

NOTES FROM WALK FORUM, MONDAY 28TH JULY 2014

Present:

Peter Carr (*Ramblers*), Mark Cuthbert-Brown (*P3*), David Davies (*W4H*), Liz Evans (*W4H*), Ernie Heath (*Wem Walkers*), Jane Ing (*P3*), Andy Lipa (*SC*), Brendan and Margaret Markland (*P3*), Ian McKenzie (*P3*), Ann and Neil Moore (*P3*), Alison Parker (*Ramblers*), Jim Stabler (*SC*), Barrie Stephens (*W4H*).

Walking for Health

There is nothing noteworthy to say about the walks in general. There will be a walk for north Shropshire walkers on Wednesday 27th August around Colemere. The next volunteer walk leaders' courses are Friday 8th August in Shrewsbury, and Friday 19th September in Craven Arms.

Walkers are Welcome

The Oswestry walkers are welcome are doing a walk around the hill fort on August 12th.

The Whitchurch walkers are doing their anniversary walk on August 30th from Sherry Mill car park at 1.30, to finish at Grindley Brook for refreshments.

The Whitchurch walkers have also decided to do another walking festival next year.

The AONB booklet can be re-published so there is an opportunity for it to be added to by Oswestry and Whitchurch.

Bluebell/Burns Wood Walk

On Saturday 27th September there will be a celebratory walk for the re-opening of this footpath near Ellesmere. The walk will leave at 10.00 am from the Boathouse and is about 4 miles long. Shropshire Council will pay for a drink afterwards in the Boathouse. Jane to liaise with Liz over producing flyers and distribution of same.

To introduce himself

Andy Lipa is taking over the West and Oswestry area rights of way and P3 groups for 2 days a week, and one day a week on the 30 miles of Offa's Dyke that is in north Shropshire. Harvey Morgan will continue to cover the remainder of north Shropshire for 3 days a week.

Council Matters

Jim outlined the new structure for Outdoor Partnerships and a map with these minutes to clarify.

AONB (area of outstanding natural beauty) now report to Deb Hughes.

Points for LAF

Status of the SAMDEVs and planning issues especially where they will affect ROWs, is the existing system robust enough ?

Ploughing and cropping plans for next year

The pylons consultation plans

Walking Events in General

Sunday 3rd August, a guided tour of Nescliffe Hill

Sunday 7th September, Seven Wonders of Oswestry walk for Wildlife Trust, Trefonen Village Hall, 10am.

Oswald's Trail update

The official launch of Oswald's trail will take place on Saturday 6th September. It will be opened by Owen Patterson at 10.00 on the Wilfred Owen Green in Oswestry. There will then be a 2 mile walk to publicise the route. 2,000 free booklets have been printed to go along with this. It is 21km, or about 14 miles in total. There will be a complete walk on Sunday 7th September at 10.00 led by the Ramblers.

AOB

Whitchurch Walkers have a new book out, '10 Varied Walks around Whitchurch'. Jim said there is funding for Mike Aston to do a hard map of footpaths in Whitchurch if that was wanted.

The Humphrey Kynaston Way has been launched and there is a booklet available to cover this.

Ideas are still requested for WW1 walks in north Shropshire.

There is going to be a public enquiry before Christmas for a proposal to put in a path around Llanyblodwell. Trevor Alison is requested to provide details for next meeting, and Shona is asked to supply date.