

GeoConservation Committee

Notes of meeting on 3 October 2017

Present: John McNeal (JMcN) (Chairman), Steve Cowell (SC), Jennifer Rhodes (SJR),
Peter del Strother (PdS) (note taker)

Apologies: John Geldard (JG), Andy Wiggett (AW), George Williamson (GW)

1	Notes of last meeting Accepted	
2	Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda (previous notes reference)	
	(2) PdS will send latest account data to the committee within the next few weeks. He reported that he had experienced problems with e-banking. SJR signed the form required for him to reinstate it.	PdS
	(3.1) PdS has this in hand	PdS
	(3.3) PdS has a full copy of the original data provided by Keith on his desktop PC and on a separate hard drive. The data takes up 31GB of disc space. SJR also has a copy on a separate hard drive. If anyone else wants a copy please let us know and we will find a way of copying it to you. Having extra copies improves the security of the data.	ALL
	(6.2) SJR has spoken with Adrian Kidd re upper Ribble Valley Geotrails. SJR and PdS to arrange to meet him.	SJR/PdS
3	LGS general	
3.1	LGS site inspection proforma was agreed. SJR will make a minor amendment to it and circulate the amended version.	SJR
3.2	<p>Website Proposals for some modifications were put forward by SJR and approved by the committee. These included:</p> <p>(a) Tidy up Geotrail section which currently gives priority to the outdated Jumbles and White Coppice leaflets etc. (b) Revise text in the panels adjacent to the picture of each Geotrail (c) Insert entry on North West Geologist. (d) Insert a GW news page. Details to be agreed between GW and Gareth Lockton.</p> <p>James Carter has offered to assist with the LGS map on the website, so that one can hover over any LGS site with the cursor and a pop-up window with more detail will appear. SJR and PdS will arrange to meet him, possibly with Nik Bruce.</p>	<p>SJR, GW (with support from PdS as required)</p> <p>SJR/PdS</p>

3.3	<p>Older leaflets White Coppice, Jumbles etc. are significantly out-of-date. There is enough work to do at present without starting work on updates. Appended to the minutes is a 'bucket list' of outstanding work, which will able members to see the list and perhaps offer to do one or more of the tasks.</p> <p>SJR has scanned Clougha, Beacon Fell and Hodder Valley guides and extracted the text in Word format. These files have been circulated to committee members.</p> <p>The format of any updated guides will have to be addressed.</p>	
4	LGS specific issues	
4.1	<p>Starr Dunes JG to report at next meeting</p>	JG
4.2	<p>Halton Gorge A planning application has been made for work in part of the LGS, which runs from Crook of Lune to the M6. The LGS is very large and the work would not impact in any meaningful way. JG is continuing to investigate this LGS.</p>	
4.3	<p>Burnley LGSs The site descriptions on LERN may be different from our records. Sites include Copy Clough (in Towneley Park) and Holme Chapel (Cliviger Valley). Copy Clough had been denotified. It was agreed that our objections would be withdrawn.</p> <p>Copy Clough needs a site visit. PdS is closest and will try to fit it in. It may be difficult of access as the site is in a narrow clough. He will ask Brian Jeffery for assistance.</p> <p>SJR will circulate to members of the committee a copy of the Burnley Plan, which does not appear to mention GeoConservation.</p>	<p>PdS</p> <p>SJR</p>
4.4	<p>Heysham LGS and Morecambe Bay Project. B Gordon led a visit in July. The National Grid project is on hold until the contract for the power station is confirmed.</p> <p>It appears that the LGS boundary needs revision.</p> <p>Silverdale Coastal Footpath. Correspondence from Natural England. SJR, GW and PdS visited the LGS. No damage to it will be inflicted by the proposed coastal path. SJR has responded to English Heritage to that effect. SJR to keep a watching brief on progress</p> <p>Knott End and Preesall LGS PdS, SJR & GW visited in 2016. GW has produced a draft Geotrail Guide which needs testing</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>SJR</p> <p>ALL</p>
4.5	<p>Response to planning authorities regarding questions re LGS sites. It was agreed that responses on non-contentious issues should be dealt with by the person who agreed to field the enquiry, without consultation with committee members. Copies of responses to be circulated to all.</p>	ALL

5	LERN	
5.1	JG attended the last meeting. When SJR receives the minutes of meeting she will circulate them. (Done 4 th October)	SJR
6	Geotrails	
6.1	<p>Revision and reprinting of Geotrails Supplies of some Geotrails are exhausted. JMcN & PdS to conduct a stock check at the cement works. After the meeting on 13th October would be a possible time.</p> <p>Prior to reprinting any Geotrail, a copy will be circulated for error checking. It is already known that logos and similar details need to be updated. Some of the introductory blurb may also need altering.</p> <p>In future the web versions of the Geotrails will be in A4 pdf format so that anyone who downloads one can print it out straightforwardly. Most people do not have A3 printers.</p>	JMcN and PdS to arrange a suitable time
6.2	<p>Lancaster Building Stones Field excursion arranged for 25th October. SJR is close to completing the 'final' draft and will circulate it prior to the meeting.</p>	SJR
7	Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership	
	<p>Nothing was reported at the meeting.</p> <p>Since the meeting PdS has discovered the following announcement:-</p> <p><i>We are happy to report that after two years of planning projects and developing partnerships we have now handed in the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership Stage 2 application!</i></p> <p><i>The application will now be assessed and we hope to find out about the final decision in December. If all goes according to plan, the Pendle Hill Landscape Partnership programme will officially start in April 2018 and last for 4 years. We aim for the scheme to begin with our flagship 'Pendle Summit' project which will include restoration work on paths and the peat at the summit of the hill, as well as the construction of a dry stone wall shelter. See http://www.forestofbowland.com/Pendle-Hill-LP</i></p> <p>GeoLancashire has offered a Geotrail based around Nick of Pendle. It will probably incorporate archaeology and perhaps some history too. I have chosen a route which I walked earlier this year with a party of twenty, arranged by the Partnership. Whether it can be shoehorned into our format remains to be seen. I suspect we will be restricted to the Partnership's house style. We will be paid for the work. It covers the Nick quarries, Deerstones and the lead mines to the south west of the Nick. Brian Jeffery found some interesting historical data on the lead mines.</p>	

8	<p>NEXT MEETING Tuesday 6 February. Cuerden 7.00pm</p> <p>Items for agenda, other than those arising from these minutes, to PdS or SJR preferably at least a week prior to the next meeting please.</p> <p>GW will be asked to put the meeting date (only) on the website/facebook, whichever seems appropriate.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>GW</p>
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	List of outstanding work not currently being addressed:
	Update old RIGS leaflets Clougha, White Coppice, Beacon Fell, Jumbles and Hodder Valley
	Review LGSs to assess whether any would merit a Geotrail. The Heysham coastal section would be a good candidate.
	Knott End and Preesall Geotrail
	Upper Ribblesdale Geotrails

PdS 9 October 2017