

PDGLA
PO Box 7976
Great Longstone,
Bakewell,
Derbyshire, DE45 9AY
Web: www.pdgla.org.uk
Email: pdgla@hotmail.co.uk



Peak District
Green Lanes Alliance

July 2013 Newsletter

This month our newsletter combines “Route of the Month”, “TRO of the Month” and some good news about a TRO on The Roych in one article.

The Roych – PDNPA's First Full TRO

The story to date:

The Pennine Bridleway which was officially opened in June 2012 is the first national trail created specifically for horse riders and mountain bikers.

The Roych which goes from the Chapel Road (under Rushup Edge) northwards to South Head is an ORPA (other route with public access as shown on OS maps) and is part of the Pennine Bridleway. It is very popular with mountain bikers, walkers and vehicle users. Many horse riders avoid the route because they fear meeting vehicles on the poor surface. The route is only wide enough in places for a 4x4 and other users have to get out of the way if they meet one.



The variety of different landscapes seen from The Roych is one of the attractions of the route. Photo: June 2012



Looking north towards the moorlands and Brown Knoll. PDNPA stress the amenity value of the route in their case for a TRO. Photo: June 2012

There is currently a voluntary one way system on the route but members' experience is that about a third of off-roaders ignore it. A large amount of money

(in excess of £600K) has been spent on repairs in the past, much of which has been wasted through the continuing attrition from vehicle use.



*The view westwards towards Chapel.
Photo June: 2012*



*Roych Clough – a haven of peace
and tranquillity except when trail bikes
pass by. Photo: June 2012*

PDNPA approached the statutory consultees to comment on how the route should be managed in 2012. We recommended a full TRO. A year ago, the July 2012 meeting of the Audit, Resources and Performance (ARP) Committee debated and accepted an Officers' Report that recommended consulting on a full TRO for the route. It wasn't until September 2012 that this consultation was started. PDNPA were inundated with responses from those in favour and those against. A big thank you to all who responded.

Now read on:

The Members unanimously voted for a full TRO at the ARP Committee on 19 July 2013. Our Chair and Secretary spoke in favour of this during the public participation session. The Members agreed that it was essential to protect this beautiful route, which is also an historic feature in its own right. Despite a reluctance to remove rights, they felt a vehicle ban was the only option and in the light of experience did not think partial measures would work. We are delighted with the outcome. We'll let you know when the TRO comes into effect.

We were disappointed and surprised that the Officer's report did not recommend a full TRO but gave the Members a range of options from "do nothing" to a full TRO; or a public inquiry via the Planning Inspectorate. We could identify nothing that was said during the consultation that should have caused them to change their minds. The full report can be seen at

[http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/index/committee-meeting-papers?
com=audit130719](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/index/committee-meeting-papers?com=audit130719)

If you can't face reading all 12 documents in the link above, the PDNPA Press release gives a good summary of why the members felt a TRO was the only option. <http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/news/current-news/recreational-vehicles-are-banned-from-a-peak-district-green-lane>

If you are unfamiliar with The Roych, here are some photographs of the route taken in 2012 and 2013.



The worst of the "steps" when descending Roych Clough. Many vehicles are unable to manage this step and illegally leave the path creating a parallel track (seen on the right of the photo). Other vehicle users bring ramps to cope with the step. Photo: July 2013



The parallel track (on the right) is now nearly as badly eroded as the main track (on the left.) DCC had a temporary TRO on the route to carry out repairs earlier this year. We could see no signs of any repairs when visiting this month. Photo: July 2013



The start of the descent into Roych Clough showing the 3 parallel routes that have been created by vehicles in spite of signs asking them to keep to the track. Photo: July 2013



Steps are beginning to form also on the ascent to the north of Roych Clough. Water erosion is not helping. We watched a 4x4 sending clouds of dust into the air while trying repeatedly to get over a similar small step. Photo: June 2012



Bedrock at the start of The Roych near the Chapel Road. Photo: June 2012



Bedrock approaching South Head. Some trail bikes leave the track to drive on the open moorland. Photo: November 2012



Mud and ruts which form in wet weather. Photo: November 2012



Off-piste activity near the junction with Beet Lane. There is no need for vehicles to leave the path in this area. Photo: July 2013



Work to improve the drainage. Photo: June 2012



Pitching on the steep ascent to Roych Clough. Part of the £600,000 was spent on this work. Photo: June 2012

PDGLA Policy on Use of Personal Data

We thought it would be helpful to let members know what is our policy on the use of the personal data we collect from you when you join PDGLA.

This is it: PDGLA collects and uses personal data such as name, postal address and email address solely:

- to maintain membership records.
- to communicate with members about the work of PDGLA.

Access to personal data is restricted to PDGLA Committee members. We will not share your personal data with any other individual or organisation.