

FEEDBACK ON AONB PARTNERSHIP STUDY TOUR

Purpose

To feedback on the success of the AONB Partnership Annual Study Tour.

FOR INFORMATION

Key Issues

- A total of 28 people attended the annual AONB Partnership Tour on 20th September.
- There was a good spread of representation from throughout the AONB even though the Tour was focused predominantly on the Monmouthshire part of the AONB.
- The tour visited a range of sites primarily associated with the Lower Wye Catchments Natural Flood Management (NFM) & Green Infrastructure (GI) Project.
- The Tour also included a 'heart in the landscape' photo-opportunity in preparation for the 'national moment' on 21st September celebrating the 70th anniversary of the National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949.
- Feedback from attendees of the Tour has been extremely positive.

Reasons

The AONB Partnership Tour continues to be popular and is a key tool in the transfer of information to the wider partners and interested parties in the AONB particularly to local Ward members, key officers and the Town, Parish and Community Councils. The Tour is held on one of the last Fridays in September.

Implications

Of the 28 attendees on the Wye Valley AONB Partnership Tour, 10 came from Herefordshire, 8 from Monmouthshire and 4 from Gloucestershire. There were 6 JAC members, 4 local authority officers, 11 were from Town/Parish/Community Councils and one other, plus 5 AONB staff.

Sites and issues visited included Chapel Lane, Tintern, with flooding & erosion of the Unclassified County Highway associated with the Lime Kiln Brook; the A466 Road stabilisation works; Natural Flood Management (NFM) works at Penterry Farm and Lower Meend Farm; photo-opportunity at Bigsweir Bridge in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the National Parks & Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

Background

The 2018 Tour looked at a selection of projects and issues in the Herefordshire part of the AONB north of Ross-on-Wye. The 2017 Tour looked at a number of projects and issues between Ross and Lydbrook. The 2016 Tour visited sites in and around Tintern.