



1. Project Title: AONB Promoted Routes

Project Outline



The AONB has a number of promoted regional routes that highlight outstanding, relatively long day walks in the area. For those who do not wish to walk over 10 miles in one day, the routes can also be split into shorter sections. Many of the Promoted Routes have been in place now in excess of 10 years and feedback has been received from walkers as to route improvements, especially as many of these routes were created before Open Access and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act, which has provided many more options for access to the uplands. The AONB has also seen the value of developing a strongly branded series through the work completed by the Community Miles Project and has the vision to develop a recognised format for its promoted regional routes. Last year the Dee Valley Way was realigned and relaunched, with positive feedback received. The AONB wishes to continue its review of the routes. Route improvements are suggested particularly for the North Berwyn Way at Liberty Hall and Llangollen, revised way marking and new promotional material is proposed.

Project Need

The Regional Routes are one of the AONB's greatest assets in terms of walking product, together with the National Trail. These routes should be of the highest quality possible, reflecting the outstanding landscape they sit within. Revisions need to be made to the route following feedback received from walkers, together with improved waymarking. There is a need to raise the standard of the promoted paths and their connectivity to other routes.

Project Benefits

- Improved quality of the North Berwyn Way regional route.
- Better experience for walkers along the prompted route, with improved way marking.
- Providing an asset for the local tourism offer.

Estimated Project Costs

Total Costs £6,000 - £5,000 Welsh Government Request - £1,000 ROWIP match funding

Delivery Against the AONB Management Plan

PolART1 To promote the sustainable use and enjoyment and understanding of the landscape of the AONB in a way that contributes to local prosperity and social inclusiveness.

PolART2 Ensure that the attractiveness of the AONB's landscape and views as a primary basis for the areas' tourism are retained.

PolART3 Ensure that all visitors and residents are able to experience and enjoy the benefits of the special qualities of the AONB within environmental limits.

Delivery against the Well-being of Future Generations Act

A prosperous Wales – through supporting walking as a tourism activity in the area

A healthier Wales – through improving routes for local people to keep active

A Wales of cohesive communities – the promoted trails link to communities

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language – all promotion material will be available bilingually.



2. Project Title: Beyond Ty Mawr Country Park

Project Outline



Tan y Cut woods are located adjacent to Ty Mawr Country Park, located within the AONB and the Pontcysyllte and Llangollen Canal World Heritage Site. The woods are accessible from the Llangollen Canal tow path and provides access opportunities for local people of Acrefair and Trevor, in addition to visitors to the Country Park and the World Heritage Site. The current access path within the wood is problematic as it is located along a spring line with water emerging periodically along the path, resulting in a wet sodden muddy surface. The project would reroute part of the path away from the spring line and also look at the construction of a board walk, these improvements would drastically enhance access to the site.

The second area of access improvement is proposed on the link path along the river to Pontcysyllte Bridge which is currently difficult to negotiate. Enabling people to access this area will provide an alternative experience of the World Heritage Site.

The aim of both the Tan y Cut and Pontcysyllte Bridge projects are to improve the access 'comfort zone' beyond the immediate boundary of Ty Mawr Country Park.

Project Need

Tan y Cut and Pontcysyllte Bridge are located adjacent to the communities of Acrefair and Trevor, as a valued outdoor recreation resource, the user experience would be greatly improved through the proposed access enhancements.

Project Benefits

- Significant access improvements in a site used by the local community and visitors, providing a better experience
- Visually improvements to Tan y Cut Woods through better managed paths.
- Demonstrates the benefits of being within the AONB, to both the local community and WCBC, strengthening the AONB Partnership.
- Restricting the width of the path from widening as people try to avoid the muddy sections, trampling the woodland understory, therefore protecting the woodland habitat.
- Enhance the visitor experience of the World Heritage Site.

Estimated Project Costs

Total Cost £12,000 - £11,000 Welsh Government Request, £1,000 WCBC

Delivery Against the AONB Management Plan

PolART1 To promote the sustainable use and enjoyment and understanding of the landscape of the AONB in a way that contributes to local prosperity and social inclusiveness.

PolART2 Ensure that the attractiveness of the AONB's landscape and views as a primary basis for the areas' tourism are retained.

PolART3 Ensure that all visitors and residents are able to experience and enjoy the benefits of the special qualities of the AONB within environmental limits.

PolART4 Ensure that the honey pots and other key access points are managed to a high standard and that they act as models of good practice in access and conservation delivery.

PolART5 Ensure the Country Parks and the Offa's Dyke Path National Trail provide effective gateways to the AONB in promoting understanding and awareness of its key qualities and features.

