

Workshop Notes – Multi-user Routes

The following notes are the comments made by participants of the workshops. Members were asked to list conflict and then come up with ways of reducing conflict.

Conflicts identified:

- Runners
- Dog walkers and bird watchers
- Cyclists and walkers (suggestion that bells should be used)
- Walkers and horse riders
- Nature conservation and all users
- Single track mountain bikers and other cyclists
- Off road recreational motor vehicles and walkers (e.g. Ridgeway)
- Visitors and residents
- Off road recreational motor vehicles and tranquillity
- Local Authority and Local Authority (giving conflicting advice)
- Urban and urban fringe
- Large-scale events and organisers
- Environmental interests e.g. bird nesting and users
- Erosion and run off caused by heavy use
- Landowners causing damage e.g. forestry operations
- Horses and low flying aircraft
- Lack of joined up policies
- Disability access and other users

Ways of resolving conflict:

Route Management

- Segregation of users
- Upgrading routes
- Specialist facilities
- Maintaining routes fit for use
- Make sure route is correct legal status
- Traffic regulation Orders
- Barriers – clever designs such as chicanes

Information

- Better signage e.g. provide telephone numbers on waymarks/legitimate use of routes
- Provide/recommend suitable routes and facilities

Education

- Involve different user groups at all stages – get users round the table to try and understand each others needs
- Organised events in appropriate setting
- Explain rights and behaviours
- Review the countryside code to better reflect what really happens out there