

Shropshire Local Access Forum

Date: Wednesday, 24 June 2015

Shropshire Local Access Forum

Date: Thursday, 2 July 2015
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Bridgnorth Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury,
Shropshire, SY2 6ND

You are requested to attend the above meeting.
The Agenda is attached

Linda Jeavons
Secretary to the Forum

Members of The Forum

Name	Fields of Interest
Trevor Allison	Walking/Tourism
Stephen Bell	Walking/Conservation Wildlife/Disabled Acces
Gareph Boxley	Motorised Vehicular Use/Conservation Wildlife/Disabled Access
Peter Carr	Walking/Canals
Alex Carson-Taylor	Rural Business/Land Owning/Farming/Conservation/Wildlife
Will Chambers	Cycling
Lee Chapman	Shropshire Council
Chris Chillingworth	Walking/Voluntary Activities/Community
Pauline Dee	Scouts and Brownies
Janet Mees-Robinson	Carriage Driving/Disabled Access/Tourism
Steward Pickering	Motorised Vehicular Use/Countryside Volunteer/Walking
Roger Plowden (Chairman)	Landowner/Conservation Wildlife/Farming
Zia Robins	Horse Riding
Mark Weston (Vice Chairman)	Horseriding/Carriage Driving/Voluntary Activities
Leslie Winwood	Shropshire Council

Your Committee Officer is:

Linda Jeavons Committee Officer
Tel: 01743 257716
Email: linda.jeavons@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

4 Public Question Time (Pages 1 - 4)

To receive any questions, statements or petitions of which notice has been received from members

6 Feedback on Annual Performance and User Surveys (Pages 5 - 14)

Clare Fildes, Outdoor Partnerships Dev Team Leader, will be in attendance.

7 Access Strategy - 5-Year Review (Pages 15 - 44)

Shona Butter, Mapping and Enforcement Team Leader, will be in attendance.

11 Shropshire Great Outdoors Website and Branding (Pages 45 - 48)

Clare Fildes, Outdoor Partnerships Dev Team Leader, will be in attendance.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

AGENDA ITEM 4

QUESTION:

MR STUART MORGAN will ask the following question:

A plea for the Lost Ways of Shropshire

“Why does the council not take a pro-active position in placing lost ways that clearly would add to the effectiveness of the access network on the Formal Application Register, so that they will not be lost automatically post 2026?”

Whilst I was a member of this forum, I learnt about the Formal Application Register, I checked this out and had I attended the cancelled April meeting would have brought to the attention of this forum my concern regarding the low number of applications that could have significant strategic impact on an access network that will meet the needs of the 21st century. But there are 2 applications which possible should be discussed because of the wider strategic benefit.

No study has been made into cause and effect of lostways, merely a very expensive exercise by Natural England that seems to be an evaluation for the legal recovery of lost ways across a sample number of parishes.

This was followed up by "Stepping Forward" which appears to be a promise to accelerate the legal process. If left to individuals with no legal training how are we going to rescue ways that were lost through mal administration of the 1949 act. Misplaced political influence that that would not be allowed today and possibly corruption.

The War Office took over land during the 2nd WW, but never re-instated rights of way when this land was returned to agriculture.

Shrewsbury is clearly shut off from much of the surrounding countryside. The chairman of the Shrewsbury and Atcham RDC at the time of the compilation of the Definitive Map was estate agent for 7 estates around Shrewsbury.

The heirs of the Chairman of Shropshire County Council in the 1960's have inherited an estate without a single right of way on it in an area that falls well short of the national average.

One example from Natural England's lost way project showed a mile length of lost way that was measured as highly probable to be successfully re-instated, that mile is in an area of nearly 8000 acres without RoW.

Would it be better to get information out that all can benefit from an access network that meets the needs of the 21st century, rather waiting for 2026 and keeping our fingers crossed that a wave of public revulsion at the lost opportunity to improve a national asset? The evidence that this could hit Shropshire hard is there to be seen on any copy of an Ordnance Survey map. Without study we cannot know if ways used by our ancestors can be used to repair, improve and unlock some of the routes needed by todays society.

If the evidence is collected, it will show that there are enough examples, like lost pieces of a jigsaw, so many that we do not get the full picture, when the full picture is revealed would it show that the Council must act in a proactive way.”

SHONA BUTTER OR ROGER PLOWDEN, will reply as follows:

Why does the council not take a pro-active position in placing lost ways that clearly would add to the effectiveness of the access network on the Formal Application Register, so that they will not be lost automatically post 2026?

This has been considered by the Stakeholder Working Group who were looking at improvements and simplification of Rights of Way legislation and is now part of the Deregulation Act 2015. This Act will provide surveying authorities with the ability to register useful or potential useful routes during a period post cut-off. Any such applications will be subject to the same tests and transparency as any other application.

The primary legislation, secondary legislation and guidance for all the proposals affecting Public Rights of Way contained within the Deregulation Act is due to come into force at the same time. This is anticipated to be around April 2016.

Whilst I was a member of this forum, I learnt about the Formal Application Register, I checked this out and had I attended the cancelled April meeting would have brought to the attention of this forum my concern regarding the low number of applications that could have significant strategic impact on an access network that will meet the needs of the 21st century. But there are 2 applications which possible should be discussed because of the wider strategic benefit.

The access mapping and enforcement team who deal with such applications are happy for Mr Morgan to highlight those existing applications which he considers to be of strategic importance.

No study has been made into cause and effect of lostways, merely a very expensive exercise by Natural England that seems to be an evaluation for the legal recovery of lost ways across a sample number of parishes.

