

Report for Information

Report to Mousehold Heath Conservators
11 December 2009
Report of Head of Community Services
Subject Progress to Resolve Cycling Issues

6

Purpose

To update the Mousehold Heath Conservators with progress on the situation with the BMX and other bikers on the Heath

Recommendations

The Conservators are asked to note the report

Financial Consequences

There are no financial consequences arising from this report at this time.

Strategic Priority and Outcome/Service Priorities

The report helps to meet the strategic priority Safe & Healthy Neighbourhoods, and the service plan priority to ensure Norwich has a clean and safe environment.

Contact Officers

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Background Documents

None

Report

Background

1. Mousehold Conservators have that the continued use of part of Mousehold Heath close to Valley drive for informal cycling and BMX biking which is in against the by-laws be resolved.
2. A meeting was held with a group of cyclists in July which identified:
 - the varied nature of cycling and cycling on the heath
 - the aspirations of some of those who cycle in this and other areas in and around Norwich
 - the challenges of managing or providing an alternative location for cycling
3. Conservators agreed in September that this should be resolved at the December meeting and requested that the management sub-group prepare a report with options for a way forward.

Progress

4. A draft report was considered by the management subgroup at its meeting on 2nd December 2009 and there was considerable discussion on locations for and appropriateness of cycling, what type of uses should Mousehold Heath provide and the aspirations of the many and varied Mousehold users.
5. Given the complexity of the issue, the sub group are proposing to undertake a site visit before Xmas or in early January to which it will invite representatives of interested parties to:
 - allow the group to fully understand the issues and opportunities provided by the various locations
 - consider the aspirations of the various users of Mousehold
6. The Sub-group will then finalise a report which will be presented to an additional meeting of the Mousehold Conservators that will be arranged for February.
7. This meeting will be convened to endorse a way forward on BMX cycling and to finalise the Mousehold budget and precept for 2010-11.