EAST YORKSHIRE AND DERWENT AREA COUNCIL

12 May 2015

1 Urgent footpath issues. The Footpaths Committee has opposed the extinguishment of a footpath in Goole. Goole group representatives recommended that the objection be withdrawn, as they felt the path was unnecessary. This was based on the fact that an alternative route was available by walking on pavements beside local roads. However, after strong arguments by council members in favour of continuing the objection, this was supported by area council.

I provided an update on the Seamer Carr quarry issue.

2 Pathwatch meeting. Two delegates, David Nunn and Tony Corrigan, were chosen by area council to represent the area at the Pathwatch workshop in Birmingham (their expenses were paid by area). A copy of the delegates' report is attached.

Individuals/working parties will be expected to "claim" 1km grid squares, and if reports from the claimed squares are not then received in four weeks, they will be released for others to claim. This procedure should eliminate duplication where group areas share the same grid square, as Group B will not be able to claim a square that has been claimed by Group A.

The survey is not intended to be exclusively a fault-finding, but an exercise that identifies both the attractions and demerits of each right of way.

The period of operation has been changed from mid-June to October, to the beginning of July to the end of December.

The delegates (not present at area council) will contact groups.

(My own concern is that Pathwatch is concerned only with rights of way, while the periodic and coordinated surveys that are carried out by most groups should also include unregistered paths. This is particularly relevant to the Scarborough urban area, which has many paths used by the public, but no Definitive Map. Also, the physical condition of paths surveyed under Pathwatch could be very different in July and December.)

3 Group reports. Pocklington representatives had taken 49 people on a five-day trip to the Lakes.

Ryedale have almost completed their latest survey of rights of way in their area, and for comparison purposes, carried out checks on a few paths in the NYMNP. These were found to be much better maintained, presumably because of the increased financial resources available to the NPA.

I submitted the attached group report. There was interest in our use of Twitter and the response to it and on request, I have supplied details to two other group representatives.

4 Access group. The report is attached.

5 Ramblers Worldwide Holidays. A representative has offered to give a presentation, and this is under consideration for the next AGM.

Harry Whitehouse, Area Council Rep