Delivery against the Well-being of Future Generations Act

A prosperous Wales – through supporting walking as a tourism activity in the area

A healthier Wales – through improving routes for local people to keep active

A Wales of cohesive communities – the path is close to communities of Trevor and Acrefair.

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language – paths links to the Pontcysyllte and Llangollen Canal World Heritage Site



3. Project Title: Gop Hill Iconic Route

Project Outline



Gop Hill is one of the Special Features of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is the second largest manmade mound in the UK, following Silbury hill. Over time the mound has become increasingly hidden within the landscape due to vegetation growth. Over the past year Cadw has funded a programme of vegetation clearance. The recent developments at Gop Hill have provided new impetus to improve the waymarking, access and increase awareness of this fantastic archaeological site enabling people to appreciate Gop Hill's historic significance. The project would also combine volunteering opportunities, restoring stone walls as important features within the landscape (funded by NRW) and linked to a small excavation already proposed of the area outside Gop Cave.

Project Need

Gop Hill is one of the UK's most significant archaeological sites, however there is a lack of knowledge and appreciation of the site which this project aims to address through improved waymarking and a walk leaflet.

Following the recent works funded by Cadw, Gop is now more connected to its landscape and providing the ideal opportunity to revisit access to the site.

Undertaking the access project at Gop would be beneficial in delivering work within the Flintshire area of the AONB.

Project Benefits

- Improving the visitor experience of an archaeological significant site.
- Links to local communities of Trelawnyd and Gwaenysgor
- Increases awareness and understanding of the special features of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley.
- Providing a new resource to local tourism businesses in the north of the AONB

Estimated Project Costs

Total Cost £8,500 – 7,500 Welsh Government Request, £1,000 NRW Competitive Grant

Delivery Against the AONB Management Plan

PolART1 To promote the sustainable use and enjoyment and understanding of the landscape of the AONB in a way that contributes to local prosperity and social inclusiveness.

PolART2 Ensure that the attractiveness of the AONB's landscape and views as a primary basis for the areas' tourism are retained.

PolART3 Ensure that all visitors and residents are able to experience and enjoy the benefits of the special qualities of the AONB within environmental limits.

Delivery against the Well-being of Future Generations Act

A prosperous Wales – through supporting walking as a tourism activity in the area

A healthier Wales – through improving routes for local people to keep active

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language – Gop is a site of heritage significance.



4. Project Title: Minera Mountain Circular

Project Outline



Minera Country Park is a link to the industrial lead mining heritage of the AONB, with engine house and winding gear remaining impressive structures within the 53 acre site. The Country Park provides a gateway to Minera Mountain with views over the surrounding countryside. It is one of the quietest Country Parks within the AONB and as such has capacity to relieve visitor pressure from other honey pot sites. It is also closely located to large urban populations such as Wrexham and therefore provides a valuable resource for people to access and enjoy the countryside.

This project proposes to undertake waymarking / access improvements and publish a walk leaflet that will also be available online to promote Minera as one of the iconic places to visit within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB.

Project Need

Mineral Country Park is a relatively unknown gem within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB and has great potential to relieve visitor pressure from other honeypot sites. It is waiting to be discovered. The project would strengthen the AONB partnership within the extension area working with Wrexham County Borough Council and demonstrating the value of the designation to the authority.

Project Benefits

- Reduce pressure on other honey pot County Parks within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley.
- Promote the access opportunities available from Minera Country Park, especially to Minera mountain to the local community and also current visitors to other sites.
- Provide people with confidence to explore further afield through new waymarking and information provision.

Estimated Project Costs

£10,000

Delivery Against the AONB Management Plan

PolART1 To promote the sustainable use and enjoyment and understanding of the landscape of the AONB in a way that contributes to local prosperity and social inclusiveness.

PolART2 Ensure that the attractiveness of the AONB's landscape and views as a primary basis for the areas' tourism are retained.

PolART3 Ensure that all visitors and residents are able to experience and enjoy the benefits of the special qualities of the AONB within environmental limits.

PolART4 Ensure that the honey pots and other key access points are managed to a high standard and that they act as models of good practice in access and conservation delivery.

PolART5 Ensure the Country Parks and the Offa's Dyke Path National Trail provide effective gateways to the AONB in promoting understanding and awareness of its key qualities and features.

Delivery against the Well-being of Future Generations Act

A prosperous Wales – through supporting walking as a tourism activity in the area

A healthier Wales – through improving routes for local people to keep active

A Wales of cohesive communities – the promoted trails link to communities

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language – all promotion material will be available bilingually, Minera is a link to the past industrial heritage of the AONB.