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**Cannock Chase Land Management  
Workshop – 14 September 2017  
Workshop Outputs  
Word for Word report**

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## About the workshop and this report

### Purpose of the online consultation

The purpose of this workshop was to explore suggestions and concerns made during the wider engagement about the suggested grazing options, other management options, suggested boundaries and access points. The workshop took place on September 14, 2017; 45 stakeholders were invited and a total of 25 attended on the day.

This workshop was part of Phase Two of the consultation process funded by Staffordshire County Council, Natural England and the RSPB.

In Phase One of the consultation process there had been a workshop for the deliberative group, a drop-in event and an online survey.

### About this report

During the workshop, facilitators wrote up the essence of everything said on flip charts, or participants directly contributed their points by writing on Post-it notes or forms. Following the event, all of these outputs were typed up 'word for word' as written.

Once typed, the points were sorted and clustered within each section so that similar points sit together. By sorting similar points together, the main topics and themes become clear.

The method we used to sort the outputs is called 'emergent processing'. This means we don't organise the text to pre-set expectations or titles but see what emerges. The ideas could have been grouped differently or different titles chosen, so no weight should be attached to them. The numbers that are assigned next to the comments in the levels of support section refer to the participants who made the comment.

This report serves as a record of what people discussed, and an *aide memoir* for those who took part in the workshop, but the contents are inevitably quite cryptic in places. We recommend it is not used as the main means of communicating with non-participants.

Acronyms used in this report	Meaning
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BTO	British Trust for Ornithology
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SCC	Staffordshire County Council
SWT	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
SSSI	Site of Specific Scientific Interest
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
TB	Tuberculosis

# 1 Session 2: Grazing concerns and suggestions

## 1.1 Safety for people, dogs and horses

### 1.1.1 Suggest any other solutions that might address the concerns

#### **Consideration of different cattle breeds**

- Avoid walking through fields of cows alone. Some breeds are more inquisitive than others. Not bullocks. Preferably Galloways or Dexters. Beef cattle are more inquisitive. Existing cattle on Chase have not presented any problems. Horses and sheep are a problem. Had issues with dogs.
- Habitat is rough therefore can't have agricultural breeds.
- Community psychology needs to be managed and respected i.e. using Chase to breed beef cattle might not be welcomed.
- Longhorns keep away from people.

#### **Choice of areas where cattle can be avoided**

- Giving people a choice of area where to go will help. Can avoid cattle.
- Have permanent areas where cattle are not grazed.
- Encourage people who do not want to 'meet' cattle to walk on F.C land.

#### **Cattle familiarisation/engagement initiatives**

- Meet the cattle day could be way of introducing people to cattle.
- Existing visitors to Chase may not have much experience with cattle.
- Could be a good solution to ensure that cattle are visible – gets people used to them.
- Own your own or buy your own cattle and employ grazier/expert to manage them.
- Schools etc. could sponsor/name cows.

#### **Dogs running loose**

- Dogs off lead are a real problem.

#### **Locate grazing and troughs away from residential areas**

- Cattle troughs shouldn't be sited near to residential areas.
- Have sufficient numbers of troughs to spread cattle.
- Access to natural water sources if feasible?
- Cattle shouldn't be watered near to access gates.
- Move boundary away from urban areas i.e. Brocton – minimise contact.

#### **Information and communication**

- Regular communication + engagement with people.
- Means of contact/communication is important and tailored to people's needs.
- People would have to assume that cattle could be anywhere on Chase.
- Methods of information should be multiple and up to date and continuous
- Information needs to be site-based/online/2R codes.
- Code of conduct/training for visitors about how to behave if meet or around cows.
- Develop app for mobile phones so that cattle locations are known/cattle can be tracked.
- Need one key point of contact (land manager) who is readily accessible at all times.

#### **Welfare of cattle**

- Involve volunteers on rota basis to check cattle. Co-ordinate volunteers from different bodies and organisations.
- Welfare of cattle (safety) needs to be considered.
- Cattle handling facilities for cattle to be checked etc safely.

#### **Experienced graziers**

- Ensure that graziers have the right knowledge/used to working on urban fringe.
- Is there sufficient knowledge/skills within SCC to manage grazing project?

**Age/sex of cattle**

- No female cows with calves
- Young weaned calves would be good idea.
- Low stocking rate is important.

**Other grazing animals**

- Sheep are less aggressive.

**Access guidelines**

- Make sure that access gates are easily – used.
- Cattle grids would be preferable to gates.

**Learn from similar grazed sites**

- Cattle on Hednesford Hills not a problem.
- Red poll experience on another site where there has not been any problems.
- Experience of cattle at Chasewater and Hednesford Hills. Local experience is advantageous. No issues are known about Hednesford Hills.

**Grazing periods**

- Destroy orienteering course markers if cattle out over winter.
- Cattle not grazed during winter.

**Other**

- Invisible fencing won't have any impact on horses (not wearing collar).
- Mining fissures are a consideration.
- Grazing should be over larger units.
- More vehicles on site/e.g. grazier – people/visitors need to be made aware of potential conflict

## 1.2 Recreation and access types – types and access gates

### 1.2.1 Suggest any other solutions that might address the concerns

**Invisible fencing**

- Invisible fencing isn't mentioned but is solution to physical barriers

**Maintenance/quality of gates and stiles**

- Needs to be maintained checked
- Doesn't mention British standard 5709 for gates
- Concerns about stiles not fitting in with standards.

**Theft**

- Concerns about theft

**Night-time activity**

- Bikers at night, will lights scare cattle

**Location of gates to avoid funnelling**

- Right gate in right place to minimise fears of funnelling

**Dogs and clear signs**

- Concerns about dogs and need for signs in cattle areas
- Dog paw print signage: red, amber, green – moved around

**Ungrazed areas**

- Having areas with no livestock gives opportunities for ungrazed areas
- Can we have areas with no grazing at all

**Reduce clustering of recreational events**

- Make sure events are not all focussed in same place, more dispersed
- Someone maintains overview of events

**Number and accessibility of gates**

- Concerns re too few gates then put gates or stiles anywhere there's a desire line.
- Horse accessible gates.
- Looking at access points and ensuring right gate for right user groups.

- Avoid bottlenecking by looking at access points for different user groups to minimise damage to habitat.

#### **Signage**

- Better waymarking?
- Too many signs make it look like a park.
- Use technology solutions to put less on site signs. Cannock Chase app/2R codes.
- Less signage along route of the fence.

#### **Advice for mountain bikers**

- Put info on mountain biking sites etc. look into national organisations.
- Training mountain bikers through organisations but limited reach.

#### **Consider visitors from further afield**

- Need to think about visitors from further afield.

#### **Not issues on Hednesford Hills and area opposite While House**

- Not issues on Hednesford Hills and area opposite While House

#### **Accessible on foot and horseback**

- Section 193 common means accessible on foot and horseback.

#### **Engage horse riders**

- Ensure horse riders are engaged with & can pass info on to friends.

#### **Wild trails issue – DIY routes**

- Wild trails issue – DIY routes.

### **1.2.2 Suggest if there needs to be something added or altered on the guidance**

#### **More/better signage**

- Signage needs to be better with more regular signs.
- More information on signage and access.
- Customised routes for different recreational activities.
- Signage at entrance to Cannock Chase to make aware of grazing animals.

#### **Communications**

- Communications strategy.
- Right information, right time, right people.
- Land manager needs to 'own' the communications plan, but with involvement of others.
- Involve user group in what is being communicated and when.

#### **Self-closing gates**

- Option to have self-closing gates. Will be a British Standard on this.

#### **Dog-friendly areas**

- Welcoming dog walkers in less sensitive areas.

#### **Parking strategy**

- Look at parking strategy.

#### **Restrict permissive paths**

- Need to restrict some of permissive paths.

#### **Consider archaeologically sensitive sites**

- Grazing & archaeology – advice depends upon site and level of grazing.

## 1.3 Fencing – types and management

### 1.3.1 Suggest any other solutions that might address the concerns

#### **Fenced area too large**

- It's a large area for cattle to be on - can't see an advantage to environment - so how many cattle will be needed to achieve this.

#### **Permanent fencing's impact on deer and other wildlife**

- An impact map has been made - can this be a solution to keep the fences away from area deer are known to use.
- Concern with perm fencing to deer - will they try and jump and get hurt?
- Fencing can be designed to avoid deer getting caught in fencing - spaces in top wire help deer get across.
- Learn from others to make fencing as wildlife friendly as possible.
- Look at animal tracks already used and avoid these places for fencing.
- Type of fence can be used as a solution to help deer move around.

#### **Clear, easy and numerous access points**

- Mountain bikers feel fences are fine as long as access is clear and easy to use.
- Orienteers/walkers are concerned that any fencing will restrict access. More access points are needed which will also spread people around area rather than condense.
- Signage all along posts to say how far away you are from gates - NOT BIG SIGNS! 50p size signs on every fence post i.e. 500m from gate, 400 m from gate.
- Soft closing gates to minimise noise and slow closing of gate down.

#### **Parking**

- Bikers concerned about loss of smaller car parks due to fencing - will the fences prevent access to car parks.

#### **Information needed**

- Communication is key.
- More information needed to allay fears and answer questions i.e. what type of cattle, where will they be etc.

#### **Visual impact on landscape**

- A Buffer from the road, fencing set back from the edge of the road?
- Can fencing be hidden? Where possible.
- Careful siting of fences to reduce impact to landscape views.
- For major or existing route ways i.e. fire breaks/roads etc. can these be followed to reduce impact of fences.
- How will it change landscape?
- Place or locate hard fencing to have less impact on landscape - set back fencing from the road to aid deer/horse riders.
- Setting fence into woodland will make visual impact less.
- Site a long way back from roads to minimise impact.
- Visual impact on landscape - can more traditional types of fencing be used?

#### **Welfare of cows**

- How will affect cows?
- Welfare standards for cattle will have to be complied with.

#### **Dogs chasing cows**

- Concerns about cows being chased by dogs - there is a bylaw to keep dogs on leads. Can this be policed? More education for dog owners.

#### **Greater land management and maintenance**

- If fencing fails can inspections be more regular, more policed?
- Land management will have to be constant and vigilant - more volunteers etc.
- Maintenance is critical for fencing.

#### **Invisible fencing**



- External boundary should be hard but internal should be invisible - also help wildlife.
- Invisible fencing can't be put by roads so a mix of fencing will be needed - vets aren't recommending invisible fencing anywhere so cannot be funded.
- Where invisible fencing can be used it should be wherever possible.

**Signage**

- Signage is a way of providing information.
- Users to be told two types of fencing as may not be aware of invisible fencing.
- Should smaller areas be used with temporary fencing - more intensive?

**Concerns about theft**

- Concerns temporary fencing will be stolen.

**Fencing gives confidence to some users**

- Hard fencing gives people confidence if they wish to avoid cattle.

**Fencing to avoid historic features**

- Location of fencing - there is no mention of avoiding historical features - can this be addressed and assurance to public.

**Concerns about sale of land**

- Re. selling off of the land concerns - the land cannot be built on and is worthless as a building site - this should be emphasised.

**Cattle grids**

- Benefit to cattle grid use to slow traffic.

## 1.4 Cattle welfare

### 1.4.1 Suggest any other solutions that might address the concerns

#### **Other grazing animals**

- Why cattle - there are other choices?
- Have there been investigations into what animals are available?

#### **Management/ownership of cattle**

- Who owns cattle?
- Who grazes?
- Concern around 'absentee' grazier - will there be active (welfare) management?
- May cause problems finding graziers - dog chasing cattle and stolen animals.
- Farmers checking stock could mean more vehicles on the chase.
- Make it easy to contact if problem spotted.

#### **Types/breeds of cattle**

- Some breeds may have less welfare issues?
- Age and gender of cattle?
- Type of cattle - breed, age, gender, cows with calves?
- Rustling - larger cows harder to steal.
- Choose animals that know to avoid poisonous plants e.g. ragwort.
- Choose right breed and age of cattle and combine with education.
- Use non-breeding stock.

#### **Educate the public**

- People need to meet the cows - help reduce concerns.
- Education public.
- Human behaviour will influence cattle welfare - in guidance.
- Take people with you - people actually want more detail. What are the cattle, who owns them etc.

#### **Welfare of cattle**

- Need to remove all ragwort.
- Cattle welfare - issues about parasites from dogs - neospora.
- Separate paddocks/compartments with limited access to dog walkers when cattle present
- Cattle are not daft and well used to grazing/avoiding poisonous plants.
- Legislation covers welfare issues.
- Many grazed areas already have access and deal with rubbish etc.
- Needs some public engagement.
- Cow collars need inspecting every day - legislation.
- Cannot limit dog walkers in common S193 common - so legal right to walk dogs.
- Provide shelter/shade for hot periods.
- Although trees available shade needs to be considered when designing compartments.

