

meeting **ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (URGENCY SUB-COMMITTEE)**

date **23 February 2010** agenda item number **4**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR (PLANNING, SUSTAINABILITY AND REGENERATION)

## **CIVIC RECEPTION TO THANK VOLUNTEERS WORKING WITH THE COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS TEAM, TO BE HELD AT COUNTY HALL IN MARCH 2010**

### **Purpose of the report**

1. To seek approval for a reception to be held at County Hall in March 2010, hosted by the Chairman of the County Council, to celebrate and thank volunteers for their continued support towards our countryside access work.

### **Background**

2. The Countryside Access team have benefited from the use of volunteers for over 10 years. They assist the team's work in a number of areas. The largest number, are those working within the Parish Path Partnership Scheme. Others assist with general survey work, including surveys for Performance Indicators, and the Ploughing and Cropping campaign both run twice a year. Yet more volunteers assist officers with general work from condition surveys of the network to checking routes for publicity and publications.
3. The Parish Path Partnership is a partnership between the Authority and over fifty Parish Councils. Parishes appoint volunteer wardens who take on a major role in the assessment of the paths within their parishes. They apply to us for financial help to maintain and improve the surface and furniture on paths, particularly where the improvements help access for local residents.

4. All the volunteers play a large part in assisting the maintenance of the rights of ways network. The Chair of the newly established Rights of Way Committee will also be invited to attend the event.
5. It is proposed to hold the event at County Hall in the Assembly Hall. The funding would be from the Countryside Access Team budget. Initial costs for the event based on approximately 80 volunteers and up to 10 officers and Councillors attending would be:

Food for approx 90 guests, staff & Councillors @ £8	£720
Drinks (wine and soft drinks) @ £2	£180
<b>Estimated total costs</b>	<b>£900</b>

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- a) That a civic reception to thank volunteers who work with the Countryside Access Team be held at County Hall in March at a time convenient to the Chairman of the County Council.
- b) That the costings for the event, which will be funded from the Countryside Access Team's budget, be noted.

**Jas Hundal**

**Service Director – Planning, Sustainability and Regeneration**

### **Comments of the Service Director - Finance**

The cost of this event will be financed from the existing revenue budget. [DJK - 29/10/10]

### **Legal Services' comments**

This report is within the remit of the Administration Committee by virtue of Paragraph 9.6 of Part Three of the County Council's Constitution. [SJE – 01/02/10]

### **Background papers**

Nil

### **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All