

**Recreation Management Strategy Advisory Group
Tuesday 29 October via Microsoft Teams**

Attendance:

Steve Avery, NFNPA
Richard Burke, Forestry England
Tim Guymer, NFDC
David Illsley, NFNPA (for item 8)
Caroline Rackham, LAF
Leanne Sargeant, FE

Brian Tarnoff, New Forest Association
Nick Tomalin, RSPB
Tony Vanderhoek, CDA

Apologies:

David Bennett, NFDOG
Tina Bige, Natural England
Nicola Carass, Go New Forest
Graham Horton, NE
Rick Manley, Verderers
Graham Smith, TVBC
Philip Thomas – New Forest Cycle
Working Group
Jonathan Woods, HCC

1 Welcome / Introductions

1.1 Members of the Group introduced themselves.

2 Minutes of the last RMS Advisory Group meeting (30 April 2024)

2.1 The minutes were agreed as a true record. Any matters arising will be covered by the agenda.

3 Minutes of the last RMS Steering Group meeting (18 September 2024)

3.1 These were noted by the Group. Action 8.7 regarding a meeting about Plaitford Common had now taken place.

4. Update on Spatial Plan

4.1 An action arising from the agreed RMS Actions was to produce a Spatial Plan to help inform of any future infrastructure provision could be enhanced or changed as a better way of managing access. The first task being to map all the cycle routes, car parks, campsites, green open spaces etc. which is hopeful will be produced by early December. Car park provision will be considered in the future along with things such as the cycle network, housing developments and other recreational infrastructure.

5 Proposal for promoting responsible cycling and improving the New Forest off road cycle network

- 5.1 Since Forestry England made a presentment to the Verderers in September and in seeking their consent, the Verderers had hoped to make a decision by November Court however they have now requested a workshop in December to go through any concerns and look in more detail, with a view to a decision being made next year. Environmental and planning permissions are still required to complete the consenting process.
- 5.2 The Group discussed the proposals at length, the different pressures that the New Forest is facing and the difficulties of successfully delivering the new proposals that is accepted by all users and stakeholders. RB further explained that because consent was needed from the Verderers, it made sense to discuss the proposals with them first before extending the consultation further.

6 New Forest Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) Consultation

- 6.1 The consultation for the LCWIP closed on 3 November. Government has requested all local authority areas have an LCWIP and have provided guidance on what it should include. The Draft Plan is likely to change as a result of the comments received and HCC will adopt the Plan and look to partners to consider the Plan in their work. The LCWIP will mean applications for funding for improvements can be made - unless an allocation of funds is made by the Government.

7 Update on Campsites

- 7.1 The NFNPA are Monitoring the Article 4 Direction with regard to pop up temporary campsites that was brought in and it is working well. Not all previous campsites applied for permission to open and some have even closed. It is expected that a report will go to the National Park Authority meeting to look at the effectiveness and impacts and whether it is achieving it's desired objectives.

8 Impact of PSPOs in 2024

- 8.1 Figures are currently being collated by both Forestry England and New Forest National Park Authority. Early indications are that there has been an increase in the use of stoves, with pony petting and feeding remaining the dominant issues. Requests for extra signage have been approved and installed. The PSPOs run through until next year and it appears that the PSPOs are having the desired effect so very likely they will be applied for again. BT stated his case for dog control PSPOs to also be considered going forward.

9 Update on strategic mitigation scheme for new development focused on strategic access management and monitoring measures (SAMM)

- 9.1 DI joined the meeting to update the Group on the strategic mitigation work taking place in and around the New Forest. DI shared a presentation (attached) detailing the outcomes of local authorities mitigation schemes,

some of which are currently being updated. The mitigation schemes provide a package of measures such as a Ranger role and new accessible greenspaces. DI is confident that a new mitigation strategy will be published within weeks or months showing how new developments will contribute to measures on designated sites.

10 AOB

- 10.1 NT commented that the RMSSG and the RMSAG seem to have similar discussions and whether there was opportunity to streamline or consider the Groups' future.

11 Date of next meeting

- 11.1 To be confirmed.

DRAFT