#### **Different management techniques required**

- Different management techniques needed to tackle e.g. poisonous plants.
- May not need to remove all ragwort consider all users?
- No cattle - no welfare issues?
- Use mechanical only.
- Removing all ragwort not good for solution. Most animals won't eat unless cut and baled.

#### **Water provision**

- Tractors bringing water - good for cattle but cause other problems.
- More compartments mean more water sources.
- Streams provide water.

**Protect certain sites from cattle**

- Cattle need water - provide alternative water sources so not all Sherbrook Valley.
- Protect Sherbrook Valley from too much grazing/trampling.
- Water troughs needed - elsewhere so they can drink away from people.
- Concern around trampling and water quality issues.

**Fencing**

- Invisible fencing may not work if cattle are thirsty.
- Adequate and appropriate fencing to prevent straying.

**Learn from similar grazing sites**

- Show that it's been done before.
- How it works.

**Cost**

- Costings - who pays and implications for council tax.

**Information**

- Good information of where cattle are so dog walkers can choose.

**Volunteers**

- Use volunteers to help with lookering
- Fire watchers for dry periods.

**Trial grazing**

- Trial grazing around sensitive areas - Sherbrook and Oldacre Valley.

**Disease control**

- TB - need a plan if stock can't be moved.
- Will cattle spread phytophthora and how to control?
- Consider where cattle are in relation to disease outbreaks e.g. phytophthora.

**Dogs on leads**

- Dog walkers may not like limited access.
- Dogs on leads cannot run away if cattle charge.

## 1.5 Habitat Management

### 1.5.1 Suggest any other solutions that might address the concerns

#### **Monitor over-grazing and other impacts**

- Overgrazing trial and error, monitor results.
- People on ground monitoring.
- Monitoring before/during ecological, botanical to assess impacts.
- Need monitoring.
- Concerns over overgrazing.

#### **Use compartments or corridors**

- Compartments.
- Width/corridor.
- More of a compartmentalised approach/reduce numbers.
- More compartments so can move cattle on and make them graze.
- Striking a balance, more compartments means more troughs etc. increased costs.

#### **Use a good grazier**

- Good grazier.
- Need co-operative cow owner.
- Need responsive grazier and clear grazing licence/agreement. Outline expectations.
- Need good handling facilities- mobile? (Cattle welfare TB testing/collars need hand fitting).

#### **Use volunteers**

- Volunteers.

#### **Use existing guidance and evidence**

- Existing guidance and information.
- Precedent/evidence from FC grazing.
- Find out ideal cow/ha ratio.
- Start conservatively and use evidence from other sites.
- Natural England's guidelines.

#### **Some areas might be favoured**

- May be favoured areas e.g. water.

#### **Flexibility**

- Needs to be flexible.

#### **Protect ground nesting birds**

- Protect ground nesting birds.
- More cattle good for veg but conflicts with birds.
- Cattle have trampled woodlark nests so areas should be alternated for different timing at N. Brindley Heath.
- Larger grazing units and fewer cattle crucial for ground nesting birds.

#### **Protect sensitive areas**

- Protect water in Sherbrook/Oldacre or could be pollution/sediment/dung.
- Sensitive wetland flora or could benefit.
- If cattle are thirsty they will go for water/shade and congregate.
- Challenge that bog plants will be damaged. Will result in return of "lost" plants.
- Exclude sensitive areas and monitor.

#### **Trial on less sensitive area**

- Less sensitive areas for initial trial.

#### **Phased approach**

- Build numbers gradually/phase in.

#### **Select right type of cattle**

- Right breed of cow/beast e.g. bigger cows eat more but churn up need to be

hardy

**Have a mix of grazing animals**

- Need to like eating saplings, cows don't, need mix of species like New Forest.

**Increase in dog waste**

- People may refuse to pick dog poo, seeing cow poo.

**Timing**

- Timing of grazing is key.

**Trial stocking rates**

- Stocking rates trial/error.

**Fencing to define protected areas**

- Permanent fence to Sherbrook. There is a parish boundary fence.
- Fencing to define and protect areas.

**Concern for deer**

- Will cattle displace deer and cause more road accidents by competing for grass.
- Deer/cattle graze different ways and sheep use mix.

**Input from experts**

- Different expert groups to input.

**Concern about crayfish**

- Spreading crayfish.

**Other**

- Different sites respond differently.
- Once something is lost it's gone.
- Not clear what we want grazing to achieve. Will it make a significant difference to age diversity?

**1.5.2 Suggest if there needs to be something added or altered on the guidance**

**Keep clear of visitor centres**

- Kept away from visitor centres - how?

**Keep clear of historical sites**

- Lidar has revealed new historical sites.

**Communication/information**

- Keep public informed/involved - ongoing.
- There is animosity needs addressing.
- People are apprehensive/ sceptical.
- Direct mailing of guidance/information.
- Use parish newsletter/FOCC.
- Over emphasis on dog walkers, need good communication.
- Cows are unpredictable, need education.

**Guidelines to prevent over-grazing**

- Need overgrazing concerns on guidance can cause permanent damage

**Type/breed of cattle**

- Select breeds that will stay away and de-sensitise them first before they arrive and age of cows is important. Placid. Not calving.

**Three-point management**

- 3 point management - cows/people/habitat.

**Poo bags**

- Danger of plastic poo bags.

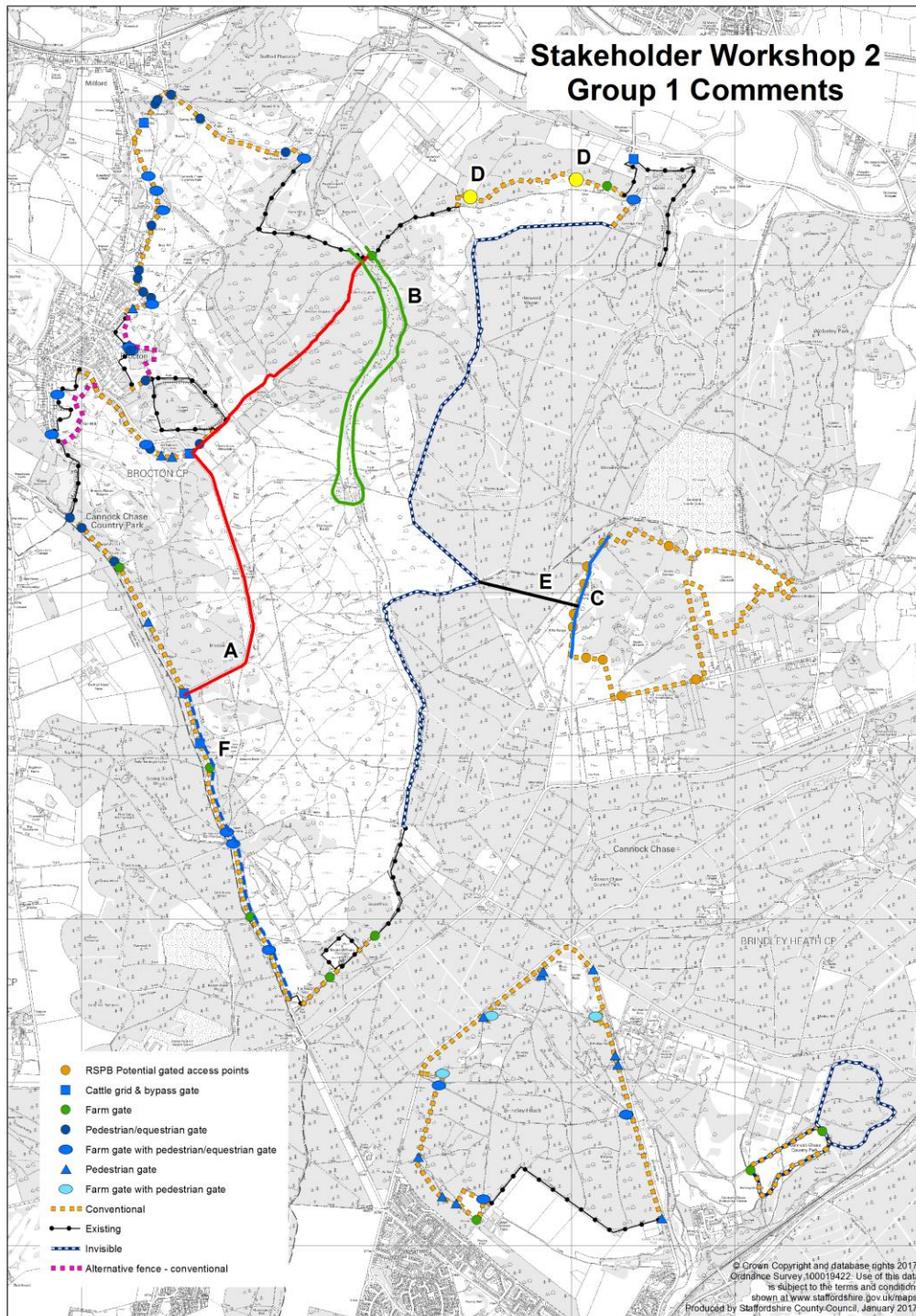


## 2 Session 3: Fencing and access points – concerns and suggestions



### 2.1 Fencing: review concerns and suggestions

2.1.1 Suggest amendments that could work for habitat management and address people's concerns.

Group 1

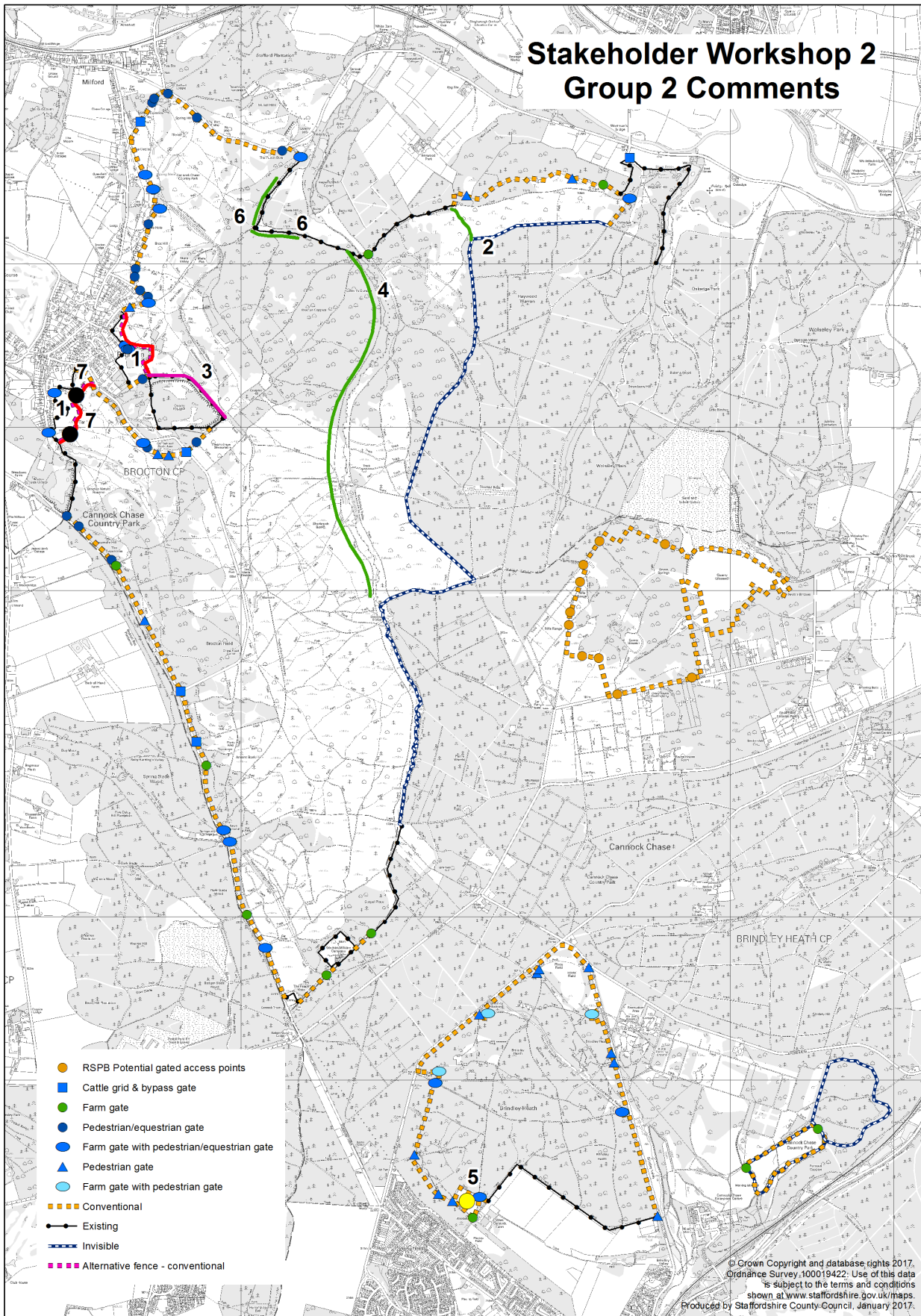


Group 1

Code	Benefits of this location and why here? 	Disbenefits of this location why not here? 	Other comments
A (Red)	Keep cattle away from residential area. (Local community would want to be involved with area outside of boundary (possibly trials))	Oldacre Valley and Brocton is an area which SCC/NE want to target with grazing.	
B (Green)	Area within green line should be avoided to protect destruction by cattle grazing. Could be invisible fencing.	Impractical to fence off. Cattle won't create marshy area because unlikely to be over-grazed. Won't be as bad as people fear.	Could trial area & then fence off if necessary.
C (Blue)	Could this be invisible fencing rather than hard fencing? Less impact on scenic amenity of site.	Will cost more. Will need to take account of archaeological remains.	
D (Yellow)	Gates at these locations need to be equine-friendly (marked D)		
E (Black)			Potential opportunity to link two areas.
F (Blue Dash)	Hard fencing needs to be set back because of potential car collisions/ damage to fencing.		





