

SHROPSHIRE HILLS AONB LONG MYND – STIPERSTONES GROUP
Notes of meeting on 16th September 2008

1. Present:

Tom Wall & Cassy Clayton	Natural England
Phil Holden, Cath Landles, Clare Fildes	Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership
Michiala Pinches	The Hollies Farm
John Sankey	Brow Farm
Carl Pickup	Shropshire Wildlife Trust
Peter Carty	National Trust
Alison Jones	Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group
Leo Smith	Upper Onny Wildlife Group
Jim Stabler, Karen Wilson	Shropshire County Council
Andrew Semple	The Inn on the Green, Wentnor
Adrian Pearce	Shropshire Mines Trust
Keith Mansell	Myndtown Combined Parish Council

Apologies: John Hughes	Shropshire Wildlife Trust
John Muller	Community member
Peter Sargent	Lodge Farm Estate
John Winterbourne	Forestry Commission
Dave Cragg	Natural England
Oliver Goode	Community member
Mark Pinches	The Hollies Farm

This meeting took the form of a bus trip to give group members an opportunity to see, hear about and discuss current work and ideas for the whole area, including access, interpretation, slow travel and sustainable tourism.

1.30pm Bog Centre car park – Intro: Clare Fildes (AONB)

2pm Black Rhadley – Tom Wall (Natural England: The Stiperstones vision.

2.45pm Snailbeach Mines: Adrian Pearce.

3.15pm The Hollies: Carl Pickup, Shropshire Wildlife Trust newly acquired site.

4pm return to Bog Centre for tea, cakes and discussion.

5.15pm Finish.

Ideas for next time:

- Visits followed by meeting inside (village hall, etc) to go through business
- Let members know beforehand issues to be discussed
- Need an unofficial chairman when out in the field, plus note taker
- Specific themes e.g. Interpretation - ideas/best practice on things such as leaflets, electronic methods, etc

- An important function of this group is sharing information and seeing what's going on in the area
- Andrew Semple – Would like more information on the area - how and why it's managed as it is and what to do, etc. There is a demand from the public – e.g. training on basic map reading skills. Could training be provided for businesses (such as landlords) on the Shropshire Hills landscape?
- We could pick a theme for future discussion
- Adrian hadn't heard of AONB before today!
- If needed, Adrian could organise a visit to Snailbeach for 12-14 people, including underground to see mine.
- Peter Carty feels that widening the group is vital and it should operate at two levels – information sharing and actions for the area
- Keith Mansell (Long Mynd Gliding Club) and Adrian Pearce (Shropshire Mines Trust) would like to be included in the 2009 Shropshire Hills events leaflet – **Action: Cath will inform Steph Hayes**

AONB Management Plan review – ideas raised:

- Seeing things provokes comments but we also need a round the table discussion on what we as a group want the AONB Management Plan to deliver
- Need to discuss current draft of Management Plan in relation to area
- Group needs a strategy for the area for the next five years, not just terms of reference
- Management Plan should state what the group want for the area
- Every few years we agree strategy, then informal meetings like today.
- **Tom proposed another group meeting, after the 18th November public meeting at Norbury, to discuss the Management Plan**

Next group meeting to discuss the Management Plan Review - TBC