Whilst the Discovering Lost Ways project was not progressed, Shropshire is in a better position than other authorities. As Shropshire was one of the Pathfinder Projects run as part of this project a lot of work was done on potential lost ways in the North of the County. In addition officers within the mapping & Enforcement Team also undertook their own mapping exercise to identify potential lost ways. We therefore have a good overview of potential key routes.

This was followed up by "Stepping Forward" which appears to be a promise to accelerate the legal process. If left to individuals with no legal training how are we going to rescue ways that were lost through mal administration of the 1949 act. Misplaced political influence that that would not be allowed today and possibly corruption.

The Deregulation Act has effectively progressed the proposals put forward in the Stepping Forward Report and should improve the legal process and ability of authorities to deal with Public Rights of Way matters.

The War Office took over land during the 2nd WW, but never re-instated rights of way when this land was returned to agriculture.

Shropshire has a couple of locations where this is the case and proposals have been put forward in the past to try to resolve these. Unfortunately these were not successful due to land being sold and objections being raised. Officers are aware of these matters and have and will continue to look at resolving the Public Rights of Way network in these areas. It should be noted that this work has to be balanced with other pressures on the

service as there is a depleted team dealing with all legal orders, enforcement and management of the Rights of Way network.

Shrewsbury is clearly shut off from much of the surrounding countryside. The chairman of the Shrewsbury and Atcham RDC at the time of the compilation of the Definitive Map was estate agent for 7 estates around Shrewsbury.

The heirs of the Chairman of Shropshire County Council in the 1960's have inherited an estate without a single right of way on it in an area that falls well short of the national average.

One example from Natural England's lost way project showed a mile length of lost way that was measured as highly probable to be successfully re-instated, that mile is in an area of nearly 8000 acres without RoW.

Would it be better to get information out that all can benefit from an access network that meets the needs of the 21st century, rather waiting for 2026 and keeping our fingers crossed that a wave of public revulsion at the lost opportunity to improve a national asset? The evidence that this could hit Shropshire hard is there to be seen on any copy of an Ordnance Survey map.

Without study we cannot know if ways used by our ancestors can be used to repair, improve and unlock some of the routes needed by today's society.

If the evidence is collected, it will show that there are enough examples, like lost pieces of a jigsaw, so many that we do not get the full picture, when the full picture is revealed would it show that the Council must act in a proactive way.

It is agreed that there are clearly areas which lack Public Rights of Way and areas which could benefit from some key connections. Whilst historic cut off may prompt claims for some of these routes a large number would be for preferential routes which often have no evidence and therefore have to be negotiated and hopefully provided through dedication. Some of the proposals contained within the Deregulation Act should assist in this instance.

Wherever possible officers will try to resolve matters including those relating to lost links or beneficial routes however, there are many factors which simply would not allow us to undertake a full scale investigation of all potential lost ways, mainly due to the existing workload to try to ensure that the existing network is open and available and the existing demand for legal changes.

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Online Annual User Survey- Outdoor Partnerships 2014/15

The purpose of the survey

The survey has been produced to establish:

- Which of our Outdoor Recreation resources are being used
- For what reasons they are being used
- The frequency and duration of use
- The reasons which detract from use and how improvements could be made
- The willingness of our users to participate in active volunteering

Results

There were 342 responses to the online survey in 2014/15, down from 668 responses in 2013/14.

98% of these people use footpaths, bridleways or other RoW, 67% use countryside sites and 40% use town parks

85% of people use the outdoors to improve their health and for exercise, 78% for walking, 68% to experience nature and wildlife and 59% for the peace and quiet.

Things that put people off enjoying the outdoors include overgrown vegetation (53%), intimidating livestock (42%), lack of signposting/ waymarking (35%) and ploughing and cropping issues (34%).

Most people like to use circular walks (82%), long distance promoted walking routes (51%), countryside parks and site walks (48%) and linear walks (47%).

77% of people use outdoor assets at least once per week, with 18% using them daily. 62% use them for 2 hours or more. They are mostly using them with friends and family (over 37%), 24% are with a dog and 22% are with an organised group.

For those who are out with an organised group, 54% are with a local walking group, 34% with the Ramblers Association and 30% with Walking for Health. Only 5% are with a cycling group. People were involved with a wide range of different groups.

People joined groups to learn new walks, make friends and get fitter (54-61%).

Most people had seen little improvement in their level of activity over the past 12 months, although there were slightly fewer inactive and moderately inactive people.

Where activity levels had decreased, 65% said this was due to ill health.

Almost 50% of people are satisfied with the RoW network, 46% have noted improvements over the past 12 months and 54% in the last 3 years.

Over 50% of people were satisfied with parks and sites in their areas, with 26% noticing an improvement in the past 12 months and 30% in the past 3 years.

94% of people felt better for taking some exercise and 92% enjoyed being out and wanted to do more.

Over 50% found out something new whilst they were out, with 42% finding out more about their community.

The following were the most popular improvements that could be made:

- Nearly 50% of people wanted to see more circular walks
- 37% better signage
- 33% more walks with gates instead of stiles
- 29% more online guides and interpretation
- 27% more walk linked to public transport
- 26% more dog friendly walks

Most people use printed leaflet and guide books (57%) to find out what is available and going on in the outdoors, with 35% using local papers, 32% using local websites, 32% organised groups and 30% the Shropshire Walking website.

86% of people living close to our facilities thought it had a positive or very positive impact on their quality of life.