Group 2

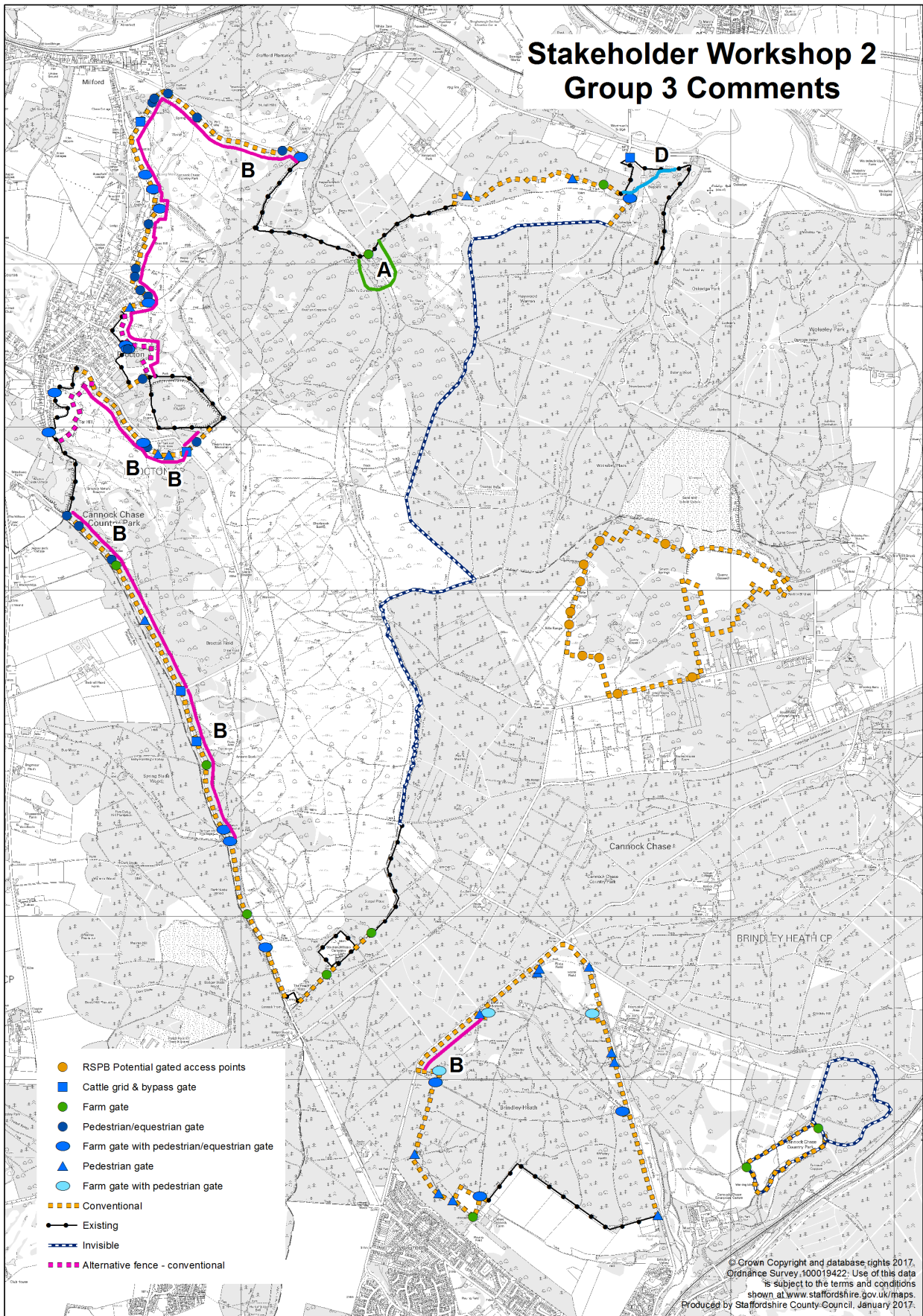






Group 2

Code	Benefits of this location and why here? 	Disbenefits of this location why not here? 	Other comments
1 (Red)	Unclear why fence in addition to existing?		
2 (Green)	Animal welfare concerns about holding into confined space. Put underground fence here. Keeps Seven Springs free from cattle for public in most popular areas.	Is it ecologically important?	
3(Purple)	Concerns about the quality of this fence.		
4 (Green)	Invisible fence moved to here to protect watercourse.	How do cattle get water?	Use nose push automatic drinkers.
5(Yellow)	Not sure why this is separate?		
6 (Green)	Fencing in poor state of repair – is it even there?		
7 (Black)	Check Definitive Map if these need gates?		

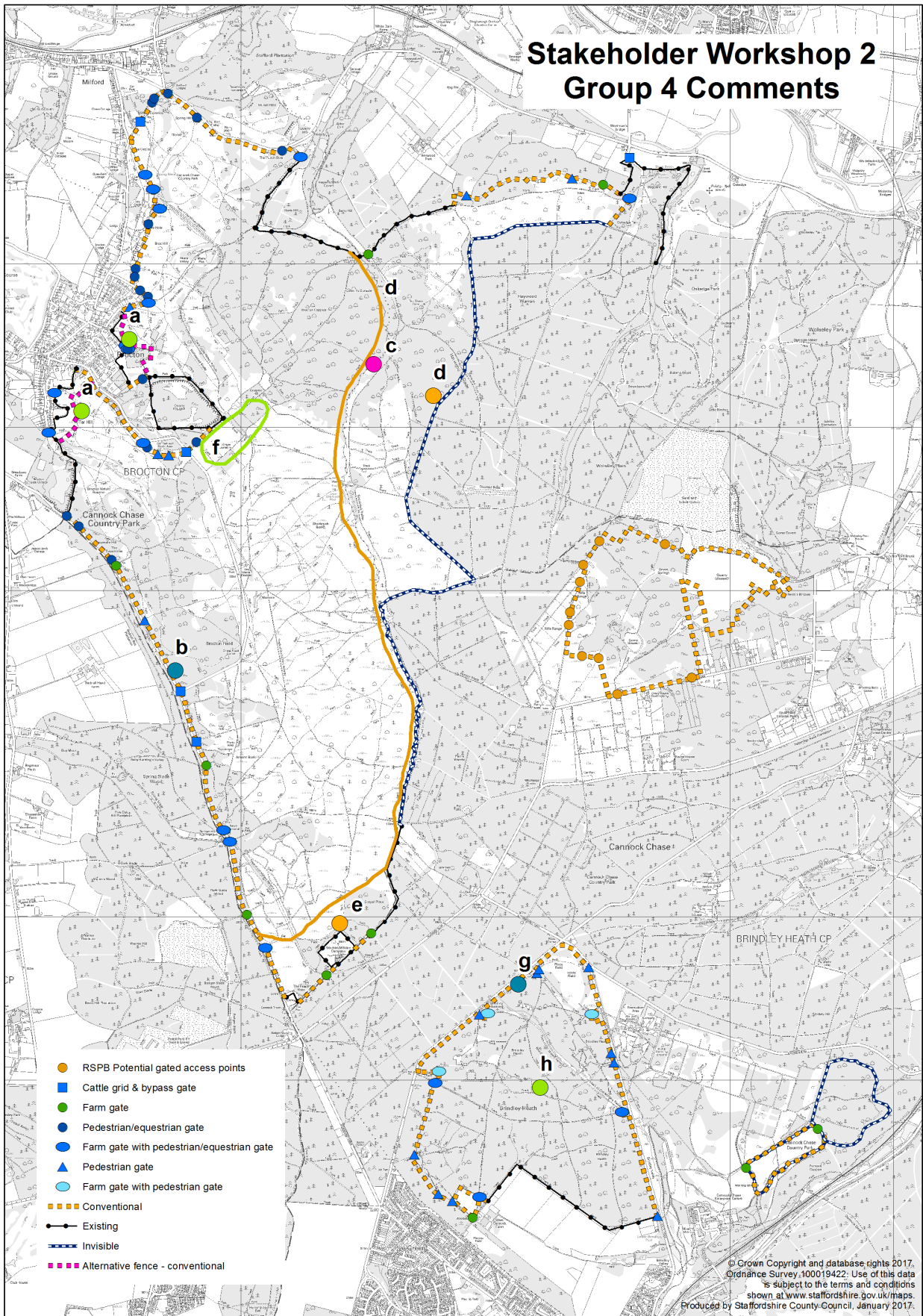
Group 3





Group 3

Code	Benefits of this location and why here? 	Disbenefits of this location why not here? 	Other comments
Stepping stones and Pumphouse	- Beneficial for butterflies to graze here – but needs to be correct level of grazing/ breed.	- Water pollution issues from cattle	- Fence off water access points
	- Provide cattle with water trough	- Damage to ground	- Look at other areas for learning
	- Will reduce bracken without using chemicals	- Damage to trees in this area	
	- Grazing will improve habitat conditions		
	- Wood pasture in this area will benefit from grazing		
A	Re-route around Stepping stones with hard boundary/ fencing	- A) If hard fencing put here will this make people feel enclosed? - A) Access will be difficult	Paddley Gorge Derby works as cattle area in picnic site.
B	Take concerned residents to other places to see what is done/ proposed.	- B) Needs to be hidden/ embedded along Camp Road - B) Fence needs to be set back a long way to avoid deer jumping fence straight onto road	
		C) Set back from Brocton residents land outside of boundary fence will become thicker scrubland	
D	Haywood Park – make sure sufficient access is put in for horse riders	D) Creates a bottle neck for cattle	"Meet the cattle days?"
	Make cattle part of visitor experience Interpretation boards in these areas to encourage education	D) Access is not great – needs to be rethought	Get people educated about common land.
		D) Cows walking across car park? Needs resitting	

