

Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date: Wednesday, 27 January 2021

Committee:
Shropshire's Great Outdoors Strategy Board

Date: Thursday, 4 February 2021
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: THIS IS A VIRTUAL MEETING

Members of the public will be able to listen to this meeting by clicking on this link:
<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/shropshiresgreatoutdoorsstrategyboard4february2021/>

Please note that this meeting will be made available through Microsoft Teams Live Events - your device will need to meet the minimum specification as detailed on the Microsoft website at this link: [Device Specification](#)

- You will need to download MS Teams (free) and click on the link to listen to the meeting if you are using a PC
- If using a mobile device, you will need to download the MS Teams app (free) before clicking the link
- Use the link at 10.00am on the day of the meeting and click on 'Join as Guest'
- You may receive an error message or a request for login details if you try to gain access before 10.00am

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

Claire Porter
Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)

Members of Shropshire's Great Outdoors Strategy Board

Alex Carson-Taylor (Chairman)	Cecilia Motley
Mark Weston (Vice Chairman)	Stewart Pickering
Peter Carr	Lezley Picton
Lee Chapman	Nigel Pocock
Sarah Faulkner	Ronald Repath
Ruby Hartshorne	Jack Tavernor
Chris Mansell	Andrew Wood

Your Committee Officer is:

Tim Ward Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257713

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Welcomes, Introductions and Apologies for Absence

2 Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

3 Public Question Time

To receive any questions or petitions of which notice has been received from members of the public. Deadline for Questions is 10.00am on 2 February 2021

4 Minutes of the Last Meeting (Pages 1 - 4)

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2020 are attached for confirmation

5 Access to Land Project Proposal

To receive a presentation from University Centre Shrewsbury

6 North West Relief Road Update

To receive an update from Matt Johnson (Executive Manager - Strategic Projects, Shropshire Council)

7 Press Releases, Social Media, and Public Messages regarding the Covid 19 Restrictions

To receive an update from Adam Spreckley (Communications Officer, Shropshire Council)

8 Countryside Code

To receive an update from the Outdoor Partnerships Team.

9 Current Situation and Challenges for the Outdoor Partnership Team

To receive an update from the Outdoor Partnership Team.

10 Date of Next Meeting

Members are advised that meeting of the Shropshire's Great Outdoors Strategy Board will be held on Thursday 3 June 2021 at 10.00am



Committee and Date

Shropshire's Great Outdoors
Strategy Board

4 February 2021

SHROPSHIRE'S GREAT OUTDOORS STRATEGY BOARD

Minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2020

Virtual meeting held via MicroSoft teams Live

10.30 - 11.35 am

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257713

Present

Alex Carson-Taylor (Chairman), Mark Weston (Vice Chairman), Peter Carr, Sarah Faulkner, Cecilia Motley, Lezley Picton, Ronald Repath and Jack Tavernor

33 Welcomes, Introductions and Apologies for Absence

33.1 Apologies for absence were received from Lee Chapman, Stewart Pickering, Nigel Pocock and Andrew Wood

34 Declarations of Interest

34.1 Mr Weston declared an interest in agenda item 5 as he is a resident of Tong.

34.2 Mrs Motley advised the meeting that she is Chair of Rural Service Network whose work covers a lot of the topics covered by the meeting.

35 Public Question Time

35.1 There were no public questions

36 Minutes of the Last meeting

36.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 6 February 2020 had been circulated.

36.2 RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Shropshire's Great Outdoors Strategy Board held on 6 February 2020 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

37 Bradford Estate Access Proposals

37.1 Members received a presentation from Alexander Newport, Managing Director Bradford Estates, which updated them on plans for a new Garden Community north of the M54 junction 3. He informed the meeting that the site was proposed for allocation in the Shropshire Local Plan review and that the proposals would provide a sustainable co-location of jobs and **Page 4** alongside social infrastructure. He

took the meeting through the proposals explain how they delivered against local, regional and national policy.

- 37.2 A Member commented that cycling and pedestrian routes should provide for equestrian use as well and asked whether the proposal would allow for this. he was advised that more detailed work needed to be done on this but the estate supported equestrian use through the site and that in addition the Estate was looking at developing managed equestrian access through their in-hand farming land.
- 37.3 The Culture, Leisure and Tourism Manager welcomed the new greenspace within plans and asked how this would be designed & managed. She was advised that the Bradford Estate would be involved at all stages and would create local development group which would be involved in the development and management of the open space.
- 37.4 Following further questions the Chair thanked Alexander for the presentation.

38 Cultural Strategy - Public Consultation

- 38.1 Members received an update from the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Manager on the Cultural Strategy. She advised the meeting that the draft strategy had been taken to a meeting of the Shropshire Council Cabinet where it had been well received and it had been agreed that a public consultation should be carried out. She added that the consultation was now live and would close on 5 January 2020.
- 38.2 The Portfolio Holder for Culture and Leisure congratulated Officers on the clarity of the strategy and urged all members to respond to the consultation.
- 38.3 In response to a question the Culture, Leisure and Tourism Manager confirmed that the Cultural Strategy would feed into the Community and Rural Strategy.

39 Covid 19 Update

- 39.1 Members received an update from the Interim Outdoor Partnership Manager and the ROW Mapping & Enforcement Manager.
- 39.2 The Interim Outdoor Partnership Manager advised the meeting that those ROW maintenance officers that had been redeployed to deliver food boxes were now back at work and he was working with them to prioritise work. He added that the increase in the use of the rights of way network and the countryside sites had brought with it increased littering, damage to surfaces and elements of antisocial behaviour all of which were adding to the workload. The Interim Outdoor Partnership Manager informed the meeting that additional funding has been gained from the Government Covid Funding and that two additional maintenance officers were being recruited on a six-month contract along with securing additional vehicles to enable socially distanced working practices.
- 39.3 The ROW Mapping & Enforcement Manager advised that the increase in the use of the ROW network had led to a large increase in the reporting of enforcement issues

along with an increase in the number of claims for rights of way being submitted which had increased the workload considerably.

- 39.4 The Portfolio Holder advised the meeting that following the issues around respect for the countryside the council was putting together a pack to get the message across around responsible use of the countryside and asked all members to distribute this through their networks. She thanked all officers for all their work that they had undertaken during the pandemic.

40 General Updates

40.1 Members gave the following updates: -

- The Chairman informed the meeting that the Agriculture bill was currently “ping ponging” between Commons and Lords to agree the final amendments prior to gaining Royal Assent. He added that once Royal Assent was gained policy details should become clearer.
- Mr Carr advised the meeting that organised walking groups were classified as organised sport and groups of up to 30 could take part although in practice groups were limited to 12 to 15 participants.
- The Culture, Leisure and Tourism Manager advised Members that at the Cabinet meeting held on 5 October, 4 sites, Nesscliffe Country Park, Llanymynech Heritage Area, Poles Coppice and Lyth Hill had been dedicated as Local Nature Reserves.
- Ms Faulkner advised the meeting that the NFU and the CLA had called for an amendment to the Highways Act to allow temporary diversion rights of way where livestock was in fields for health and safety reasons, and that this would give farmers more flexibility than they currently had.
- Mr Weston advised that the BHS had withdrawn its objection to the Flaxmills CPO following the protection of the bridleway link. He added that the BHS continued to make representations in respect of active travel routes in order to include the interests of equestrian users where possible.

41 Date of Next Meeting

- 41.1 Members were advised that the next meeting of the Shropshire's Great Outdoors Strategy Board would be held on Thursday 4 February 2021 at 10.00am

Signed (Chairman)

Date:

This page is intentionally left blank