distance horse ride. Route would be first in Cheshire East and would be promoted for cyclists as well as horseriders. Route developed by North Cheshire Riders Application for funding submitted August 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding bid successful October 2011 Project delivery initiated
Stapeley Footpath No. 1 (ROWIP Ref. T84)	March 2012	Local Transport Plan, Sustrans	Local Transport Plan Cycling project: Sustrans match funded surface improvements on urban path between school, shops and houses. Landowner agreement secured Quotes from contractors obtained Environmental mitigation agreed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project completed November 2011
Pickmere Footpath No. 13 (ROWIP Ref. T24)	March 2015	Parish Council, CWAC, Landowners	Surface improvements on a footpath connecting Pickmere village with Wincham school. Site meeting held Landowners' agreement sought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project completed October 2011

discovercheshire.co.uk	ongoing	ICT, Tourism colleagues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of www.discovercheshire.co.uk and its sister websites Discover Cheshire's Peak District and Discover the Gritstone Trail with promoted walks, cycles and horse rides. • Knutsford Rail Walks leaflet routes added June 2011 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willaston Old Oak Circular walk added October 2011 • Haslington walk added October 2011
Cheshire East News / other publications	ongoing	Communications teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knutsford Rail Trail leaflet nominated for Best Marketing Event award in the Community Rail Awards 2011 • Nantwich Riverside Loop featured in Cheshire East News • Walks for All route at Astbury Mere is the 6th most visited page out of all of those listed from around the country on the Walk4Life website • Walk4Life Day press release and Radio Stoke interview • Evaluation of Nantwich Riverside Loop press release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ollerton bridleway surface improvements press coverage • Haslington walk feature in Cheshire East News prepared but publication cancelled due to spending freeze

CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER COUNCIL UPDATE ON RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN PROJECTS

Project	Completion date	Partners	Detail	Update December 2011
Cuddington new footpath to link bowling green to FP21 Cuddington upgrade to surface and installation of new bridge	2011/12	Cuddington PC,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not within priority funding list for Highway for 2010/11. Capital bid potential for 2011/12 or possibility for external funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital bid for 2011/12 Pursue external funding
Flintshire to Neston Cycleway	Long term	SUSTRANS, CCC Regeneration, Flintshire CC, Engineering Service etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Securing cycling/walking link between Deeside and Neston. Approach to RSPB has been made by SUSTRANS. RSPB have agreed to permissive footpath, but not to cycling yet. Definitive Map Team dealing with Old Quay and Snab Lane claims – both to be DMMO'd as footpaths. Part of North West Coastal Trail (NWCT) – will be taken forward as part of this project. Authority has sent letter of support to Network Rail to compliment SUSTRANS application for this stretch. I meeting is taking place with landowners on site (RSPB, MoD & Network rail) on 2 December 2010 to progress route The meeting in December was very positive, all landowners confirmed they are happy to progress with a permissive cycle route. There needs to be thorough discussions regarding land management issues in the next few months. Flintshire CC applying for Welsh Assembly funding for their end of the route 2011/12. Cheshire West and Chester will look to secure funding for 2012/13 but will pursue earlier delivery if funding available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DMMO priority document has been produced June 2010 Investigate link to Wirral Way 2010
North West Coastal Trail	Long term	NWDA, surrounding authorities, North West Coastal Forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merseyside & Cheshire Coastal Access Group meet quarterly. NW Coastal trail proposed route through Frodsham Marsh & Flintshire to Neston cycleway Marine & Coastal Access Act gives Natural England a duty to implement a walking route around the coast by 2020. Working closely to secure both objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible source of funding to secure footbridge across Weaver navigation 2011/12

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Bishop Bennet Way	2011	Road Safety Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetreins Green stretch on the capital bid list, other improvements will be assessed. Road crossing surveyed for improvement possibilities Creation Order in progress to secure stretch at the end of Whitegate Way to join Cuddington BR16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capital programme 2011/12
Delamere Loop	2011			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In progress 2011
Weaver Valley	On going	Weaver Valley Partnership Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dutton horse crossing over £1 million project will be delivered over the next few months, a temporary pontoon crossing will be put in place while the work is undertaken. Weaver Way- Riversdale Bridge completed 2010. Additional footpath improvements along River Dane through Vickers parkway partially completed. Future improvements to tow path from Hartford Blue Bridge to Winsford are scheduled for early 2011 (£150K CW&C capital funding to be confirmed April 2011) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On going project
'Walks for All' Cheshire West and Chester	2011	Volunteer group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No steps no stile, walks for all booklet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch Cheshire Show June 2010 Walks on Discover Cheshire April 2011
Accessibility	2011	ICT WEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entire Network Survey information has now been received, reports are being run and issues/anomalies will be assessed for future work programmes and priorities. CAMS data base Fault reporting system will come on line with the new mapping pages Equalities Act training took place March 2011 to assess impact on RoW work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information delivery July 2010 Web package development programme December. Feature to be available Summer 2011
Discover Cheshire	2011	Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New version is now on the web. Additional of walks for all routes and other Greenspace sites will be completed over the next few months 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional info regarding parks will be added by the end of March 2011
Cheshire West and Chester publications & events	On going	Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New sister web site for Northwich and Rural North will be a magazine type community based website with blogs and updates etc. Contact magazine, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheshire Show 2011- large show feature in the 'Countryside & Rural' section to promote

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talking Together Magazine (public services magazine) Walks for All booklet promoted in both.• Cheshire walks feature article published in national Country Walking magazine• Walks for All information shared on Peak and Northern Footpaths Society website• ROWIP press releases	Greenspace Team including access & park improvements projects and allotments.
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