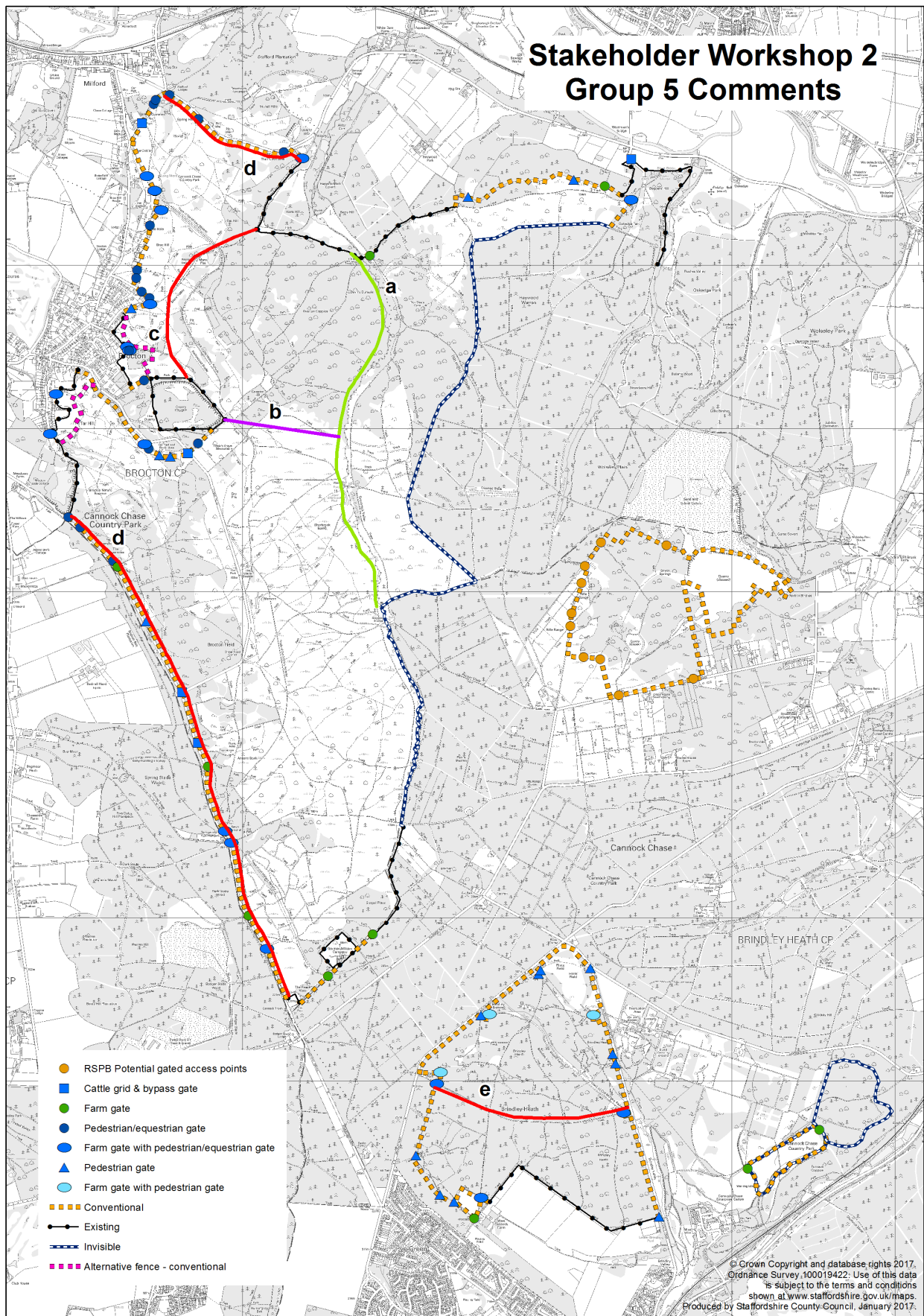






Group 4

Code	Benefits of this location and why here? 	Disbenefits of this location why not here? 	Other comments
a (Lime Green)		Conventional fencing here impacts on landscape. Use invisible or no fencing.	
b (Teal)		Car parks need cattle grids not gates – which can be left open.	
c (Pink)	Don't fence Sherbrook – plenty of room - good to graze		
d (Orange)	Consider moving invisible fence – Keep fence against forestry other side of Sherbrook Valley to allow grazing if needed. Avoids conflict with people.		
e (Orange)	Don't fence around German Cemetery. Adds and risk of escape into cemetery.		
f (Lime Green)		Fence out Mezzines and Freda's Grave - archaeology	
g (Teal)		Prefer invisible fencing for open landscape. Cattle grids on car parks.	
H (Lime Green)		High amenity area consider leaving out of grazing altogether.	





Group 5

Code	Benefits of this location and why here? 	Disbenefits of this location why not here? 	Other comments
a (Green)	Exclude cows from Sherbrook or they will poach, cause pollutions. SPBF need marsh violet. Some say needs grazing, some say not. Could be seasonal. Dispute.	Landscape issues with permanent fence.	Upside of track
b (Purple)	Shocked no fence here, worried about grazing B. Coppice. Birds diminishing in here.		
	General concern over cows falling down minshafts/ fissures exclude from Pumphouse area boggy, hazardous Good grazing near Brocton – don't want to reduce grazing area here. More education with Brocton householders. Could cattle areas increase value of houses, invite them to meet the cows. Could fence further back from Brocton (c) (red) Split into phases? Need to reduce number of risks to planning!		
d(Red)	Deer fencing		
	Compartmentalise Brindley Heath (e) (Red)		

## 2.2 Grazing options 2 and 3

(Note option 1 had insufficient support in the wider engagement to be considered)

Following review of feedback from the wider engagement about option 2 and 3 answer the following questions

### 2.2.1 Do you have any further concerns or suggestions?

#### Group 1

##### **Option 3 pros**

- Option 3 would be better for recreational users
- More compartmentalisation i.e. Option 3 gives greater control and more flexibility to protect certain features especially if cattle are tracked
- Concentrate grazing on units 6, 7 and 8 of Option 3 – trial in these areas first. Would also meet Brocton P.C's concerns.

##### **Evaluate similar studies**

- Have there been other studies which would be relevant to this site?

##### **Option 2 pros**

- Extensive grazing is better in long-term
- Option 2 would be preferable for informing public/ liaison/ communication because less number of units
- May not be enough protection for cattle in smaller units i.e. Option 3

##### **Communications**

- Ensure that public understand that this is "100 year plan" and not happening overnight.

##### **Start with option 2 then 3**

- Might be idea to start with Option 2 and then aim to move to Option 3

##### **Consider alongside visitor management and parking**

- Tie grazing project in with visitor management and car parking strategies.

##### **Option 3 cons**

- Option 3 would require more fencing – more costly

##### **Option 2 cons**

- Cattle are more difficult to find over larger units i.e. Option 2

##### **Cost**

- Cost difference between options is significant

#### Group 2

##### **Option 3 pros**

- Option 3: less of an impact in terms of archaeology due to ease of control.

##### **Option 2 pros**

- Option 3: concerns that can't have some numbers of cattle in each compartment which makes cattle management more complicated due to herd structure. Could be solved by moving more often in smaller compartments.
- Option 2: Easier to explain to recreational users where the cattle are at any one time.
- Option 2: Considered to have less impact if cattle introduced gradually but may effect impact on ecology & evidence if its working

##### **Start with option 2 then 3**

- Option 2: Suggestion that start with option 2 and move to option 3 if need to at a later date.

##### **Option 3 cons**

- Option 3: Lots of electric fencing introduces greater risk of problems with fencing



falling – then risks undermining public confidence if cows are in areas where people aren't expecting them.

### Group 3

#### **Option 3 pros**

- Option 3 for habitat management Option 2 for cattle management.

#### **Option 2 cons**

- Defra guidance against boundaries – no negative impact on access
- Option 2 will not give control over various habitats. Option 3 will allow cattle to concentrate on areas of conservation/ change.
- Option 2 more likely to spread Phytophthora than option 3.

#### **Difference in number of cattle**

- Big difference between number of cattle in different options

#### **Other**

- Cows can have GPS on them to map where they go to use information for fencing compartments – perhaps use students

#### **Monitor and adapt**

- Will monitoring be done after grazing? 12 months after cattle on
- Can it be decided not to have internal boundaries at the beginning and make compartment decisions at a later date following monitoring?

#### **Seek advice from graziers**

- Get experienced grazier to look at both options for preference
- Which option will attract a grazier?

#### **Questions/concerns**

- Stock management – 5 in various parts or 20 together? Which is best for cattle/ management
- Which option is best for habitat management
- Can you alter areas to concentrate on conflicting issues – conservation versus grazier business needs?
- Will there be a Grazing Officer to manage this?
- Should there be areas where there are never areas of cattle to allay fears of people frightened of cattle?
- This is part of a bigger landscape- where will Forestry Commission be in 50 years? What impact will this have?
- Phytophthora issues – hot spots of this – will it spread this around uninfected sites? Will cattle be walking between infected and uninfected sites?
- What portion of year will cattle be on site?

#### **Familiarise cows with fencing**

- Cattle will learn visual before audio so need to follow existing tracks to aid cattle to learn about invisible fences.

#### **Cattle-free zones for dogs**

- Dog areas near to car park to allow people to run dogs in cattle free zone.

### Group 4

#### **Option 3 pros**

- Does option 3 allow more control for ecology e.g. ground nesting birds?

#### **Option 2 pros**

- Strong preference for option 2.

#### **Option 3 cons**

- Need to choose option with minimal impact on landscape & tranquillity – fewer fences.

- Option 3 – concerns that it's not practically viable.

**Option 2 cons**

- Fencing will have major impact on how/ whether this works or not.

**Cost**

- What is set up cost for all options even option 1. (£205,000)
- Costs need to take account of ongoing maintenance.
- Where will funds for maintenance come from? Is this relying on stewardship grants?
- Who will fund staffing e.g. to move cattle.

**Big difference in number of cows**

- Too few cattle won't achieve the job required.

**Other**

- Don't agree that the options equally affect landscape & tranquillity.

**Monitor and adapt**

- Has monitoring been built into long-term costs?
- Ecological i.e. botany, inverts, birds, amenity monitoring would provide evidence to review grazing options over time.

**Questions/concerns**

- Will 20 – 30 cattle do the job? How calculated?
- Can you switch invisible fencing off in an emergency e.g. fire
- What happens in power cut? Will fence stop working in power cut.
- Unclear whether excavation for invisible fencing will have greater landscape impact?
- Will moles be used!
- Need organisational long-term commitment to maintenance to show set up costs are not wasted.

Group 5

**Option 3 cons**

- Option 3: more expensive initially and ongoing

**Option 2 cons**

- Option 2: Concerns over who will do the management

**Other**

- Worries over excluding "pan Handle" will need some other management – good habitat here – but lots of mineshafts.

**Questions/concerns**

- Is there a compromise?
- Option 3: Amalgamate reduced unit 8 with F.C's grazed area? To protect woodlark

## 3 Session 4: Review and improve the guidance on other management methods

### 3.1 Controlled burning

#### 3.1.1 Suggest ways to make the guidance better

##### Group 1

###### **Limited public access**

- How do you limit public access?

###### **Follow existing codes of conduct**

- Legislation restrictions in place.

###### **Current guidance acceptable**

- Good tool in some situations.

###### **Look at how it's managed elsewhere**

- Could use evidence from other wildfire incidents where impact of fires was less than envisaged.

###### **Communication**

- Need to consider public information and engagement carefully.

##### Group 2

###### **Follow existing codes of conduct**

- Keep guidance in line with burning code – slopes?

###### **Communication**

- Clear messages of controlled versus uncontrolled burns – copycat burns.

###### **Combine with grazing**

- Burning should be in combination with grazing.

###### **Refine to protect archaeological sites**

- Areas of archaeological importance – review in line with LIDAR survey results and refine guidance.

###### **More staff/recognise it's a skilled job**

- Recognise it's a skilled job to burn appropriately

##### Group 3

###### **Communication**

- Arson – controlled burning may encourage? Need communication so that people know what's happening.

###### **Dependent on right conditions**

- Hard to get right conditions for burning. Lucky to get 1 -2 burns per year.

###### **More staff/recognise skills required**

- Need more paid staff be good to manage this – so get more good burning days.
- Are there roving teams of people who have burning expertise e.g. National Trust?

###### **Conflicts with resolution**

- Conflict with burning and recreation.
- Most areas used for recreation.

## Group 4 no longer running due to lack of numbers

### Group 5

#### **Communication**

- G) Need more definition on timing/ N.E. guidance

#### **Current guidance acceptable**

- G) Guidance seems good.

## 3.2 Mechanical - selective felling and thinning of scrub and trees

### 3.2.1 Suggest ways to make the guidance better

#### Group 1

##### **Use alongside other management techniques**

- Using in conjunction with other management techniques.

##### **Use electric chainsaws**

- Could use electric chainsaws – less noisy. Need to consider treating stumps and timber removal as well as felling.

##### **Integrate felling with wider landscape**

- Combining/ integration of felling on the wider landscape and with adjoining landowner.

##### **Keep paths clear/reinstate paths to same standard**

- Paths need to be reinstated to at least the same or better standard.
- Paths need to be kept clear and disruption kept to a minimum.

##### **Consideration for suitable time/conditions**

- Weather conditions/ time of year has to be considered to reduce impacts.

##### **Keep some of the scrub**

- Need to understand that scrub is important for some species.

##### **Communication**

- Need to consider public information and engagement carefully.

#### Group 2

##### **Keep some of the scrub**

- Leaving some scrub to develop, not complete eradication

##### **Manage on rotation**

- Manage scrub on rotation.

##### **Volunteers**

- Good way to engage local people in helping remove scrub.

#### Group 3

##### **Volunteers**

- Age profile of volunteers.
- Range of tasks may reduce time on some tasks.
- More volunteers needed.

