

**Access, Countryside and Rights of Way**

25<sup>th</sup> November, 2013

Quaker Meeting Rooms, St James Street, Sheffield, S1 2EW

**Present:** Allen Pestell (Chair), David Gadd (Secretary), Les Seaman, Philip Ryder, Basil Merry, Cath MacKay.

**Apologies:** Terry Howard.

**Minutes of the meeting 9<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

These were agreed as being correct.

**Matters arising from those minutes**

None

**Review of Access matters**

A decision has been made not to sell the North Lees Estate. There are therefore no problems for walkers.

**Review of Countryside matters**

The government has published the HS2 Bill today. Affected Groups should respond by the end of January. There are public consultations in Bolsover and Staveley on 28/29 November. The situation regarding 'lost ways' affected by the route, or claims pending, is not known.

Much work will be carried out in the Burbage valley over the next two years with the removal of trees. A forest road will be established, taking 4-5 months, from the Toad's Mouth end and an aerial ropeway will be built to transport the trees out of the valley. The trees will start being removed from October 2014.

**Review of Rights of Way matters**

In a wide-ranging discussion about the historic routes situation, points were made about the lack of success of the Hampshire Group's success with only three routes saved in five years, the Sheffield Group's considerable efforts of five years ago coming to nothing. DG to contact Janet Davis at central office for guidance.

The matrix devised by Ken Whetter of the Rotherham Group, distributed prior to the meeting, was considered to be very valuable.

**AOB**

BM reported that the situation re Eckington 34 remains unchanged i.e. the path is still closed.

BM also reported that Derbyshire CC have said that they will review the reinstating of RoW situation in light of complaints about oilseed rape in particular by the Chesterfield Group.