Over 70% said they lived 'close' although for some people this meant 30-45 minute walk.

62% did not want to get involved with volunteering. Of those that did, RoW surveys and P3 groups were the most popular.

General comments

Many people were alarmed by the lack of funding for RoW maintenance in the future, for example:

"It is ESSENTIAL THAT THE POWERS THAT BE at County Hall RECOGNISE THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING - and increasing - the RoW maintenance budgets when bearing in mind the importance of HEALTHY EXERCISE and the contribution of WALKING TOURISM TO THE RURAL ECONOMY, and to COUNTER OBESITY."

Respondents

- 58% female
- 84% over 45
- 98% White British
- 13% had long standing illnesses

Shropshire Outdoor Partnerships Performance Monitoring 2014/15 and

Owner	Number of volunteers involved in Outdoor Recreation development and delivery	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
auto	TOTAL	919	805	850	1,454

Owner	Number of volunteer hours each quarter (including W4H walk leaders but not walkers)	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
auto	TOTAL	11324	11384	10898	14,828
auto	Value of volunteering hours £	87761	88226	84460	132,981
	Hours per volunteer				

Owner	Number of people receiving a service from Outdoor Recreation Services that supports them to live independently	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
auto	Walking for Health	1133	130	113	246
	any other projects	100			
	any other projects	35			
	any other projects			12	17
	any other projects				
	TOTAL	1268	130	125	263

Level Two - Learning and culture indicators -

Owner	No. of unique virtual users to web sites	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
Clare	SC OR pages	18544	18933	13140	10,954
Clare	Walking website	7152	6890	4451	6,194
Clare	Riding website	1128	951	526	1,006
Phil	Shropshire Hills AONB website				43,678
	TOTAL	26824	26774	18117	61,832

Owner	Number of Facebook likes	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
MickD	Shropshire Walking	478	43	79	76

EdA	SVCP	186	56	48	43
Phil	Shropshire Hills AONB				1,027
	TOTAL	664	99	127	1,146

Owner	Number of visitors to Country Parks, sites and play areas	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
Auto	Adults	70290	80789	56611	372,432
Auto	Children	710	476	99	60

Owner	No.of people attending events, courses and activities (participation each Q)	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
auto	Walking for Health	6543	7338	7514	6,493
auto	Adults	1523	7561	996	2,090
auto	Children	1983	2633	498	799
auto	No of schoolchildren taking part in educational visits	710	476	99	751
	TOTAL	10759	18008	9107	10,133

Owner	Number of externally funded and Community projects supported	Q1 Number	Q2 Number	Q3 Number	Q4 Number
auto	TOTAL	59	4	6	28

Owner	value of externally funded projects	Q1 £ Value	Q2 £ Value	Q3 £ Value	Q4 £ Value
auto	TOTAL	43,671	115,000	109,890	1,062,660

Owner	PROW, Parks & Site maintenance & improvements	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
RichardK	no of improvements to PROW network	13	22	42	34
RichardK	no of Parks & Site improvements	0	0	0	0
Mark B	no improvements by probationers	0	0	0	0
RichardK	no of maintenance task on ROW	142	153	225	218
RichardK	no of maintenance tasks on sites	12	2	10	18
Mark B	no of improvments to Parks & Sites				149
Mark B	no of maintenance tasks by probationers	50	52		
auto	Number of H&S site inspections	0	357	0	676

auto	TOTAL	217	586	277	1,095
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Owner	PROW Reported problems	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
ShonaB	Enforcement reported	61	62	65	52
ShonaB	Enforcement resolved	8	4	26	32

Owner	No of improvements to Definitive Map accuracy annually	Q1 April to June	Q2 July to Sept	Q3 Oct to Dec	Q4 Jan to Mar
ShonaB	WCA orders	0	1	1	1
ShonaB	Highways act	3	7	3	2
ShonaB	TCPA	0	3	0	1
Auto	TOTAL	3	11	4	4

Owner	BVPI 178 - ease of use of public rights of way				
ShonaB	Survey				

Owner	% of customers satisfied or very satisfied with the service we provide				
Auto					

Owner					
Auto	% of people who say they have increased their knowledge, skills or confidence as a result of their experience of or involvement with Outdoor Recreation				
	% of people who say they have increased their knowledge, skills or confidence as a result of their experience of or involvement with the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership				

Owner					
auto	% of people who say they have an increased sense of mental wellbeing as a result of their experience of or involvement with Outdoor Recreation				
	% of people who say they have an increased sense of mental wellbeing as a result of their experience of or involvement with Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership				

Owner					
	% of people who say they have an increased sense of physical wellbeing as a result of their experience of or involvement with Outdoor Recreation				

% of people who say they have an increased sense of physical wellbeing as a result of their experience of or involvement with Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership				

Owner				
	% of people who say they feel part of their community as a result of their experience of or involvement with Outdoor Recreation			
	% of people who say they feel part of their community as a result of their experience of or involvement with Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership			

I trends

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	Comments
1,505	1,370	1,649	633	545 Volunteers from AONB recorded Q4. Other volunteer numbers down due to loss of staff support, especially for Parks and Greenspace.