##### **Already happens**

- Tree felling already happens.

##### **Tidy up afterwards**

- Contractors can leave a mess more control to ensure they tidy up properly.

## Group 4 no longer running due to lack of numbers

### Group 5

#### **Use alongside other management techniques**

- G) Need all of these in the toolkit.

#### **Consideration for suitable time/conditions**

- G) Need more protection for SPBF re: grazing times i.e. lower in May – July in Sherbrook Valley

#### **Volunteers**

- Suitable for volunteers
- Ask for more volunteers and combine forces.
- How to get involved.
- Encourage younger (with timing? Beer?)
- G) Corporate involvement, need a co-ordinator.

## 3.3 Mechanical – cutting/baling heather, cutting and bruising bracken

### 3.3.1 Suggest ways to make the guidance better

#### Group 1

##### **Careful planning of where it's required**

- Careful planning where required

##### **Make use of cut heather on other sites**

- Cut heather can be used on other sites with proper biosecurity i.e. Chasewater

##### **Good for areas not suitable for grazing**

- Useful for managing areas not accessible for grazing.

##### **Communication**

- Need to consider public information and engagement carefully.

#### Group 2

##### **Disease risks**

- (Heather) Review guidance in light of Phytophthora

##### **Avoid firebreaks**

- (Heather) Don't target firebreaks because they'll be permanently short and not in rotation.

##### **Need cut areas away from paths**

- (Heather) Also need cut areas away from paths for species such woodlark.

##### **Make blocks less linear**

- (Heather) Make blocks less linear and increase wavy edge.

##### **Mowing affects birds**

- (Bracken) Mowing has negative impact on Tree pipit.
- (Bracken) Mowing needs repeating within year which makes it difficult to avoid bird breeding season.

##### **Some terrain difficult to access**

- Bracken in woodland areas difficult to access with machinery.
- (Bracken) Difficult to do on slopes/ difficult terrain (Practice trenches)

### Group 3

#### **Careful planning of where it's required**

- There may be times when wet areas can be cut – don't rule it out.

#### **Communication**

- Change wording – Access – Public have to be asked to avoid area. Legally can't restrict access.

#### **Comments on other management techniques**

- Spot spraying e.g. of bramble has caused wider damage – more care needed.
- Selective tree felling needs follow up e.g. new seeds, saplings – don't leave too long for follow up.

#### **Bramble increasing**

- Bramble is increasing – (some is good) but needs controlling in open heath.

#### **More clearing means more maintenance**

- The more clearing – the more follow up/ maintenance needed.

#### **Involve schools**

- School conservation modules? Get kids doing some of the work.

#### **Volunteers**

- Difficult to manage one-off volunteers.

#### **Care taken around sensitive/archaeological sites**

- Care needed around sensitive plants/ areas knowledge needed.
- Care around archaeology especially for mechanical methods. Heavy machinery. Dragging things out.

### Group 4 no longer running due to lack of numbers

### Group 5

#### **Communication**

- Communication in advance

#### **Disease risks**

- Disposal can be complicated re: Phytophthora

#### **Comments on other management techniques**

- G) Grazing reduces need for other methods

#### **Volunteers**

- Suitable for volunteers(?)
- Needs monitoring to avoid damage, needs supervision even with organisations (F.C.)

#### **Care taken around sensitive/archaeological sites**

- Beware fissures/ mineshafths

#### **Compost**

- Suggest composting (smelly). Use best practice. Does composting kill Phytophthora.

## 3.4 Chemical - cut stumps and spot treatment, tractor and boom spraying or aerial spraying of bracken

### 3.4.1 Suggest ways to make the guidance better

#### Group 1

##### **Concerns/dislike of chemical method**

- Concerns about chemical spraying especially aerial. Negative public perception.
- Dislike of chemicals.

##### **Wide booms to reduce amount of movements.**

- Wide booms to reduce amount of movements.

##### **Bracken is good habitat for birds**

- Bracken is good habitat for birds.

##### **No method for eradicating nutrients**

- No method for eradicating nutrients.

##### **Less damaging from archaeological sensitivity viewpoint**

- Less damaging from archaeological sensitivity viewpoint.

#### Group 2

##### **Best long-term solution**

- Best long-term solution

##### **Clear information**

- Clear information

##### **Does guidance mean ATV or tractor?**

- Does guidance mean ATV or tractor – different scales

#### Group 3 – Didn't answer

#### Group 4 – Group 4 no longer running due to lack of numbers

#### Group 5

##### **Concern about use of chemicals**

- Most contentious, have been concerns e.g. will it rot bike tyres.
- Will it affect the bilberries for eating?

##### **Communication**

- Communication of why it is being done and when – difficult when people come from far off. F.C. "go to" info.
- Comms difficult if people think they know the site.
- Signage, local residents/ farms/ businesses
- G) Central web site for info, key user groups

##### **Not suited to volunteers**

- Difficult for volunteers

##### **Exclude livestock**

- Livestock exclusion needs to be clearer and that it is continued.

## 4 Session 5: Review grazing and boundary solutions

### 4.1 Grazing solutions

Participants were asked to choose 3 solutions for each of the subjects below, the tally score shows the level of support for each solution.

#### 4.1.1 Safety for people, dogs and horses

	<b>Tally</b>
<b>I Selection of Breed</b>	<b>13</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rare Breed Society may be able to help in breed selection</li> <li>- Correct age/ breed of cattle</li> <li>- Right type of species</li> <li>- Be selective about breeds used</li> <li>- Choice of breed is very important</li> <li>- Right choice of grazing stock</li> <li>- Selection of appropriate beasts in conjunction with ownership of beasts and employing expert</li> </ul>	
<b>F Cattle free areas</b>	<b>11</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Areas – No cows for people to go</li> <li>- Areas left ungrazed for dog walkers, nervous public etc.</li> <li>- Sufficient number of compartments to keep cattle/ public separate</li> <li>- Protect areas where people enjoy. Honey pots.</li> <li>- Compartmentalizing grazing areas to allow public choice in where they go and allow movement of cattle to avoid over-impacting one area.</li> <li>- Cattle compartments clearly identified and options for cow free areas.</li> <li>- Areas not grazed so people can avoid them</li> </ul>	
<b>B Information about where cattle are at any time</b>	<b>8</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Communication to explain areas of grazing to give people choices</li> <li>- Good information e.g. yearly calendar of cattle locations/ movements. Website/ App/ SCC</li> <li>- Education – where cattle are at any time</li> <li>- Need to inform public to where cattle are at any time</li> <li>- Clear, timely communication to public on where and when grazing will take place</li> <li>- Good on-site/ other media communications on location of cattle plus education</li> <li>- Signs warning of cows</li> </ul>	
<b>a Rangers on ground in the first few weeks</b>	<b>6</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good “Ranger” type pressure on ground as cattle re-introduced, especially first few weeks –someone to reassure, speak to.</li> </ul>	
<b>e Provide information to allay concerns</b>	<b>6</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good &amp; ongoing communication and engagement with visitors and locals</li> <li>- Communication &amp; educate users of Cannock Chase</li> <li>- Communication is key</li> <li>- Education – lots of public misconceptions on cattle &amp; impacts etc</li> <li>- Education &amp; information to allay concerns</li> </ul>	
<b>I Grazier</b>	<b>6</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Correct grazier/ owner of cattle</li> <li>- Ensure the correct grazier is used with the right breed of livestock</li> </ul>	



	– Get the right breed/ type/ raised cattle so docile	
<b>g</b>	<b>Advice &amp; Signage – How to behave</b>	<b>4</b>
	– Education/ info boards – Give people guidance how to behave around cattle	
	– Keep public informed as to how to behave by them	
<b>k</b>	<b>Easy Access: Grids &amp; Horse Gates</b>	<b>3</b>
	– Good easy access; Cattle grids and Easy horse gates	
<b>d</b>	<b>Dogs on a lead</b>	<b>2</b>
	– Dogs must be on leads or not on Chase where there are cattle	
<b>c</b>	<b>Point of contact</b>	<b>1</b>
	– Need to have a local point of contact to report concerns/ issues e.g. Ranger	
	– Excellent and easily accessible person from SCC to speak to/ point of contact , especially as grazing introduced etc.	
<b>h</b>	<b>Local Lookers/ Volunteer</b>	<b>1</b>
	– Involve local volunteers as watchers & checkers: cattle, fences, troughs	
	– Welfare of cattle volunteers needed to check. Fire watchers in dry spells.	
<b>n</b>	<b>Water away from public</b>	<b>1</b>
	– Site water away from key public access points/ honey pot sites	
<b>o</b>	<b>Good cattle handling facilities</b>	<b>1</b>
	– Good facilities for handling (safer for graziers & public)	
<b>m</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>0</b>
	– Strong management of cattle husbandry & grazing; people awareness and codes of conduct: constant review of impact on habitat.	
<b>j</b>	<b>Dog noise deterrent (high pitched noise hear, cattle don't) on cattle collars</b>	<b>0</b>
	– High pitched frequency in cows' collars to detract dogs but not impact on cattle	<b>0</b>

#### 4.1.2 Recreation and access types

		<b>Tally</b>
<b>k</b>	<b>Collaborative communication plan</b>	<b>9</b>
	<b>Involve land manager with communication plan from beginning</b>	
	– Excellent & collaborative communication plan for planning, introducing & reviewing grazing etc.	
	– Communicate with user groups & involve them with communication plan from the very start.	
	– Clear, regular communication of proposals and changes to all key recreation users & regular updates	
	– Better signage – routes more regularly signposted	
<b>l</b>	<b>Education &amp; Communication</b>	<b>7</b>
	– Good communication for visitors & neighbours to reassure them and involve them.	
	– Education of users	
	Educate users	
	– Education (leaflets & posters). Different activities i.e. biking related issues in a leaflet or on a website	
<b>m</b>	<b>Access points work with users</b>	<b>7</b>
	– Review of access locations for different user groups to reduce bottlenecking/ potential conflict where/ if possible.	
	– With the right access points and gates there should not be any less	

- open access
- Avoid unintended impacts by considering all users when siting access points i.e. avoid funnelling
- Good planning of access points to minimise parking & damage by funnelling of users (damage to habitat)
- d Blend in fencing, cables, grids** **6**
  - Use of invisible fencing to move cows to a quieter area when site is busiest. Does the ToCH trail used enough – does it need improving? All access gates will be suitable for horses.
  - Invisible underground cables to be used
  - Invisible fencing
  - Use invisible fencing wherever possible
  - Invisible fencing – keeping appearances of landscape the same
  - Fencing/ gates/ grids to blend into environment & appear as natural as possible.
- g Parking inside fenced areas** **5**
  - Keep parking areas inside of fences so no need to cross gates & fences when leaving vehicles
- n Enough access points & good variety in right place** **5**
  - Cattle grids
  - Right gates in right places
  - Right gates on cycleways, bridleways & careful placement of signage
  - Good/ lots of access points for all users.
  - Range of access methods on boundaries – cattle grid, kissing gates, long handle gates, stiles etc
  - Adequate access points (looking at all options not just gates, but stiles & other options)
  - Gate access provided on all routes, pathways, desire lines
- e Cyclists to be encouraged to use areas with no grazing** **4**
  - Cyclists to be encouraged to used designated sites where there is no grazing
- f Cow free areas** **4**
  - Areas with no cows that people can use
- i Hard fencing on roads only** **3**
  - Hard fencing on main roads. Invisible fencing on other areas.
- j Advisory Forum** **2**
  - Involve recreation users in the design and implementation of heathland management proposals especially around access points.
  - An Advisory Forum to act as sounding board for SCC, with reps from Access/Rec, Wildlife & Heritage interests.
- h Small herds of cows** **1**
  - Small herds of cows
  - Small herds of hardy cows

#### 4.1.3 Fencing – types and management

- |          |   |              |
|----------|---|--------------|
| <b>A</b> | <b>Blend in fencing</b>   | <b>Tally</b> |
|          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Don't make Chase look like a farm – minimal fencing.</li> <li>– Locating fence in areas to reduce visual impact as much as possible.</li> <li>– Set conventional fencing carefully in landscape to reduce visual impact.</li> <li>– Limit visual impact of perimeter fencing.</li> </ul> | <b>12</b>    |

