

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING

12 November 2013

Report of the Acting Strategic Director - Environmental Services

MANAGEMENT OF GREEN LANES – APPROVAL OF ACTION PLAN EXPENDITURE FOR 2013-14 (JOBS, ECONOMY AND TRANSPORT)

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To seek the approval of Cabinet for expenditure in respect of the management of Green Lanes

(2) **Information and Analysis** At its meeting on 24 July 2012 (Minute No. 216/12 refers), Cabinet approved the Policy for the Management of Green Lanes. The report referred to the production and publication of an annual Action Plan which will indicate which projects will be undertaken to improve access on these routes.

At its meeting on 29 January 2013, Cabinet approved the capital sum of £140,000 of borrowing for 2013/14 for the refurbishment of routes carrying motorised vehicular rights (Minute No. 42/13) and that a further report on the detailed schemes be brought to Cabinet.

Appendix 1 shows the proposed indicative expenditure in the current financial year against the list of routes. The routes that require attention are, in some instances, ancient or have not been maintained for many years. Consequently, the drainage systems may be hidden, blocked or washed away and, in some instances, considerable volumes of material have been lost from the surface. It is important to ensure the repairs that are carried out are adequate and will withstand the occasional extreme rainfall the County is experiencing, thereby ensuring the Council's investment is secured. Low cost techniques are being developed to maintain routes, for example using recycled road-planings. Many of these routes are difficult to access and provide challenges in terms of working in confined areas, for example, between walls, supply materials to site and on steep inclines.

The Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs) carry public vehicular rights, the remaining routes are in regular use by vehicles and require attention. The 2013/14 schemes are summarised below.

Public

Chapel-en-le-Frith BOAT 144 (Chapelgate)

This phase of the works will deal with the badly eroded section at the south-western end of the route. Deep ruts and erosion by water has made the route extremely challenging to use by all classes of user.

Chapel-en-le-Frith BOAT 182

This route became badly eroded following torrential rain last summer. Accumulations of debris and mud make this route quite difficult to negotiate during wet weather.

Brough Lane, Parish of Brough and Shatton

The second phase of work will complete the restoration of the drainage system and improve access for all classes of use.

Eyam BOAT 32

Work carried out as a part of last year's programme was damaged by high volumes of rainfall this year. Restoration of the drainage ditch and repairs to surface are required.

Bamford Clough and Hurstclough Lane

Both of these routes, which are recorded as a non-classified highways and the subject of an ongoing investigation into public rights, are in a poor state of repair. Wash out and poor surface conditions have left these routes very difficult to use by walkers and horseriders. Sections of Bamford Clough have eroded to bedrock.

Reserve Schemes

The following schemes are planned for the future, however, advance work will pave the way for further investigation and monitoring of the drainage system.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The cost of the works shown in Appendix 1 will be met from the capital allocation approved by Cabinet on 29 January 2013.

(4) **Legal Considerations** The County Council, as the Highway Authority, has under a duty to maintain these routes. The legislation requires a highway authority to provide, on a way shown in a definitive map and statement a surface suitable for classes of legitimate public users taking into account the frequency of their respective use.

(5) **Environmental and Health Considerations** The County Council is required to have regard for conserving biodiversity and that duty has now become part of the County Council's working practice. The improvement works will improve the network and supplement the development of a sustainable transport network and increase opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Public

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, property and transport considerations.

(6) **Key Decision** Yes.

(7) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(8) **Background Papers** Report to Cabinet dated 24 July 2012 (Minute No. 216/12 refers). Officer contact details – Peter White, extension 39673.

(9) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That:

9.1 Cabinet approves the 2013-14 Action plan and associated expenditure.

9.2 Any under-spend associated with each of these schemes shall be channelled into further improvements on the routes listed or those on the reserve list.

Mike Ashworth
Acting Strategic Director – Environmental Services

Public

Appendix One - Green Lane Action Plan 2013 – 2014

Scheme	Planned Work	Estimated Cost
Chapel-en-le-Frith BOAT 144 (Chapelgate Phase 4)	Continue with surfacing and improving drainage	£40,000
Chapel-en-le-Frith BOAT 182	Drainage and surfacing	£25,000
Brough Lane (Phase 2)	Continue with surfacing and improving drainage	£20,000
Bamford Clough (Phase 1)	Removal of concrete and repair to cross drains	£15,000
Eyam BOAT 32 (Phase 2)	Repairs to surface following heavy rain	£10,000
Hurstclough Lane (Phase 1)	Improve drainage in preparation for resurfacing in 2014/15	£30,000
	Total	£140,000.00
Reserve Schemes		
Minninglow and Gallowlow Lanes	Commence drainage work	
Beeley Bar Road	Commence drainage work	