

# West Leeds Country Parks and Green Gateways

Minutes of Meeting 10<sup>th</sup> December 2007



## In Attendance:

Councillor David Blackburn(Chair)  
Councillor Frank Robinson  
Danny Jackson – Bradford Council – Rights of Way Service  
Graham Ramsden – British Waterways  
Ruth Bull – Aire Action Leeds  
Elaine Hill – WLCP&GG coordinator, Leisure Services  
Phil Staniforth – Leisure Services  
Ann Chadwick – Wade's Charity  
Nick Rose – Wade's Charity  
Marva Pryce – Leeds Voice  
Gil Threadgould – LCC, West Leeds Development Worker  
Alan Simpson – White Rose Forest  
Karen Smith – Student  
Paul Monaghan – Groundwork Leeds  
Peter Meredith – Friends of Houghly Gill  
Greta Meredith – Friends of Houghly Gill  
Peter Taylor – Ramblers HSS  
Anne Tegan – Horse Rider  
David Badger – Pudsey Link  
Rod Wood – Calverley Millennium Way  
Diane Maynard – West Leeds Walk Group  
Tom Maynard – Allotments  
Hon Ald. Brook Nelson – A.C.R.T.

## Apologies:

Cllr Andrew Carter  
Martin Farrington – Leisure Services  
Calverley Allotments Association  
Friends of Horsforth Hall Park  
Rodley Nature Reserve Trust Ltd  
PC Rob Atkin and PC Steven Clark

## 1) Opening Remarks

Cllr Blackburn welcomed everyone to the meeting

## 2) Progress with objectives

### **a) Management Plan**

Bus routes – It was suggested that bus timetables and routes are displayed on boards, but disregarded as routes numbers and timetables change. It was suggested by Elaine that advertising a contact number for Metro would be a good idea.

Peter Taylor stated that significant investment needs to be made to maintain and improve rights of way. Councillor Blackburn added that resources have already been increased but this was something the Leader of Council would need to bear in mind in the 2008/9 budget if possible.

#### **b) Interpretation**

Historical text for phase 4 of the trail ( Woodhall Lake – Roker Lane) provided to all attendees. This is attached as appendix a. All comments to be submitted to Elaine Hill before the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 2008.

#### **c) Pudsey Visitors Centre**

The visitors centre will be converted to become the West Leeds Country Park Visitors Centre. Work will start in the New Year. The Centre will incorporate native plant, animal and aquaria displays as well as a space for voluntary organisations to utilise. A model of the space was displayed at the meeting. The venture is seen as a springboard to getting people interested in outdoor activities.

It was suggested that of bee hives and bugs could be incorporated.

Phil Staniforth stipulated that all animal wildlife would only be displayed after consultation with the Council Vet.

### 3) Section 106 agreement funding for projects

West Leeds Country Park Section 106 projects Action Plan was issued to all attendees. This is attached as appendix b

Elaine Hill asked for any inspirational ideas for investment to be forwarded to her. It was remarked upon by Ann Chadwick that no funding has been earmarked for the lower part of the Green Gateway.

British Waterways commented that they are keen to work with the Council to improve tow paths and would welcome some funding.

### 4) White Rose Forest

Guy Thompson, coordinator for the White Rose Forest initiative provided a summary of the project the initiative is undertaking. The purpose of this was to demonstrate that the WLCP&GG is part of the city region green infrastructure. A limited number of copies of the information booklet are available and copies may be obtained on request.

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5) Any other business

Cyclists on tow paths – Peter Taylor asked Graham Ramsden of British Waterways why they don't insist that cyclists fix bells to their bikes. Graham clarified that all cyclists should have a permit to even cycle on British Waterways land as it is private property and to obtain and retain the permit they should abide by the rules and guidelines set down.

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**The next meeting will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 16:00 at the Civic Hall.**

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