



Welcome to our latest newsletter. As always, if you have any comments or suggestions to improve this update, or if you would like to receive future updates electronically please contact the TPT Office.

Route Updates

Sefton - The glass is still missing on the feature information board on the seafront. Works have started at Pontins roundabout to take the route through the trees.

Liverpool - Officers are looking into signage issues at Melling Road / Greenwich Road that's causing problems for Trail users. Feature information board to be installed at Pier Head.

Knowsley - Refurbishment works have been undertaken on the steps / ramp down to the underpass.

Halton - Halton won 300 hours of Community Payback time for works on TPT (approx 75 days). The Public Inquiry for Gateway Bridge has now commenced. A Planning Application has been submitted for 'Big Flower' artwork at Widnes Warth.

Warrington - A feasibility study is underway on the Sankey Valley Park to include works on the canal and the route along Fiddlers Ferry.

Trafford - Seeking funding for more seats and benches along the Trail. Lots of vegetation work undertaken with the help of Volunteer Rangers. Environment Agency has resurfaced access onto the Millennium Bridge. Information Board is to be sited at Hawthorn Road.

Manchester - There are plans to extend the Metro tram line at Didsbury. Initial information seems to involve cycleway along other side and a slight re-routing of the TPT to make room for the tram lines. TPT will be involved in discussion of detailed plans as these are progressed and to see if a crossing point on the tram lines is possible. Information Board to be installed in Northenden Linear Park. Route for cyclists along alternative route in Northenden to avoid Boat Lane has been signed. The Highways Agency are planning some works in Kenworthy Woods to improve drainage and will improve the Trail here as part of these.



Signage on the Trail in Manchester

Stockport - There are signing issues on the equestrian route in Stockport. The old horse route which has Pegasus crossing is still signed and the new route, favoured by equestrians, only has Toucan crossing and no room for this to be upgraded. TPT liaising with Stockport for a solution.

Tameside - Tameside Volunteers are now walking the whole of the TPT throughout the borough twice a year. It is also hoped to produce a route guide / local leaflet. Contractors are to repair fencing along the Mersey Valley.

Peak District - National Grid have started work at Woodhead and Dunford Bridge now. Initial works



Volunteer Ranger workday in Trafford - Photo courtesy of Jenny Jacobs

will involve cement wagons accessing the tunnel via the car park at Dunford Bridge and the TPT at Woodhead. TPT has been assured that Banksmen will be used during working hours to protect Trail users. National Grid has also produced a scoping report for replacement of existing overhead cables in Longdendale as they are nearing end of life. Report will study nine options to develop a preferred solution for replacing these transmission lines. TPT have raised issue of signing the route through Longdendale and asked for this to be looked into.

Barnsley - The very muddy sections from Thurgoland to Wharncliffe (boundary with Sheffield) have been resurfaced. One section has had to be left for now to avoid disturbing the resident glow worm population. Works due to start shortly on Elsecar Greenway to cut back vegetation and resurface this section with limestone.

Sheffield - Unfortunately the bridges on Five Weirs Walk in Sheffield are still subject to vandalism with the cables and bolts being targeted.

Rotherham - Reports of Trail users having problems with the newly installed and narrow access barriers along Wath Manvers are to be investigated.

Chesterfield - Killamarsh to Renishaw section has been surfaced and tarmac pads installed under bridges to prevent ponding underneath. Funding being sought for surfacing the Renishaw to Staveley section and the Chesterfield Canal sections. The long running works at Staveley (to create a new road) which severe both routes of the TPT are expected to complete in September. A Planning application is expected soon for the Waterside Development which will affect the Trail.

Wakefield - The Footpaths Team at Wakefield have recently resurfaced the section of the Trail



Wakefield - Kirkthorpe Lane resurfacing works

from Kirkthorpe Lane to the local landmark - Blue Bridge. The available width was increased and a level surface using recycled stone was laid along a stretch of 750 metres. The whole section of the Trail from Heath Village to the canal towpath of the Aire and Calder Navigation has now been resurfaced.

Leeds - Unfortunately the situation with British Waterways has not changed regarding the surfacing at Woodlesford Lock. TPT have now requested a site meeting to try and move the situation forward.