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	Hours per volunteer have gone up from 21 to 56 reflecting the dedication of those volunteers to making improvements and supporting the service. This increase will be benefiting their health and wellbeing
48,732	31,032	30,792	13,252	
351,874	223,430	221,701	92,764	
32	23	19	21	

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
1,622	1,623	1,278	1,074	The Walking for Health schemes have grown considerable over the past few years. The Coordinators have been focusing on creating Level 1 and 2 walks over the past 12 months; targeting the inactive. This is more time consuming and difficult than growing attendance on other walks and this is reflected in the figures.
100				
35				
29				
1,786	1,623	1,278	1,074	

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
61,571	46,950	41,357	44,744	
24,687	40,534	39,618	43,603	The launch of the new Shropshire's Great Outdoors website will be accompanied with a promotional campaign to encourage more people to use this to find activities and sites
3,611	3,006	4,335	4,874	
43,678				
133,547	90,490	85,310	93,221	

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
676	414	291		Facebook has grown significantly and has become more important as a method of communication. This will be exploited more in 2015/16, with the development of a volunteer Facebook account

333	419	195		
1,027				
2,036	833	486		

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
580,122	447,835	416,042	n/a	Visitor numbers are up. In line with other research, this demonstrates that people are using local, free facilities more.
1,345				

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
27,888	24,248	22,769		Walking for Health continues to grow. These figures show that the individuals involved are walking more regularly than they were.
12,170	1,216	4,551		The sudden jump in events attendance figures reflects the addition of the AONB figures and the attendance of Outdoor Partnerships at some of the bigger local events such as Ellesmere Regatta and Carnival and <i>Merefest</i>
5,913	922	478		
2,036	1,081	3,140		Includes 691 from AONB activity
48,007	27,467	30,938	19,509	

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
97	144	161	112	With reductions in staff numbers, the ability to support new projects is limited. The new Development Officer will be working with P3 groups and other volunteers to develop small scale projects in 2015/16, whilst a number of large scale projects are being developed across the service

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
1,331,221	971,993	757,075	514,608	This includes a couple of large scale AONB projects e.g. The Stiperstones and Corndon Hill Country LPS

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
111				
0				
0				
738				
42				
149				
102				
1,033				

2,175	1,988	2,000	700	?
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Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	This demonstrates the impact of significantly reducing the no of staff in the Mapping and Enforcement team.
240	357	305	745	
70		101	146	

Annual total	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	This demonstrates the impact of significantly reducing the no of staff in the Mapping and Enforcement team.
3	6	5	13	
15	12	18	22	
4	3	4	4	
22	21	27	39	

Annual	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	This is unlikley to be significantly different as the survey is based on a random sample or RoW.
73	72	66	n/a	

Annual %	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
95	72	0	97	

Annual %	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
82	58	65	80	
89				
85	58	65	80	

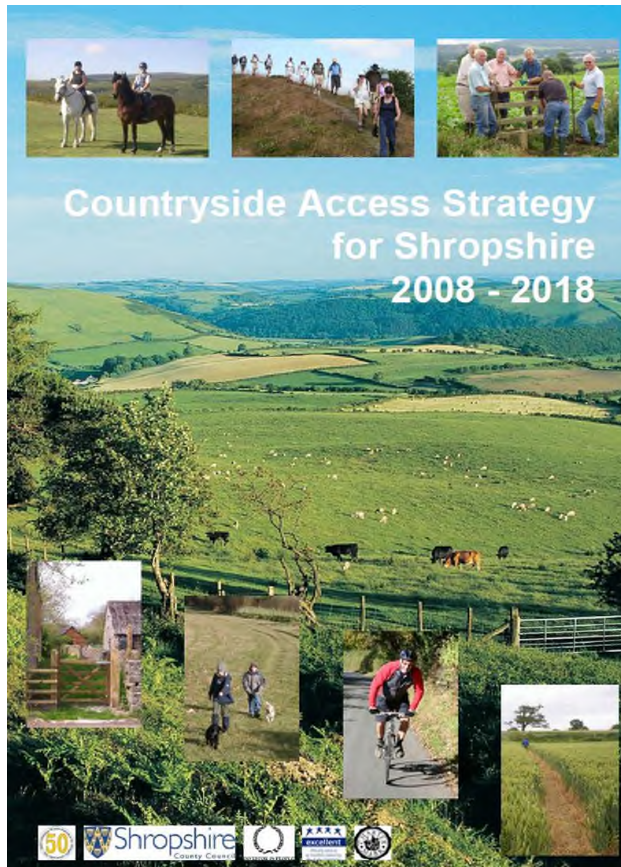
Annual %	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
97	94	99	94	
92				
95	94	99	94	

Annual %	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
99	93	98	95	

84				
91	93	98	95	

Annual %	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	
85	57	58	82	
83				
84	57	58	82	

Shropshire Council Countryside Access Strategy for Shropshire 2008-2018 5 Year Review 2014



Themes

- **Working with Communities**
- **Health and Wellbeing**
- **Access for Everyone**
- **Making Local Journeys**
- **High Quality Network**

The Review - What was looked at?

- What has been achieved?
- Problems encountered
- Key future actions for 2014 – 2018 – Prioritisation and delivery

Working with Communities

We will:

Continue to listen to our customers through:

- Annual online surveys, User forums & Problem reports
- be flexible in terms of responding to customer needs
- Work to establish local ROW priorities and ensure that these priorities are reflected in any direct delivery at a local level as well as ensuring that we work in partnership to make things happen at a local level – this may be through externally funded project or other place based initiatives.

Working with Communities

- Maintain support to existing Parish Path Partnership groups and Parish Paths Wardens and support new local groups to develop where there are gaps. We will work towards a longer term vision to have countywide geographical coverage for the partnerships.
- Support Parish Path Partnership groups alongside Town and Parish Councils to set their own local priorities for ROW improvements and developments as well supporting an area wide approach to active volunteering partnership's – linking people and groups together.