- Keep gap between hard fencing and road edge.
  - Invisible fencing wherever possible. Natural looking fencing & gates wherever needed.
  - Positioning of fencing within existing woodland/ scrub edges where possible.
  - Ensure permanent fencing is minimum required and is carefully sited well back from roads to minimise visual impact – consult with locals & users.
- e Good monitoring/ maintenance regime 10**
- Good fence monitoring (e.g. checking of condition/ secure). Good opportunity to include volunteers.
  - Who will be responsible for maintenance of fences, cows etc.
  - Regular maintenance.
  - Good maintenance regime.
- f Appropriate fencing in appropriate places 9**
- Using the right type of fencing.
  - Mix of hard and invisible fencing as appropriate.
- o Communication & involve local people 6**
- Communication is key.
  - Good communication – involve locals & visitors to ensure careful positioning of physical fences.
  - More communication to allay public fears.
- b More invisible less hard 5**
- Use invisible where possible combined with good information for people on where animals are present.
  - Invisible fencing wherever feasible – trial periods/ locations may be helpful.
  - Invisible fencing more widely – move boundary to facilitate this.
- g Fence back from road to reduce risk of accident 5**
- Fencing needs to be offset from the road to avoid damage from road collisions/ accidents.
- c Fences that prevent wildlife injury 4**
- Correct fence designs to prevent wildlife injury.
  - Use best practice experience for choice of wildlife-friendly fencing.
  - Seek advice from others re: fencing adjustments/ types appropriate for livestock & other wildlife – deer, badgers.
- j Soft closing gates 3**
- Soft closing gates.
  - Employ kissing gates or self-closing types to avoid risk of straying
- m Ensure enough access points 3**
- Ensure there are “enough” access points with locations discussed with local user groups.
- d Use cattle grids 2**
- Use of cattle grids and invisible fencing.
  - Reduce amount of physical fences – more cattle grids – slow down traffic as in New Forest.
- n Free flowing cycle routes 2**
- Create? Free flowing cycle routes – Keep to them.
- k Codes of Use 1**
- Lots of access information & guidance for code of use.
- l Cattle free areas 1**
- Use of more hard fencing – gives public confidence they are

- separate from cattle & less likely to be stolen/ vandalised.
- Small paddocks. Allows grazing management & keeps cattle separate from public & dogs.

**h Want more information on fencing**

- How many strands of wire (height).
- Fencing options listed: strands of wire, barb combinations, invisible, cattle grids, where not to fence, trials.

**i Parking**

- Keeping enough parking in designated areas.

**Other**

- Keep directional signage to a minimum in landscape but support with alternative communications.
- Welfare standards to be managed by lookering, shepherding, volunteers etc manages risks on cattle handling.
- Clear easy access for all users/ minimum use of hard fence/ cattle grids to replace some gates for mountain bikes/ invisible fence protect water sources/ welfare of cattle – running into fences.
- Ask Deer Initiative & Forestry Enterprise about best fencing to continue to allow deer access without hurting them/ slow down roads & cattle grids/ GPS track cattle/ Get locals to check stock & fences near their houses – buy in.

**4.1.4 Cattle welfare**

**g Selection of Grazier**

- Get right grazier with right livestock so no mistakes/ PR trouble at the start
- Welfare from appointed grazier
- Correct selection of grazier/owner
- The right grazier needs to be employed
- Good management from cattle owner – legal agreement
- Getting the right grazier who is used to working in peri-urban environment with lots of access, dogs etc (Good tender process)

**Tally  
11**

**c Selection of Breed**

- Correct selection of species
- Choosing the best species for the area
- Correct breed of cattle used is important
- Strong management of beast selection and grazing
- If using cattle ensure control is retained over breed, sex, age and numbers at all times.
- Get the right cattle & cattle management/ practitioner
- Correct breed choice – use breeds of cattle appropriate for this terrain – non-commercial

**10**

**n Volunteer lookering & fence checking**

- Lookering system of volunteers
- More volunteers required. To look after cattle fences etc
- Adequate and appropriate fencing in areas required (hard along roads etc)
- Volunteers/ Monitoring/ Welfare
- Fence checks & cattle numbers. Who will do it?
- Good communications – Volunteer checkers to look for welfare

**7**

- problems. People know who to call if they need to in welfare issues.
- Communication. Responsible person(s) to check welfare of cattle.  
Could be trained volunteers looking at gates, rubbish on site etc
- People to look out welfare of livestock
- a Communicate needs of cows to people** **6**
  - Continuous high quality communication with site users
  - Communication of particular breeds' needs & behaviours to public & local community
- l Monitoring** **5**
  - Monitor regularly
- d Information on how to interact with cows if you come across them** **4**
  - Information & education of people using the Chase around cattle welfare – how to interact/ what to do if.....
- e Information on locations of cattle** **4**
  - Good info on cattle locations to give dog owners choice about where they go
  - Good information of where cattle are – giving cattle free options for walkers etc
- b Movable water supply** **3**
  - Access to water
  - Getting water supply right for the area
  - Develop water supply strategy for moving cattle around
  - Movable/ temporary water supply to displace herd
  - Consider water supply in relation to compartments to ensure adequate provision
- r Restrict livestock access to Sherbrook** **3**
  - Use invisible fencing to prevent/restrict livestock access to Sherbrook/ Oldacre streams/ valleys to minimise risk of habitat damage & water pollution
- f Timing** **2**
  - Retain control over grazing timings
- k Good cattle handling facilities** **2**
  - Investing in the right infrastructure – cattle handling, vehicle access, water supplies etc.
- i Cattle free areas** **2**
  - Separate compartments – keeping cattle/ public & dogs separate for safety & disease control
- p Ensure dog mess is collected** **1**
  - Pressure to ensure dog mess is collected by owners (new bins)
- m Avoid grazing near old mineshafts** **1**
  - Avoid grazing cattle in areas where old mineshafts – Ground liable to collapse
- s GPS collars linked to Lookers I Phones** **1**
  - GPS collars on all at start or a certain number of herd linked to grazing manager's & lookers I Phones
- t Non- breeding stock** **1**
  - None breeding stock used
- j No Cattle**
  - Avoid cattle grazing altogether. Make areas more attractive for deer grazing so deer feed on Cannock Chase rather than neighbouring farmland.
  - No cattle. Remain mechanical.
- h Information to dog walkers**

- Dog walkers to be made more aware of the problems of loosening their dogs off leads.
- o **TB Testing**
  - Requirement for TB testing pre-moving off the Chase. If +VE will have to remain.
- Q **Old lady cows**
  - Have old lady cows – healthy but non-productive living their lives on Cannock Chase - docile

#### 4.1.5 Habitat Management

<p><b>h Monitor grazing &amp; amend model if necessary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Time of year when grazing takes place.</li> <li>– Careful monitoring of sensitive areas.</li> <li>– Regular checks of the areas grazed.</li> <li>– Full monitoring of grazing – surveys to inform future grazing patterns/ numbers.</li> <li>– Constant &amp; regular reviews of welfare of habitat, cattle and people (community) using this land.</li> <li>– Good baseline date, monitoring &amp; amend/ tweak grazing model as necessary to meet concerns over too much/ too little grazing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tally</b> <b>11</b></p>
<p><b>b Grazing in compartments with rotation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Rotation of grazing essential</li> <li>– Have compartments so grazing can be rotated</li> <li>– Grazing in compartments &amp; monitoring</li> <li>– Avoid concentration in one area</li> <li>– Compartment grazing so that cattle can be moved to avoid environmental damage &amp; water to avoid pollution of watercourses.</li> <li>– More compartmental approach with directions to the public which areas are being used.</li> <li>– Types of habitat could be different in each compartment. Cattle can be moved around due to habitat.</li> <li>– Monitor grazing carefully &amp; move cattle on to avoid overgrazing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>9</b></p>
<p><b>c Trial areas used before full implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– One trial area for several years.</li> <li>– Trial proposals and monitor results closely.</li> <li>– Trial areas to be established initially to test impact before opening up wider compartments.</li> </ul>	<p><b>9</b></p>
<p><b>a Better communication with public</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Strong communication to site users to manage behaviours</li> <li>– Good continued communication: Locals &amp; visitors</li> <li>– Communication with local community is essential – not just website, emails etc but parish newsletter too.</li> <li>– Have as large grazing area as possible and limit number of cattle.</li> </ul>	<p><b>7</b></p>
<p><b>j Careful management of cattle</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Strong continuous management of beasts.</li> <li>– Responsible animal husbandry &amp; monitoring.</li> <li>– Stocking rate &amp; breeds</li> <li>– Monitor carefully to inform stocking density and ensure right number used for habitat.</li> </ul>	<p><b>5</b></p>

- Correct grazier/ owner.
  - Correct breed selection.
  - Control over and careful breed selection.
  - Monitoring/ Suitable stock breed & age/ Stock will keep away from people in general/ Cattle will eat H. Balsam in some places/ Too many deer are preventing oak regeneration in Brocton Coppice/ Hardy cattle will roam regardless of terrain.
- k Management of watercourses 5**
- Careful management of watercourses – some grazing helpful but protection from poaching etc.
  - Protect watercourses.
  - Corridor width along watercourses.
  - Apply best practice experience to concerns over water environment/ WC Crayfish
- d Monitor & manage habitat & species 4**
- Manage habitat species & people
  - Botanical & wider habitat/ species monitoring – before & during process.
- m Protect Sherbrook lower valley – cows away from the water 3**
- Protect Sherbrook lower valley – no cows near water
- n Small herds of hardy cows 3**
- Small herds of hardy cows (poss as trial in areas)
- l Involve volunteers in all aspects from the start 2**
- Get public/ volunteers involved in all aspects of proposals from the onset & communicate widely & clearly
- e Fence off temporary areas of rare plants 2**
- Fence off temporary areas of rare plants (String/ battery fence)
- i Avoid overgrazing 1**
- No overgrazing of areas
  - No overgrazing or intensive as could permanently damage the habitat.
- o Follow Natural England's guidelines 1**
- Follow Natural England's guidelines
- f Specified areas require grazing 1**
- Brocton Coppice is a wood – ancient pasture – requires grazing like Windsor Great Park, Epping
- g Large area with limited number of cows**

## 4.2 Hard fencing line options

Locations mentioned in the survey	Suggestion 1 tally	Suggestion 2 tally	Total tally
<b>Options for around Brocton</b>			
- Map 1 / 1a	4	3	7
- Map 3 / 3b	3	4	7
- Map 2 / 2i	4	2	6
- Map 5 / 5c	4	1	5
- Map 4 / 4a	1	1	2
<b>Options for around Stepping stones</b>			
- Map 3 / 3a	5	3	8
- Map 4 / 4d	2	4	6
- Map 1 / 1b	5	0	5
- Map 5	3	1	4
- Map 2	1	2	3
<b>Options for around the Pump House</b>			
- Map 1 / 1b	5	0	5
- Map 4 / 4d	3	0	3
- Map 5	2	1	3
- Map 2	0	2	2
- Map 3	1	1	2
<b>Options for around Haywood park farm</b>			
- Map 1 / 1a	4	0	4
- Map 3	3	1	4
- Map 1d	2	0	2
- Map 2	1	1	2
- Map 5	2	0	2
- Map 4	0	0	0
<b>Options for Sherbrook Valley</b>			
- Map 5 / 5a	5	2	7
- Map 1 / 1b	5	0	5
- Map 4 / 4d	3	2	5
- Map 2	0	3	3



- Map 3	2	1	3
<b>Options for Seven Springs</b>			
- Map 3 / 3d	8	2	10
- Map 1 / 1a	4	0	4
- Map 5	1	2	3
- Map 2	0	1	1
- Map 4 / 4d	1	0	1
<b>Options for Brindley Heath</b>			
- Map 3		1	1
- Map 4	1		1
- Map 5	1		1

#### 4.2.1 Comments

- Stepping Stones / Sherbrook - Disagree with fencing off Sherbrook – needs grazing – mire habitats
- Haywood Park Farm – speak to National Trust staff at Shugborough to explore
- Sherbrook Valley – Sherbrook and Oldacre need grazing and shouldn't be excluded
- Brocton - Map 1 should be a starting point – if it works and community online then extend
- Include Sherbrook and Oldacre – original proposed fenceline, should be grazed
- In general map 3b or 4e

