

## Countryside For All

### Report from John Law for the Mid-Lincs and South Lincs Local Access Forum meetings on 19 and 20 January 2016

#### Countryside For All routes

We are surveying 10 routes this financial year, six of the original routes and four new routes. Please see below for the current status of our progress:

4 Original routes available for artwork and printers

1 Original route (Chambers Farm Wood) deteriorated and requires funding to bring it up to standard. We are investigating funding opportunities, to bring the route back up to standard. If no funding is available this route will be excluded from the countryside for all pack.

1 Original route, Chapel Six Marshes, to be completed and available for artwork and printers January.

3 New routes, the Spa Trail Horncastle, Frampton Marsh and Hubbards Hills available for artwork and printers.

1 New route, Ashing Lane Nature Reserve, Nettleham, hoping to have available for artwork and the printers by the end of January.

Bourne Wood is one of the original routes which has been surveyed. Both Bourne Wood and Chambers Farm Wood are owned by the Forestry Commission.

Discussions will take place later in the year to ensure the Bourne Wood route is maintained to the correct standard.

#### Dementia Friendly Walks

The programme of walks is growing. There is an issue at Mablethorpe where there is a lack of attendance. A meeting is taking place with the Clinical Commissioning Group, the GP practice, the Patient Participation Group, Age UK, Magna Vitae, Alzheimer's Society and ourselves, to resolve this problem.

#### Choice Unlimited Event

##### **Lincolnshire:**

Choice Unlimited is an event which will help promote our countryside for all routes and the dementia friendly walks/strolls. We have organised a meeting with the CEO of LCiL which delivers the Choice Unlimited event. The meeting is to ensure the Lincoln event happens this year and to look at the possibility of launching other events around the County.

## **Current Funding Bids**

### **Lincolnshire:**

The Bromhead Medical funding application is attached to this report. The application included funding for:

- a) An Inclusive Countryside Access course for external organisations.
- b) Artwork and printing of four more countryside for All routes for 2016
- c) Fourteen walk leader training places. Of which seven are for East Lindsey and seven for West Lindsey.

***Do we agree to allow the sub group to apply to other funding bodies for the dementia friendly walk leader training places?***

## **Future Funding Bids**

As funding is tight and getting tighter, with many chasing a smaller pot of money, the sub group need to look at other ways of attracting funding. The sub group requires clarification of whether they can draft speculative letters, for the LAF's approval, to be sent to businesses requesting funding. In some cases it may also be beneficial to write joint applications with other organisations which require funding for the same project. We need to know if this is permissible and if so whether the LAF is in agreement for the sub group to operate in this manner. If the above complies with the regulations the following votes are to take place:

***Do we agree to allow the sub group to draft speculative letters for funding, for the LAF's approval and Chair's signature?***

***Do we agree to allow the sub group to write joint applications with other organisations to funders?***

## **Budget implications on Health Walks and Dementia Friendly Walks**

The Walks Forum meeting will have taken place 7<sup>th</sup> January. At this meeting it is expected we may know more about how the budget implications will affect the Health Walks and Dementia Friendly Strolls/Walks. A verbal update will be provided on the outcome of this meeting.

## **LAF Conference**

Natural England has requested that we deliver a presentation/workshop on countryside for all at both the Leeds and Bristol event. We have declined this offer, but arranged with Natural England for Dementia Adventure to provide a half hour slot at both venues. Dementia Adventure is the organisation which provides the training for our dementia friendly strolls/walks.

### **2016 Lincolnshire Wolds Walking festival**

The Wolds Walking Festival organisers have asked for a dementia friendly walk and a walk for the disabled to be included in the festival. Magna Vitae for East Lindsey are going to provide a dementia Friendly stroll/walk at Hubbards Hills. The disability sub group are organising the walk for the disabled at Chambers Farm Wood. This walk is suitable for wheelchairs and mobility scooter and will start at 2pm Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May. Any additional help from members of the LAF will be greatly appreciated. Please let John Law know if you will be able to assist at this event.

### **Clinical Commissioning Groups**

A meeting has been arranged with the East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG to explain what we are doing in terms of countryside for all routes and dementia friendly walks. The CCG will also be asked about funding streams for both of these projects.

### **Dementia Action Alliance**

A presentation will be delivered by the sub group in February to the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Dementia Action Alliance. This will focus on how we are delivering the dementia friendly walks in Lincolnshire and how we aim to increase the walks programme in Lincolnshire and develop a programme for Rutland. The aim is to see if we can discover any other funding streams for ourselves and also encourage Leicester and Leicestershire to create a dementia friendly walks programme.

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