

# **REPORT OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

## **GENERAL REPORT**

1. The General Purposes Committee met on 7 June 2006 and this report summarises briefly the matters considered at the meeting.

### **Highways Act 1980 - Section 119 - Proposed Diversion of Footpath No 6 at Mawdesley**

2. We received the report of the Deputy Director of Legal Services on a proposal presented to the Lancashire County Council to divert a length of Public Footpath No 6 which links Old Lane and Back Lane, Mawdesley.
3. The existing route of the footpath travels through the site of Cedar House Farm, which is to be developed into a craft centre. An application has been lodged, therefore, for the diversion of the footpath onto a route that will skirt around the southern and western boundaries of the site.
4. As the Council does not possess any direct information on either the public use of the footpath or land ownership in the area, we raised no objection to the diversion of a 203 metre length of the public footpath.

### **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 - Part III - Claim for Definitive Map Modification Order (Limbrick)**

5. The Committee considered a report of the Deputy Director of Legal Services on a claim submitted to Lancashire County Council for the status of public footpath to be conferred on a path at Limbrick, Heath Charnock running from Dark Lane along the north bank of the River Yarrow through to Long Lane.
6. Several evidence of use forms alleging a long-standing and durable public usage of the footpath had been lodged with the County Council. The Borough Council does not possess any evidence to refute the claim and a member of the Committee did, in fact, refer to significant anecdotal evidence to support the claimed public usage of the route.
7. The Committee, therefore, raised no objection to the claim for public right of way status.

### **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 - Part III - Claim for Definitive Map Modification Order (Chorley)**

8. The Deputy Director of Legal Services presented the Committee with a report on a claim lodged with the Lancashire County Council for the status of public footpath to be conferred on a small path running along the southern side of the reservoir to the east of the M61 motorway in the vicinity of the former Healey Works which linked the eastern section of Public Footpath No 16 to the western section of the public footpath. A number of evidence of use forms have been lodged with the County Council claiming a long-standing public usage of the route between the two public footpaths.
9. In addition, a further claim has been lodged for the conferral of public right of way status on a 'spur' path leading from the claimed path along the western and northern sides of the reservoir to reflect the alleged long-standing public usage of the scenic route.
10. The Council possesses no evidence to refute either claim, so, consequently the Committee raised no objection to the two claims.

## **Establishment of new Principal Officer Grades from P0.15 to PO.18**

11. Following consideration of a report of the Director of Human Resources, the Committee agreed to establish four new Principal Officer salary grades from PO15 to PO18 to reflect the available NJC pay scales up to spinal column point 55.
12. The creation of the four new Principal Officer grades will allow a greater degree of flexibility in the appointment of Principal Officers and support the recruitment and retention of high calibre staff. The new grades will be awarded to appropriate Principal Officers whose responsibilities warrant the higher salaries without assimilating the posts on Chief Officers grades, whose maximum salaries would be greater than spinal column point 55, thus creating a long term financial saving.

### **Recommendation**

13. The Council is recommended to note this report.

COUNCILLOR P GOLDSWORTHY  
Executive Leader

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There are no background papers to this report.