Working with Communities

- Provide more training to extend the range of activity volunteers can undertake.
- Work to link to existing volunteer groups to other active volunteering groups locally and encourage sharing of resources, training and best practice.



Installing a stile



Training P3 Volunteers



Installing a kissing gate

Health and Well Being

We will:

- Increase the number of volunteers involved in existing groups and increase the number of new volunteer groups – Parish Path Partnerships, Walking for Health, Shropshire Outdoors and from our Countryside Sites and Greenspaces

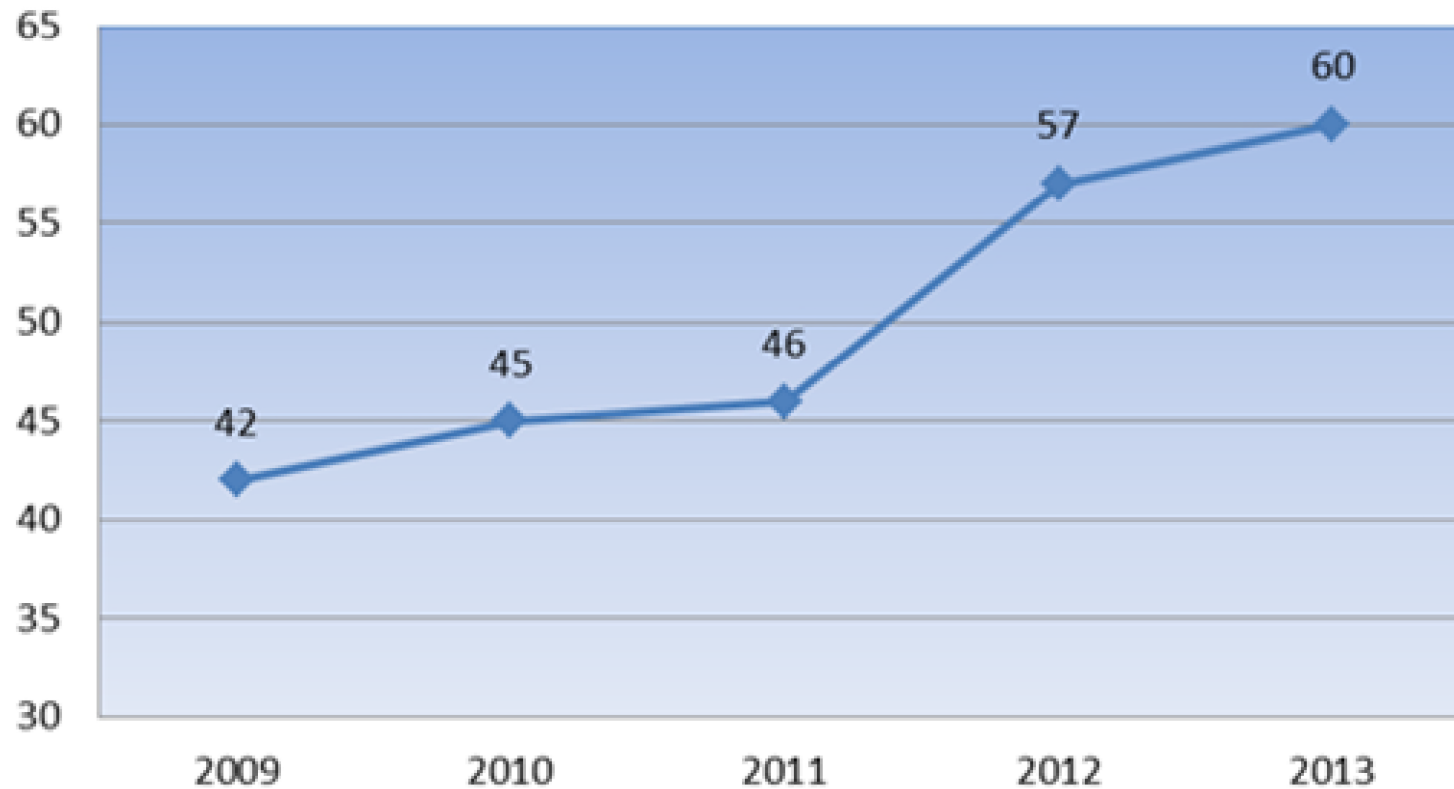
Health and Well Being

- Promote volunteer opportunities better and more effectively, in partnership with other organisations
- Increase self-supervised volunteer activity, with the suitable paperwork, training and equipment
- Develop a number of 'A Teams' of volunteers who can be called on to tackle more complex jobs

