

Item 13 – Wiltshire LAF meeting

Agenda

1. Welcome.
2. Apologies.
3. Minutes of the last meeting (Wednesday 26 September 2012) and matters arising.
4. DMMO and PPO prioritisation and process. Sally Madgwick.
5. North West Downs AONB –presentation. (Postponed.)
6. National Trails Partnership – Richard Broadhead.
7. Marlborough Downs Nature Improvement grant Scheme – Richard Broadhead.
8. Great stones Way – Richard Broadhead.
9. Monitoring Engagement with the Natural Environment MENE Data – Eric Clarke.
10. Any other business.
11. Date of next meeting.

Discussion at meeting

1. DMMO and PPO Prioritisation. An attempt is being made to reorder the work taking into account the value and threat to a particular right of way. It is hoped this can be done before the 2026 cut off date.
2. Marlborough Downs Nature Improvement Scheme. This is a Natural England pilot scheme and a Limited Company has had to be set up to manage the money allocated to it. Payments are made 3monthly in areas. To date there has been little progress on access improvement.
3. Great Stones Way. Development of this route is on hold at the moment. It is hoped that users of the route will help to regenerate the local economies. It is however not clear if the area will be able to cope with the projected number of users. The use of alternative rights of way is being considered.
4. Monitoring Engagement with the Natural Environment. Eric Clarke presented some data relevant to Wiltshire and compared some to that for other parts of England including Hampshire. Eric was very positive about the usefulness of this data but other members of the Forum were less so. Eric thought that Public health money would be given to counties where people engaged with the natural environment. Others thought there was a good case for giving it to areas where people did not engage with the natural environment to achieve improved health outcomes.

Ruth Croker