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AGENDA ITEM 4

Mr C Hearn
Clerk to Tavistock TC
Council Offices
Drake Road
TAVISTOCK
Devon
PL19 0AU

Your ref:
Please quote: AW/DartmoorWay
Direct line: 01626 831057

15 April 2019

Dear Mr Hearn

Dartmoor Way Walking Route

Dartmoor National Park Authority is working with the Ramblers on a partnership project to re-invigorate the Dartmoor Way walking route. The purpose of this letter is to update you on the progress achieved to date and our future plans.

As you may be aware, the Dartmoor Way has been in existence since the late 1990's as a circular walking route encompassing most of the perimeter of the National Park. In 2012 a steering group was established and the Dartmoor Way cycling route was created. Since then the Ramblers have been seeking sources of funding to invest in the walking route and have now achieved their fundraising target.

This year, work to survey the walking route which follows existing public paths has commenced to determine the condition of the path network and identify any improvement works. We are also surveying a route along the southern boundary to extend the route to circle the moor and a map of the route is enclosed for information.

Once the initial survey work has been completed, it is envisaged that work on the ground will be carried out with the help from the DNPA Ranger service and volunteers during the year. They will be repairing or replacing existing signposts, installing new ones where needed and fitting Dartmoor Way waymarks to these.

This will be followed with the creation of a revised website for both the cycling and walking routes, in readiness for a launch in the spring of 2020 and a route guide publication in due course. The Dartmoor Way walking route utilises existing footpaths and bridleways linking many of the towns and villages on the edge of the National Park.

Bill Hitchens Chairman Kevin Bishop PhD Chief Executive (National Park Officer)

The purposes of the Dartmoor National Park Authority are to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park; and to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the area's special qualities. In pursuing these purposes the Authority has a duty to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of the local community.

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 enjoy dartmoor

We hope that the re-invigoration of the walking route will benefit the local businesses of the towns and villages on the edge of Dartmoor, including pubs and cafes, accommodation providers and tourist attractions along or near to this promoted route.

If you are interested in finding more about this exciting project, please go to the website www.dartmoorway.co.uk or email Michael Owen, the Project Manager at michael.owen@dartmoorway.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Andrew Watson
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Dartmoor National Park Authority



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Project Manager
Dartmoor Way



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