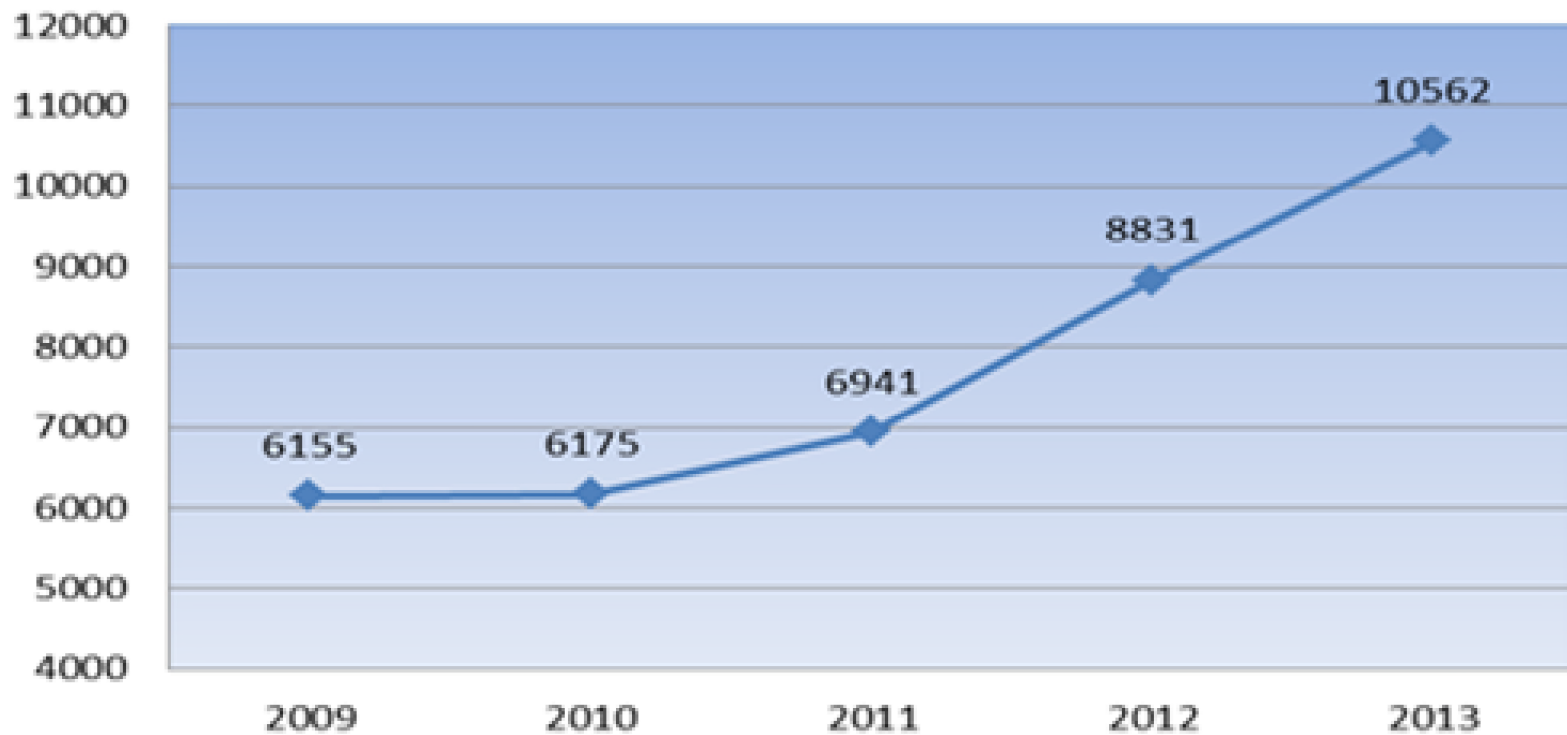
Health and Well Being

- Increase business involvement through corporate volunteering
- Create volunteering opportunities around non-physical work such as website or event management
- Increase the number of young people involved in Outdoor Partnerships volunteering

Number of Walking for Health schemes



Number of walk leader volunteer hours per year



Access For Everyone

- We will continue to:
- Engage with hard-to-reach groups to understand their barriers to access



Access For Everyone

- Understand the needs and interest of people with learning difficulties, mental health problems and sensory impairment and make it easier for them to participate in countryside activities.
- Reintroduce the ‘Shropshire Outdoors’ approach to encourage such groups to engage more in the Shropshire countryside specifically by continuing to support this approach to active volunteering