## 4.3 Grazing unit options

### 4.3.1 To what extent do you now support Grazing option 2?

	I have strong concerns	I have concerns	I can live with it	I support this	I strongly support this
	13	4	5	1	2
		8	9	6	3
		11		7	14
		12		10	19
		15		16	
		18			
DM sorting column	Response Code	Why did you put your tick here?			
	1	– Good initial starting point. Can be extended later to option3.			
	2	– But with some amendments as per the map work group.			
	3	– To see where sock graze first. More cover & water access.			
	4	– This area is still too big. Start small and grow once the approach is proven. Perhaps areas 6, 7 and 8?			
	5	– I still have concerns about trampling.			
	6	– Because I believe it will benefit Cannock Chase.			
	7	– More feasible.			
	8	– Today was about learning and informing. No decisions should be taken, based on quick lines on maps.			
	9	– As you can rotate the animals to go where needed.			
	10	– Think larger areas are easier to communicate to public and give them greater choice over access. Easier & cheaper to manage.			
	11	– No idea of the cost. Very large project. Amount of staff required to manage it over a long term.			
	12	– Some concerns due to inability to control areas preferred by cows to prevent destruction of habitat. Not enough individual areas to facilitate movement and habitat grazing/ control.			
	13	– It would be very time consuming, checking cattle every day. They would take a lot of finding in such a large area. Also, I would like to see more control of where the cows are in the bird nesting season.			
	14	– Feels more practical and deliverable for a grazier, costs will be less, and just less complex to manage and maintain.			
	15	– Protection of Sherbrook watercourse, pumping station, stepping stones: Types of access			
	16	– Simpler to set up.			
	18	– Lack of control of cattle in wet sensitive areas.			
	19	– Low cost, easiest to manage, easiest model for public to understand. Can be adapted if found not to work in an area.			
		<b>Is there something more that would help you move your tick to the right?</b>			
	1	– Flexible fencing to help control cattle grazing / move in early stages.			
	4	– See above			
	5	– Experience?			
	6	– Yes, limit the cattle at night.			
	7	– Option 2 is probably more feasible i.e. a grazier is more likely to agree to this option rather than option 3. It would be better for the Chase to have option 2 rather than no			

		grazing at all but my preference is option 3.
	<b>8</b>	– A confidence that today is not taken as “gospel.”
	<b>10</b>	– Perhaps too much of an extensive area to begin with, exclude sensitive areas to begin with.
	<b>11</b>	– More information on above points.
	<b>12</b>	– More individual areas as in option 3.
	<b>13</b>	– Go for option 3.
	<b>15</b>	– Protect these areas. Bike/ horse-friendly easy access – less gates to open.
	<b>18</b>	– An internal boundary to control access to Sherbrook stream and sensitive area in Oldacre.

### 4.3.2 To what extent do you now support Grazing option 3?

	I have strong concerns	I have concerns	I can live with it	I support this	I strongly support this
	20	4	2	1	18
		6	3	7	
		8	11	9	
		13	12	10	
		15	14	16	
			19	17	
DM sorting column	Response Code	Why did you put your tick here?			
	1	– Will leave several areas free of cattle as herds are rotated. Smaller areas = shorter time between recycles of herds.			
	3	– As a second step – if more targeted grazing needed – do option 2 first.			
	4	– This area is still too big. Start small and grow once the approach is proven. Perhaps areas 6, 7 and 8?			
	6	– Because the areas are too small.			
	7	– I prefer option 3 because this gives the land manger more flexibility and means the variety of habitats can be managed better so that cattle can be excluded from sensitive areas at a particular time i.e. ground nesting birds, flowering plants.			
	8	– Today was about learning and informing. No decisions should be taken, based on quick lines on maps.			
	9	– I think that you can concentrate on smaller areas where needed.			
	10	– More control/ more targeted grazing which is better for habitat management.			
	12	– This is the better of all 3 options to begin with as it allows more control of cattle grazing and habitat management as well as facilitating options for people and event management.			
	13	– The cost of this is very expensive and the benefits would be minimal on such a large area of ground. It's difficult to form opinions on such vague ideas.			
	14	– Any grazing would be good but this option feels much more unwieldy and may not attract a grazier to deliver. Cost more. Need more infrastructure (like water troughs) to support.			
	15	– Protection of Sherbrook watercourse, pumping station, stepping stones: Types of access			
	16	– More choice to move cattle where needed.			
	17	– It is the best option to manage the habitat to benefit from cattle. Contains areas that could spread disease.			
	19	– Cost/ benefit, complicated land management, fencing issues, zones not same size or ecological make-up so won't support same number of cattle, water sources.			
	20	– We need to start with a number of 2 – 3 smaller areas reflecting the range of habitat conditions and management needs and closely monitor the grazing impact. Modify/ amend grazing pressure & fence lines as appropriate ensuring local users/ residents etc are well involved in the process and report back.			
		<b>Is there something more that would help you move your tick to the right?</b>			
	1	– Established cattle relocation pattern over grazing period (throughout the summer). Clear understanding of where cattle actually are at any one time.			
	4	– Once idea is proven with a rotation in 3 areas move to more areas if it makes sense regarding breeds, resources, fences, support, monitoring etc.			
	6	– No			
	7	– Option 3 is my preferred option but I'm sure if this is feasible i.e. would a grazier agree and move cattle around 8 compartments.			

	<b>8</b>	– A confidence that today is not taken as “gospel.”
	<b>10</b>	– Better understanding of how landscape is grazed before introducing smaller compartments. Perhaps start with more focussed area and expand out (e.g. 6,7,8)
	<b>12</b>	– Someone who is conservation/ habitat/ ecologically aware managing the cattle grazing to facilitate habitat management rather than a farmer using the Chase to facilitate cattle/ beef management.
	<b>13</b>	– For example, we need to know who owns the cattle. Who will be responsible for husbandry, maintenance etc.
	<b>14</b>	– Less compartments! My preference is one single compartment i.e. option 1 but I appreciate this is not on the table today.
	<b>15</b>	– Protect these areas. Bike/ horse-friendly easy access – less gates to open.
	<b>17</b>	– Why does all of the country park have to be grazed?

## 5 Session 6: Ongoing communication and cooperation

### 5.1 A new Forum

#### 5.1.1 What are the benefits and challenges of this idea

##### Group 1

###### **Everyone has a voice**

- Everyone who wants a voice can have one. Other groups are not necessarily focussed on the same area.

###### **Online/technology as well as meetings**

- Should be online as well as involving regular meetings.

###### **Forum would help allay concerns**

- Forum would satisfy people's concerns – ensure that they have a voice.

###### **Forum allows input and gives ownership**

- Forum allows input & focus.
- Establishes ownership.

###### **Could become a moaning group**

- Could end up as a “moaning group”

###### **Clear aims and responsibilities to avoid overlaps**

- Needs to be a stand-alone group.
- Lot of existing groups. Terms of reference needs to be clearly defined.
- Needs to be focussed on strategic decisions.
- Clarity of vision/ better articulation of work.

###### **Clear about roles in group**

- Need to be clear about roles within group & what's required in relation to liabilities & responsibilities.

###### **Communication**

- Communication needs to be timely.
- Ensure that people understand that “it's work in progress.”

###### **Finding the right representatives**

- Forum needs to cover all bodies & local communities etc.

##### Group 2

###### **Clear aims and responsibilities to avoid overlaps**

- Is it a talking shop or a doing shop. Needs to be doing!
- Group needs proper definition & genuine role.
- Needs clarity around who is making decisions & how do the groups feed in.

###### **Communication**

- If no inclusion in decision making then good communications needed instead of Forum.

###### **Why both a forum and a sounding board**

- Why have a forum & a sounding board. Seems over-complicated.

###### **Sounding board for technical issues**

- Forum for local people and sounding board for more technical?

###### **Alternative options**

- Could use an existing AONB task & finish group.
- Ask community contacts on how they would like to be involved & best way of doing that – explore options with them.

###### **Finding the right representatives**

- Needs genuine representation.



### Group 3

#### **Clear aims and responsibilities**

- Call it consultative group - not management group – this responsibility is held by the land managers themselves.

#### **Clear about roles in group**

- Need to know who to contact.
- Who will answer queries?

#### **Communication**

- Need a way to get info easily.
- Needs co-ordination – one stop website. Currently more than one.
- Promote the place (website)/ point of contact where to find who to talk to.

#### **Alternative options**

- Task & finish groups should cover.
- Task & finish covers AONB not Country Park.
- Could Steering group be broadened out to be more inclusive & take on communication role?
- Expand Steering group to include site users.

#### **Too many groups/meetings**

- Lots of different groups – yet another adds to confusion.
- Too many meetings.

#### **Finding the right representatives**

- Include registered commoners representative.
- Include parish council representatives.
- How many Friends of groups are needed?
- Have parish councils/ neighbours/ commoners been contacted.

### Group 4

#### **Online as well as meetings**

- Could use technology e.g. facebook
- Technology is out there, good reception, need a really good App. Will reach out further & not need a Forum.

#### **Clear aims and responsibilities to avoid overlaps**

- Central location for advertising events, volunteering opportunities, surveying.
- By its nature it will build on existing groups.
- Need to keep it up to date.
- Who will this benefit? Should be users.

#### **Clear about roles in group**

- Needs one person/ driving force.

#### **Communication**

- Better communication.
- Comms SCC >>>F.C. = foggy. Also within SCC

#### **Alternative options**

- Most people think of F.C.
- Does F.C. really want to know?
- F.C. have good website, they are £ motivated.
- Should be SCC but who? Comms team
- Most people think of F.C.
- Does F.C. really want to know?
- F.C. have good website, they are £ motivated.

#### **Finding the right representatives**

- People's time busy with other things.
- Same old faces – need new.

- Need to get to those who don't understand yet – more organised than drop-in and invited e.g. leaflet dropping.
- Difficult to get out into wider public.
- Finding a lead organisation.
- Need someone new but can create more problems.

## 5.2 Sounding Board

### 5.2.1 What are the benefits and challenges of this idea

#### Group 1

##### **Progressing project**

- Work within group to progress project i.e. in terms of outcomes & objectives & tasks.

##### **All interests represented**

- Need to be more than 12 members to represent all interests and local communities.
- Graziers could be represented on Board.

##### **Members can feed back.**

- Members can feed back.

##### **Needs to be balanced with Forum**

- Needs to be balanced with Forum.

##### **Needs to be set up soon**

- Needs to be set up soon.

#### Group 2

##### **Correct representation**

- People on this should represent broader membership
- Group should be represented by those who need to be there.

##### **Is this just for Country Park?**

- Is this just for Country Park or for whole AONB landscape.

##### **At what stage of process would sounding board be needed?**

- At what stage of process would sounding board be needed?

##### **Clarity of purpose**

- Clear diagram of structures required & clarity of purpose for each group.

#### Group 3

##### **Good representation**

- Right communication needed e.g. doesn't always cover all interests. Wildlife can be under-represented.
- Are parish councils included – if not how can they be involved?

##### **Questions**

- Will this mean more meetings?
- If only 12 people are meeting, how does this help wider communications?
- How will this deliver better feedback?
- What is missing from existing groups & communications?

##### **Clear aims and responsibilities to avoid overlaps**

- Steering group becomes consultative advice management but don't make final decisions.

##### **May cover issues not raised elsewhere**

- Issues that might not be raised elsewhere might be covered.

##### **Confusion over similar groups**

- Old AONB Advisory Partnership did this but has disbanded.
- Task & finish groups are more focussed but don't come together.

- Confusion with AONB, Country Park, SAC, Community Interest Organisation – another group makes it complicated.

**Education**

- Education.

**Communication**

- Information board – Brindley Heath people want to know.

**May not be the right option**

- Sounding board/ new Forum may not be the right thing.

**Set up meetings around parish councils**

- Rotate meetings around parish councils.

**Other**

- Needs to be resolved before going to Sec of State.

**Group 4**

**Questions**

- Who are the Steering group?

**Confusion over similar groups**

- Does this not already happen? Via Ian Jones Orienteering

**Other**

- Not communicated (who's on the steering group)

**Mix of expertise and knowledge**

- Need expertise & knowledge

**5.2.2 If there were 12 places what interests should have a place to be inclusive and balanced**

**Group 1**

**Suggested Interests**

- Grazier
- Representative from Brocton Parish Council & others i.e. Brindley Heath
- Representative from Orienteering Clubs
- Local business interest
- Representative from Rambling groups
- Representative from Horse riding groups
- Representative from Historic Environment
- Forestry Commission Representative
- Representative from Cycling groups
- Representative from Bird watching groups
- Representative from Disabled groups
- Representative from Friends of Cannock Chase or local volunteers

**Group 2**

**Suggested Interests ( only 10 suggested)**

- Natural England
- Bikes
- Staffs County Council
- RSPB
- Horse riders
- Dog walkers
- Forestry Commission

- Local Councillors
- Event organisers
- Businesses

### Group 3

#### Suggested Interests (only 5 suggested)

- Parish Council Representative(s)
- Volunteers
- Expand Steering Group
- Conservation organisations – minority so others don't feel steam-rolled
- Commoners

### Group 4

#### Suggested Interests

- Friends of Cannock chase
- AONB
- Wildlife Trust
- Plant life
- Butterfly Conservation
- Emergency services – PCSO/ Wildlife
- West Midlands Bird Club
- E.A.
- Ranger Service
- F.C.
- Ramblers/ BHS/ Leisure Rep
- RSPB/ Cemex- Local business/ Residents Rep/ Farming – NFU?/National Trust

## 5.3 What else can we do to improve communication?

### Group 1

#### Cluster of Clusters header

##### Cluster header

- Maintain Managing Cannock Chase website
- Keep website up to date
- Establish email group of interested parties
- Consider newsletter for email group or alert when new information on website.

