

The Shropshire Way Association (SWA)

Shirehall Oswestry Room Tuesday 27th September 2016 2.00 p.m.

Present:

Audrey Menhinick
John Newnham
Bob Coalbran
Anne Suffolk

Anne Moore
Paul Butter
Helen Beresford
Trevor Allison

Marion Law
Neil Moore
Tony Eccleston
Clare Fildes

1. Apologies:

Peter James
Peter Carr PC
Keith Pybus

Paula Doherty

2. Funding and Bank Account

Peter Carr has applied to Ramblers Holidays Charitable Trust and is awaiting their response. Application to the Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme is outstanding. Neil Moore has suggested HF pathways fund as a possible source of funding.

Marion Law has opened a bank account with TSB

3. Result of Consultation

Route of Shropshire Way

The survey results were 40% in favour of Route 4 and 26% in favour of Route 1. Both of these options include both a North and South loop plus a spur to Whitchurch.

It was agreed at the meeting that the addition of a linear route is confusing and that Route 1 should be adopted. The Northern section will need refining.

Waymark

There was lengthy discussion about the waymark. Although option 1 gained the most votes, many written comments expressed a desire to go back to the original buzzard design and some people objected to the pink colour.

Audrey presented some ideas based on the original buzzard and Clare suggested she send these to Mike Ashton to tweak to incorporate facets from the new buzzard.

4. Next Steps

i) How do we respond to those who volunteered on the survey responses?

The meeting decided to send an email to all volunteers asking if they wish to be involved in practical work by joining a P3 group in their area.

ii) Determine the Southern route so that work can start on this section first

A meeting to be arranged with Helen Beresford and Paul Butter to take a detailed look at mapping and the P3 groups involved.

iii) Northern Section

A working party to look at paths in this area. John Newnham, Trevor Allison agreed and JN will ask Peter Carr.

iv) Route through Wellington

Bob Coalbran and Anne Suffolk to lead a working group to look into this.

v) Surveying of the route

To be undertaken simultaneously with waymarking

vi) Removal of old waymarks

To be addressed by above working parties

vii) Press Release

To be considered when we have overall clarity on the route and waymark.

5. Who owns the Shropshire Way?

Audrey read out the aims of the SWA constitution to define, preserve, maintain and promote the SW.

Clare explained that the Council have a statutory duty to maintain the ROWs and to ensure that they are open and accessible to any member of the public whether or not they are designated as a particular long distance path. The council is also responsible for the surface of a ROW.

Landowners clearly own the land on which the ROW sits.

The SWA acts as an advisory body to the Council.

Bob Coalbran described the ownership of the SW as ethereal and maybe the SWA has intellectual copyright on the Shropshire Way.

The conclusion was that we need to work in partnership with each other to complete the project and preserve the result.

6. Actions

Actions carried forward from previous meetings:

	Outstanding actions	
1	OS mapping - Clarify current situation Current electronic OS maps have the 'Shropshire Way Web' updates. Some printed copies also have these changes. OS will be informed of the Main Route changes when these have been documented. They will also be asked to remove the other routes	SB ongoing
2	Recruiting – Chairs at Walking Forums to publicise our activities and ask for volunteers to walk / waymark or be a warden for a given section	BC Telford, NM North ongoing
3	Consider adding a long term aim to become a National Trail	Committee

		for AGM
4	Look into Harvey's maps needing updates as well as OS maps. To be contacted when main Route documented	CF/SB
5	Formulate clear instructions for waymarking process	PB ongoing
	New Actions	
1	Funding from Meres and Mosses LPS	HB
2	Working party for Northern route	JN
3	Working party for Telford route	BC / AS
4	Email to consultation respondents, draft to go to committee before sending out	HB
5	List of names and addresses of volunteers	HB
6	Send out map of P3 groups	HB (done)
7	Arrange meeting to look at map detail for Southern section	HB (done)
8	Send waymark designs to CF	AM (done)
9	Contact Mike Ashton re waymark design	CF

7. A.O.B.

Peter Carr asked the meeting to consider a name change from Shropshire Way Main Route to New Shropshire Way.

This was rejected on the grounds that a) it will not be New for long b) it is in fact the 'Old' route.

Next Meeting: Tuesday 15th November 2016 14.00 Room tba