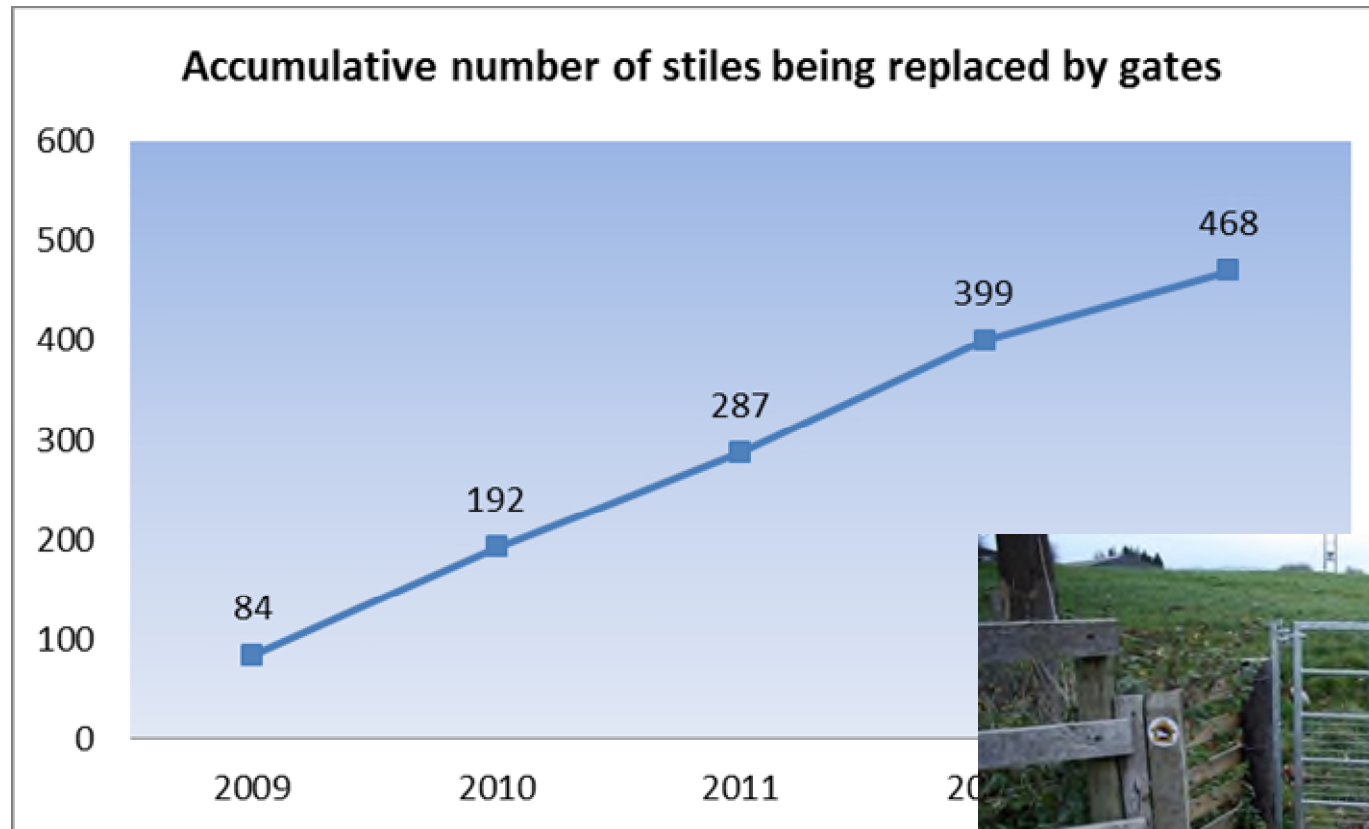
Access For Everyone

- Work to ensure that the Shropshire countryside is more accessible for everyone implementing the 'least restrictive' principle on the ground - replacing stiles with gates where ever we can.
- Continue to promote easier access and provide wherever opportunities present themselves
- Work towards providing a range of volunteering opportunities for young people
 - Youth Rangers.

Better Signage



Least Restricted Principle



Easy Access



The image shows the cover of a brochure titled "Easy access in Shropshire". The background is a photograph of a family walking on a path in a wooded area with autumn foliage. A man with a red backpack, a woman, and a child in a blue jacket pushing a stroller are walking away from the camera. In the distance, another person in a wheelchair is visible on the path. The brochure features a blue header with the Shropshire Council logo. On the left side, there is a vertical blue bar with four white icons: a person in a wheelchair, a person pushing a stroller, a person in a wheelchair, and a person in a wheelchair. The main text on the right side reads "Easy access in Shropshire" in large white letters, with four white icons below it: a person in a wheelchair, a person pushing a stroller, a person in a wheelchair, and a person in a wheelchair. The bottom right corner has a blue box with the text "12 places for you to explore" and "Discover Shropshire".

Shropshire Council

For more information about countryside activities contact

walking for life!

Easy access in Shropshire

Easy access in Shropshire

Countryside Access Team
Shropshire Council,
Shirehall, Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

0345 6789000
countryside.access@shropshire.gov.uk
www.discovershropshire.org.uk

Walks researched by www.NoNonsense-Interpretation.co.uk
Artwork by www.MACreative.co.uk
Photography by Picture Works unless stated otherwise

