

Public questions to Council – 6 March 2015

Question from Mr A Lee, Herefordshire

Question 1

Top ten footpath problems

You will have probably read items in the press regarding Herefordshire Ramblers Top Ten footpath problems in the county, and a copy of these ten issues has been provided to you.

Herefordshire Council is the statutory authority regarding public rights of way issues and, as you are cabinet member responsible, could you please explain what action you and the council propose to make to resolve these issues?

I have had a conversation with Balfour Beatty Living Places regarding this, but would value your comments and the possibility for partnership working to help resolve these issues.

Answer from Councillor P Rone, Cabinet Member Transport & Roads

Answer to question 1

I understand that Mr Lee has now received an update on progress in relation to Herefordshire Ramblers' 'top ten' footpath problems; I am sorry for the time taken to respond to his original request for information. However, as Mr Lee will know from that update, a substantial amount of work has either been completed or is underway which should result in many of these issues being resolved during 2015/16.

Herefordshire Council and our contractors Balfour Beatty Living Places are committed to working with landowners, the Ramblers Association and other voluntary organisations or community groups to ensure that residents and visitors alike can continue to access our beautiful county.

Supplementary Question

An article in the Hereford Times of 5 March highlights one of the footpaths in the Ramblers top ten list of issues. A walk is being led by a visually impaired person as part of the Hereford River Carnival on 3 May. What is the Cabinet member proposing to do to resolve the issue on BT1 Wellington to Breinton or will he facilitate a meeting of all interested parties to resolve the issues.

Answer by Councillor Rone

A meeting may be useful to provide a solution. I will discuss the matter with Mr Lee after the meeting.