

Mid Cotswold Tracks & Trails Group

NEWSLETTER, AUGUST 2010

Cotswolds on Horseback project:

Progress is on track for publication later this year, thanks to Lois and to several members of the group who have been assisting her by developing new routes or testing out new descriptions. For various reasons, we are having to abandon some of the existing Trails in the current version but the 14 viable Trails have been reviewed and updated, and a further 14 or 15 new Trails are in the process of being devised. Lois is also in discussion with the BHS about funding and formats for the publication.

Future of Group:

As mentioned in the last newsletter the Committee met on 11 August the Committee and discussed the future of the group with a view to putting propositions to the AGM later this year (see below). The Committee invited Pat Harris to describe her new web site, [Self-Help Bridleways](#), in which she sets out what she has learnt with a view to helping others. The Committee is considering the options for the MCTTG in the light of falling membership and a lack of interest in group activities which the Committee have arranged (eg the Access Ride). A paper will be issued to all members prior to the AGM to assist in the discussion. Meanwhile Lois has learnt that the Gloucestershire PROW has lost a lot of funding and staff and will be more reliant on voluntary groups to ensure that our bridleways are maintained and improved. This approach is consistent with the Coalition Government's approach to encouraging a much greater role for the voluntary sector in delivering local services.

Progress report:

Gypsy Lane improvement: there remained some problems with mud in the lower half of the track. As promised, Sarah Ellis from the GCC PROW team has arranged to have this part of the track covered in crushed stone which appears to have overcome this problem. Potlickers Lane Ablington: new gate which was hung too close to the river has been re-hung, following representations made by us.

Job: Project developer:

We have been notified of the following post which is on offer:
The Forest of Dean Horse Riders and Carriage Drivers Association is looking for a

person for a 6 month contract to carry out a feasibility study on route development open to all non-motorised users throughout the Forest of Dean District. For further information, please email odproj10@btinternet.com. This project is part financed by the European Agricultural Fund for European Development 2007-2013: Europe investing in rural areas. This project is being delivered through the South West of England Regional Development Agency with Defra as the Managing Authority.

Annual General Meeting:

The AGM will be held on WEDNESDAY 20th OCTOBER at the STIRRUP CUP, BISLEY. Please put the date in your diaries. We will send a formal notice and agenda about one month beforehand.

Leni Rozee

Chair MCTTG

23.08.10

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