12 places for you to explore
Discover Shropshire

New all ability Trails

- Much Wenlock
- Bettisfield
- Colemere
- Whixall

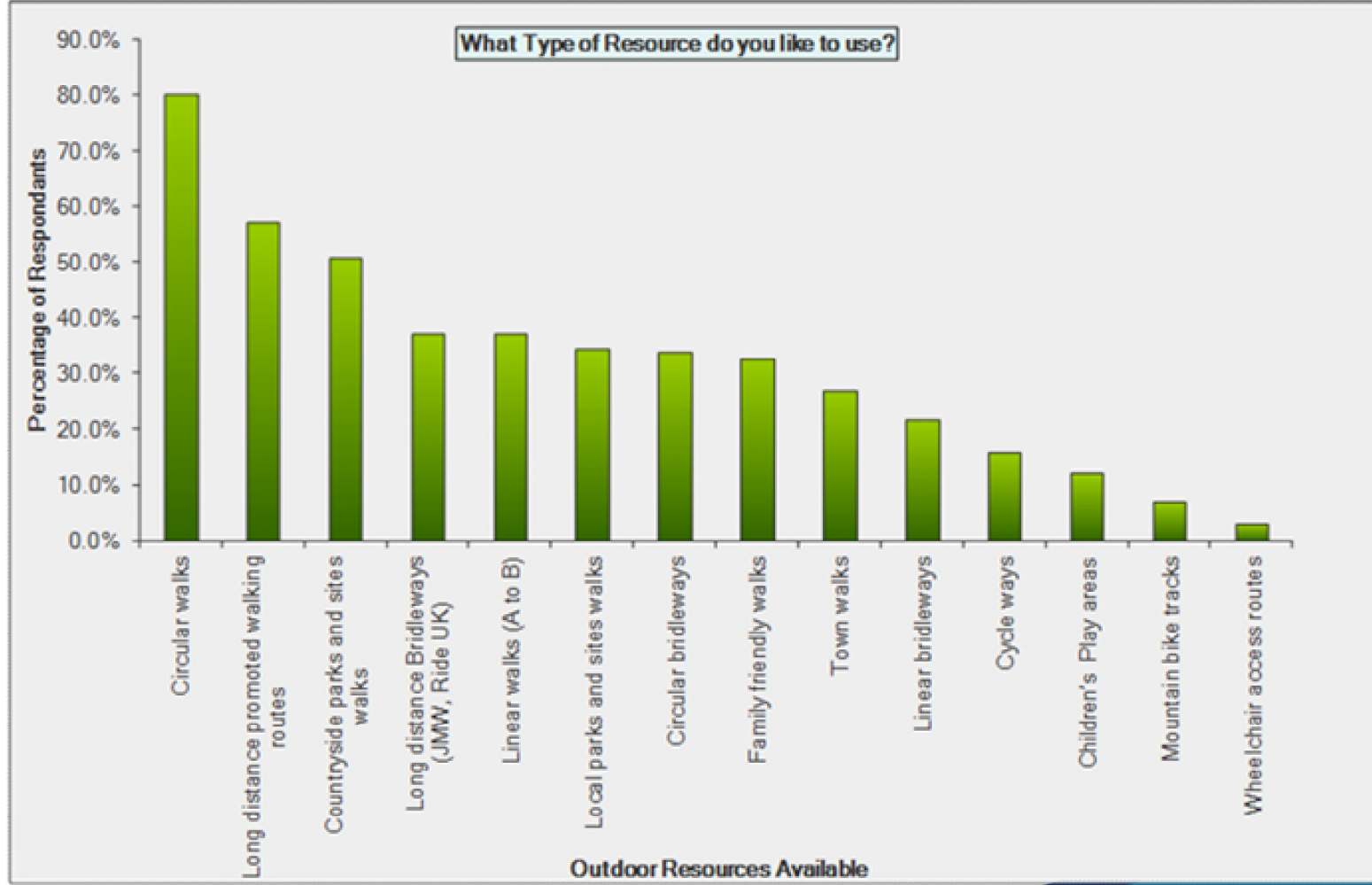




Making Local Journeys

We will:

- Work with Parish and Town Councils to promote walking as a way of getting around local areas.
- Continue to seek out external funding to support such initiatives.
- Incorporate the walking and cycling active travel content of the Travel Shropshire website onto the new Shropshire Outdoors website.



A High Quality Network

We will: work to secure external funding to:

- Upgrade the Shropshire Way in the Shrewsbury and surrounding area and create a number of shorter circular walks, town heritage trails.
- Provide updated guides, web information and digital apps to allow more people to link to the wonderful heritage that this area has to offer with walks on the ground.
- Work with the local community to secure “walkers are welcome” status for the town.

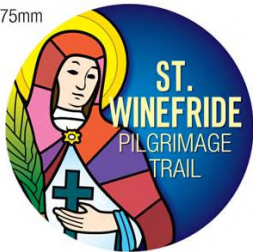
A High Quality Network

- Provide more support for local volunteer groups such as the Parish Paths Partnerships to minimise costs to the Council and maximise work on the ground.
- Finalise work on the Shropshire Way links to Shrewsbury and Market Drayton
- Work to improve the Severn Way and develop local circuits

New Waymarking

St. Winefride Pilgrimage Trail Logo

1. 75mm



2. 37mm



Resurfacing



Local Benefit

Page 44



Volunteering in

Shropshire's **GREAT OUTDOORS**



a happy, healthy, green,
more active Shropshire





Shropshire's GREAT OUTDOORS



Do you enjoy being outdoors?

Would you like to meet new people and improve your fitness and wellbeing?

Would you like to improve local walks and places for wildlife?

Could you spare some time to do something really useful?

Then join a local group of volunteers taking practical action to look after our wonderful outdoor green places:

- Training and equipment will be provided.
- There will be a group in your area.
- You decide how much time you can commit.
- There is no obligation.

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Shropshire Parish Paths PARTNERSHIPS

Help keep your local routes accessible

- Look after Public Rights of Way, replace stiles, gates and bridges
- Cut back vegetation and waymark routes
- Promote the best local routes
- You decide the priorities

Shropshire WALKS LEADERS

Lead walks and help the less active enjoy the great outdoors

- Help others get active
- Meet new people, make new connections
- Learn new skills

Shropshire VOLUNTEER RANGERS

Help improve your local Greenspaces and Countryside Sites for people and wildlife

- Conserve wildlife and their habitats
- Organise events and activities
- Promote and encourage others to enjoy their local greenspaces
- Make Shropshire a better place to live

Shropshire WILD TEAMS

Help lead conservation volunteering groups for those with disabilities or receiving support from health or care services

- Organise conservation activities for those who don't normally get out and about
- Help people to gain new skills and become more active



Other opportunities to volunteer include:

- Working on websites, social media and printed promotional materials
- Wildlife and heritage research, surveying and monitoring
- Veteran Tree surveying
- Organising events
- Helping with administration
- Promotion and recruitment of new volunteers
- Fundraising

Just give us a call to discuss anything you would like to do. Your help will support the Shropshire's great outdoors!

If you are interested in finding out more or going out for a taster session with existing volunteers please contact:

Shropshire Outdoor Partnerships on 01743 255957

outdoor.recreation@shropshire.gov.uk

For more information please see our website:

www.shropshiresgreatoutdoors.co.uk



Volunteering in



Shropshire's **GREAT OUTDOORS**

Our priorities are to improve people's health and wellbeing and to support local communities, the local environment and tourism economy, through the management and development of recreational access in Shropshire via the Public Rights of Way network, Countryside Parks and Sites, Greenspaces and play areas and open access land.



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