



Paths for Communities (P4C): Expression of Interest Form

The Paths for Communities competitive grant scheme is administered by Natural England, on behalf of the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

In order to register your 'Expression of Interest' in the scheme please complete the details below and email this form to p4c@naturalengland.org.uk

We will acknowledge receipt of your completed form and pass your enquiry to one of our Local Grants Officers, who will seek to make contact with you within 10 working days.

Section 1: Who are you and how do we contact you?

Contact details for your group

Give the name of your community group as it appears on your governing document (such as your constitution or set of rules):



Oswestry Group of the Ramblers Association

Address for your group, including postcode

Address c/o Jim Stabler Access Development Officer Outdoor Recreation Team

Shropshire Council

Shirehall

Town Shrewsbury **County** Shropshire

Postcode SY2 6ND **Website address**

Phone area code 01743 **Phone number** 255067 **Fax number**

Email address Jim.stabler@shropshire.gov.uk

For Office use:

*Date received;
P4C ref number;*

Section 2: Project Description

The project is to develop a walk route that forms a complete circuit round Oswestry and links a number of important local sites of interest. It is to be developed by the Oswestry Group of the Ramblers in partnership with Shropshire Council as a permanent mark of the fact that in 2013 the group will celebrate 40 years of existence. The route will start/end at Oswestry Bus Station and will meet up with the Shropshire Way/Offas Dyke path at Candy Woods. The route will also link a number of circular walks that are being developed out of Oswestry as part of the Shropshire Way Project and Oswestry Walkers are Welcome. The total route will be approx. 20Km but can be done in sections with many possibilities for return links to the town.

Most of the route will utilise existing PROW, but to the east of the town, no suitable ROW exist. There is a strip of land between the A5 and the residential developments that is owned by Shropshire Council; they have stated that they would be prepared to dedicate a ROW of approx. 1.5Km along this line to enable the route to be completed. In addition Shropshire Council has said that they would raise this section up to the standards required for disabled access providing a valuable resource close to the urban fringe of the town.

One small section of the proposed route, whilst a PROW, is not currently usable due to high hedges and lack of stiles/gates. The project would provide appropriate access to this section.

Whilst we need to do a detailed survey to determine an exact budget we estimate that the route can be brought up to a high standard, way marking provided and leaflets/maps generated for no more than £12K. The Oswestry Group of the Ramblers can provide £2K from profits from the two books of local walks that it has published. In addition members of the Ramblers Group would do some of the work such as waymarking and writing text for a leaflet.

The proposed project has the support of the Local Access Forum.

We believe that this route will bring lasting benefit to the town by linking a number of points of local interest and will be attractive to both residents and visitors to the town.

A map showing the proposals is attached

Section 3 : How did you hear about P4C?

From the Shropshire Local Access Forum

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