### Group 2

#### Cluster of Clusters header

##### Cluster header

- Through electronic communication
- Backed up with non-electronic means
- Communicate project leads/ be accessible.
- Clear lines of communication.
- Visitor Centres.

- Communicating with wider public.
- Smarter communication.
- Use groups.
- Use easy to understand language.
- Prevent language being a barrier.

### Group 3

#### Cluster of Clusters header

##### Cluster header

- New visitor communications officers – use their skills/ explore new technologies/ what works to get to hard to reach groups? Share best practice.

### Group 4

#### Cluster of Clusters header

##### Cluster header

- Rangers need to talk to AONB, F.C., N.T. more than currently\*
- Don't always understand.
- All have different focus
- \* Landowners, not Rangers

## 5.4 Resources for action:

### 5.4.1 At this stage what kind of resources do you think your interests or organisation might be able to contribute to positive change

Name	Organisation	Offer	Definite commitment	In principle	Don't hesitate to ask (we will do what we can at the time)
Suzy Blake	Staffordshire County Council	HE Advice & Meeting Rooms	X		
Mike Copleston	RSPB	Staff time/ evidence based materials/ volunteers. Also opportunities to visit other sites.	X		
Larry Goff	Brocton Parish Council	Small scale funding and Parish Council time	X		
Ian Jones	Walton Chasers Orienteering Club	Time and opportunities to feed back to other orienteering groups.	X		
		Potential voluntary assistance.		X	
Dick Turton	Ramblers Association	Potential voluntary assistance		X	
Alan Pearson	Local councillor	Feed information back to the Council		X	
Jim Stewart	Forestry Commission	Experience of grazing and learning from current grazing.	X		
		Also link from Forestry Commission to whoever is answering complaint.			X
Ruth Hytch	AONB Team	Professional advice as AONB Team		X	
Lee Turner	Staffs Police	Professional advice/ architectural advice on infrastructure	X		
Jeff Sym	Staffs Wildlife Trust	Manage records centre – loads of records available.	X		
		Grazing contacts for local graziers.	X		
William Waller	Stafford Borough Council	Meeting Rooms			X
Roger Broadbent	West Midlands Bird Club	2017 Cannock Chase Bird Survey. Report online after Christmas. Habitat Report for managers to follow.	X		
Jaclyn Lake	Natural England	Habitat advice, access	X		
		Funding			X
		National context	X		
Rob Taylor	Staffordshire County Council	Deer movement data/ census/ impact activity/ movement Looking at fences/ feeding patterns/ competitors' fences	X		
Rhona Goddard	Butterfly Conservation	Butterfly data for Sherbrook & Oldacre SPBF (also Rob Taylor & Dingy Skipper, Furnace Coppice)	X		



		I.D. Survey days, lead on for SPBF (already do that) currently one day, could do more.	X		
		Advertise work parties organised by Rob Taylor			
Paul Massey	MIAS	Leaflets on responsible usage (have done before)	X		
		Can train leaders (Cost basis)	X		
Lesley Simmons	BHS	Ride leaflets (done) can distribute	X		

## 7 Session 7

In the light of the range of solutions and amended boundary ideas....

### 7.1 To what extent do you support the idea of grazing now?

	I have strong concerns	I have concerns	I can live with it	I support this	I strongly support this
	1	2	5	9	15
		3	6	10	16
		4	7	11	17
			8	12	18
				13	19
				14	20
DM sorting column	Response Code	Why did you put your tick here?			
	1	– Mainly cost and lack of talk about ongoing maintenance			
	2	– I fully support grazing but today's range of issues have not been sufficiently explored. Much more needs to be done for me to support "an option."			
	3	– I am still unable to explain why grazing is the right approach to my parishioners who have very strong concerns.			
	4	– Protecting watercourses. Access, easy good.			
	5	– I still think there are a lot of problems to sort out.			
	6	– I still think that certain issues need to be looked at for example boundaries & species or mix of species.			
	7	– Some areas of the Chase would clearly benefit from grazing to manage scrub encroachment e.g. Oldacre. However there are significant areas of the heath in Sherbrook Valley where grazing would be less relevant as there is limited scrub and healthy heathland.			
	8	– I have concerns but am prepared to live with it. If I lived in Brocton I would be strongly opposed to the proposals around there.			
	9	– Because I believe it will benefit Cannock Chase			
	10	– With amendments to the boundaries to a reduced scale (Group 1 map) with option 2 approach of 3 (North, middle and south zones), good communication & further detail on grazier options			
	11	– Can be made to work if care taken with boundaries and extent of grazing taken on initially.			
	12	– I think grazing overall will be very beneficial for the management of the Chase			
	13	– Grazing will help to ensure that both Oldacre Valley and Sherbrook continue to support small pearl bordered fritillary butterflies, the only known sites left in Staffordshire.			
	14	– Grazing is an eco-friendly conservation management tool that is the best option to manage the landscape.			
	15	– Historical, ecologically friendly, unique feature for the Chase.			
	16	– It's the only sustainable way forward to deliver a wildlife rich mosaic of habitats that also provides a great landscape & setting for recreation & access.			
	17	– Conservation grazing will help improve structure in the heathland vegetation and so improve the habitat for many heathland species such as ground nesting birds & invertebrates, many of which are in decline.			
	18	– The Chase needs grazing to bring habitats into best condition.			
	19	– I have first-hand experience of grazing a heathland site for the last 10 years. On balance, whilst grazing is not a panacea, the site's ecology is now more diverse,			

		cattle have improved access and proved nay-sayers wrong.
	<b>20</b>	– Best and most sustainable way to manage habitats but must be flexible to accommodate concerns – would support grazing a smaller area initially and develop further over time.
		<b>Is there something more that would help you move your tick to the right?</b>
	<b>2</b>	– E.g. Costings, explanation of today's boundary proposals.
	<b>3</b>	– I need to see evidence that the approach can work – results from previous trials/ trials on Cannock Chase in areas agreed with Brocton parishioners.
	<b>4</b>	– Fence invisible Sherbrook Valley. Good easy access for bikes and horses.
	<b>5</b>	– Need more time to sort out areas of problems.
	<b>7</b>	– Clearer evidence that the desired effect that grazing would deliver – how it would be assessed and modified if monitoring showed it was not achieving the desired effect. More engagement and input from key local stakeholders to advise and comment on changes to grazing management.
	<b>8</b>	– A trial period or pilot project.
	<b>9</b>	– Proof that it will benefit the Chase.
	<b>10</b>	– Continue to articulate grazing so one of the tools and a better reflection on the need for bare ground creation so the starting point that grazing then contributes to.
	<b>11</b>	– Results of grazing trial – access to ? /Benefits v issues that arise during trial/ Good communications with local people & gaining their support
	<b>12</b>	– A staged approach to its roll out, moving into more sensitive areas once tried and tested plus giving more time to engage and look at alternate solutions in more controversial areas.
	<b>14</b>	– Less area of the Chase to be grazed.
	<b>20</b>	– Start smaller and see how it works.

## 9 Short term actions

What	Who	When
Type up workshop	SCC	2 weeks – 29 <sup>th</sup> September
Maps	SCC	Aim for 2 weeks
Process draft Word for Word	DM	13 <sup>th</sup> October
SG to meet discuss next steps	NF, SCC, KSPB	Mid October
Communication plan with sounding board	NF, SCC, KSPB	Mid/late October
News/Emails	NF, SCC, KSPB	29 <sup>th</sup> September

## Annex 1 Agenda

# Cannock Chase - Land Management Workshop 2 of 2: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017

09:15	Registration, coffee and tea will be available, informal starting activities	
	Welcome	
9:30	<b>Session 1: Update and briefing for the day</b>	
	<b>Explanation of the engagement to date</b>	<b>Diana Pound</b> , Director, Dialogue Matters
	<b>Working together today</b>	
	<b>What's this all about?</b>	<b>Sarah Bentley</b> SCC
	<b>Headline findings from the engagement</b> (summary handouts for key topics will be available in the discussions sessions)	<b>Diana Pound</b> , Director, Dialogue Matters
	<b>RSPB Experience from Hazeley Heath, Hampshire</b>	<b>Mike Coates</b> RSPB
10:30	<b>Session 2: Grazing concerns and suggestions</b>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Safety for people, dogs and horses</li> <li>2. Recreation and access types</li> <li>3. Fencing – types and management</li> <li>4. Cattle welfare</li> <li>5. Habitat Management</li> </ol>	
	At each topic review concerns and suggestions:	
	Q Suggest any other solutions that might address the concerns	
	Q Suggest if there needs to be something added or altered on the guidance	
	Q Which solutions look to work best for both habitat management and to address people's concerns?	
11:35	Tea and coffee	
11:50	<b>Session 3: Fencing and access points – concerns and suggestions</b>	
	<b>Fencing: review concerns and suggestions:</b>	
	Q Suggest amendments that could work for habitat management and address people's concerns	
	<b>Grazing options 2 and 3 (option1 has insufficient support)</b>	
	Q Review information about option 2 and 3.	
	Q Do you have any further concerns or suggestions?	
12:45	Lunch	
13:30	<b>Session 4: Review and improve the guidance on other management methods</b>	
	Review management methods concerns suggestions and guidance:	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Controlled burning</li> <li>2. Mechanical - selective felling and thinning of scrub and trees</li> </ol>	

- 3. Mechanical – cutting/baling heather, cutting and bruising bracken
- 4. Chemical - cut stumps and spot treatment, tractor and boom spraying or aerial spraying of bracken

- Q Review concerns and suggestions
- Q Suggest ways to make the guidance better

14:20 **Session 5: Review grazing and boundary solutions**

- Q Grazing concerns – which solutions look the best within each area of concern?
- Q Boundary concerns – which solutions look the best?
- Q Grazing unit options – to what extent do you now support them?

15:00 Tea and Coffee break

15:15 **Session 6: Ongoing communication and cooperation**

Suggest ways of enhancing ongoing communication

A new forum:

- Q What are the benefits and the challenges of this idea?
- Q There are a number of existing groups, could this build on one of them or be stand alone?

Sounding Board

- Q What are the benefits and the challenges of this idea?
- Q If there were 12 places what interests should have a place to be inclusive and balanced?

Resources for action: At this stage, what kind of resources do you think your interest or organisation might be able to contribute to positive change?

16:00 **Session 7: Feedback on the solution priorities**

A member of the facilitation team will feed back what has come out as the solutions with most support

In the light of this to what extent do you support

Please fill in the feedback form with how you see things now.

16:35 **Session 8 : Wrap up**

16:45 Finish no later than this



## Annex 2 List of Attendees

	Name	Organisation
1.	Adrienne Bennett	Forestry Commission
2.	Sarah Bentley	Staffordshire County Council
3.	Suzy Blake	Staffordshire County Council - Archaeology
4.	Roger Broadbent	West Midland Bird Club
5.	Mike Coates	RSPB (Speaker)
6.	Michael Copleston	RSPB
7.	Michelle Edwards	Young Persons Representative
8.	Rhona Goddard	Butterfly Conservation
9.	Cllr Larry Goff	Brocton Parish Council
10.	Nicola Harper	Natural England (Adviser)
11.	Ruth Hytch	Cannock Chase AONB
12.	Peter Johnson	Chase Task Force Volunteer
13.	Ian Jones	Walton Chasers Orienteering Club
14.	June Jukes	Friends of Cannock Chase
15.	Jaclyn Lake	Natural England
16.	Jeremy Lowe	National Farmers Union
17.	Paul Massey	MIAS
18.	Cllr Alan Pearson	Hednesford Town Council
19.	Nick Sellwood	National Trust
20.	Jeff Sim	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
21.	Lesley Simmons	British Horse Society
22.	Jim Stewart	Forestry Commission
23.	Rob Taylor	Staffordshire County Council
24.	PC Lee Turner	Staffordshire Police (Rural & Countryside Crime)
25.	Dick Turton	Ramblers Association
26.	William Waller	Stafford Borough Council



# Annex 3 What kind of access points are needed for Cannock Chase Country Park?