Doncaster

Doncaster - Users are still reporting issues regarding the surface along the Don Gorge section. Doncaster are still looking for funding. A short section along Boat Inn has now been resurfaced and being enjoyed by Trail users.

North Yorkshire - Officers are looking into surface and signage issues through Burn Airfield. Signs have also been ordered to rectify user problems reported on the section to Riccall. Selby Farms Creation Order is still being processed.

York - British Horse Society have asked if the northern end of the York—Selby route could be available for equestrians. TPT are liaising with Sustrans who own the route about this and the suitability of the route (particularly the height of the parapet on Naburn Bridge).

East Riding - The section from North Ferriby to Hessle Foreshore has been re-dressed. A programme to rectify missing signs is underway, and plans are to be developed for limited repairs to the surface of Hornsea Rail Trail.

Hull - There are problems at St Andrews Quay with landowners having closed the Trail due to an unsafe handrail. The landowner is now in receivership but Officers at Hull are trying to negotiate a solution. Works planned for late summer at Humber Quays to remove palisade fencing. A zebra crossing has now been installed where the TPT crosses Danson Lane.

Memorandum of Understanding

After consultation on the draft Memorandum of Understanding some partners have raised issues regarding the indemnity clause. The document has now gone back for consultation with Barnsley's Legal Department to try and find a solution.

Once this issue has been solved it is hoped that we will finally be able to send to you all for signing. The TPT Office would like to thank all our TPT Contact Officers for their patience on this issue and please be assured that we are working hard to clarify the issues.



Users enjoying the Trail in York

Marketing

Shows - We have attended this years Cheshire Show and will be attending Your Horse Live in November. Unfortunately we won't be attending the Great Yorkshire Show due to increased costs by Welcome to Yorkshire (the new name for Yorkshire Tourist Board).

Website - The on-line payment system is now working wonderfully with a marked increase in orders.

Press Coverage - Equestrian Life are still running the horse sections coverage.

Days Out – We are extremely thankful to one of our Liaison Rangers, Alan Hollingworth has recently spent his sabbatical from the RSPB with us. During his time with us Alan researched and compiled 10 'Days Out' on the Trail - easy to follow guides to help people explore the route available on our website. Alan is also keen to do more of these whilst using the Trail in his own time.

Photographs - we have had three excellent days out on the Trail adding to our library of images of people out enjoying the trail. These are being used in TPT and partner authorities promotional materials.

Funding

Following our last Executive meeting in June, it was agreed that the urgency be placed on seeking potential funding from Primary Care Trusts (PCT's). Les Ford, TPT Officer, is working on proposals to seek funding from PCT's across the Trail to support the work of the Trail Office in the promotion of the route and benefits this has for healthy living and physical activity.

We would also like to urge all Members and Officers to bring to our attention any funding they are aware of that may help to secure the future of the Trans Pennine Trail and our National Office. Now is the time to really 'think outside the box'. Without an injection of future funding the future of our National Trail lies in the balance. After twenty years of hard work by you all we really don't want to lose our national identity.

This issue will also be discussed at this years Members Meeting which will be held on **1st October, 2009** and kindly hosted by Trafford.

Please note this date in your diary. We would like to see as many Members and Officers as possible attend this years meeting as we feel we are at a crucial point in the life of the Trans Pennine Trail.

Smaller Relevant Body Regulations

It's always good to end on a positive note and the TPT Executive are very pleased to announce that we have passed this years Audit with flying colours. Barnsley MBC Internal Audit were happy with all the procedures and paperwork that they found in place. TPT HQ would like to thank our Finance Officers at Barnsley for their help and guidance through this process.

Executive Group

Representatives on the Executive Group are:

- **Mersey Group** – Mike Bailey (Warrington Borough Council)
- **Greater Manchester Group** – *Position currently vacant*
- **Broadbottom to Penistone Group** – Chris Coombs (Derbyshire County Council)
- **Central & Eastern Group** – Aidan Rayner (North Yorkshire County Council)
- Pam Ashton (Friends TPT),
- Barnsley (host authority) - Andrew Bannister
- Les Ford, TPT Officer

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