



Devon Countryside Access Forum

Lucombe House
County Hall
Topsham Road
EXETER EX2 4QD

Tel: 07837 171000
01392 382771

devoncaf@devon.gov.uk

www.devon.gov.uk/dcaf

Mr J Avon
Stover Country Park
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ12 6QG

26 July 2018

Dear Mr Avon

Stover Park – Heritage Lottery Fund bid

The Devon Countryside Access Forum (DCAF) is a local access forum under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW Act). Its remit is to give independent advice as to the improvement of public access to land in the area for the purposes of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area..."

The DCAF currently has sixteen members who represent the interests of landowners/managers, access users and other relevant areas of expertise such as conservation and tourism.

Stover Country Park is a well-used and popular country park situated close to Newton Abbot, a town that is expanding significantly. The DCAF visited the Park on one of its training days and was impressed by the Country Park, its visitor centre and engagement with the community, schools and volunteers.

The proposals accord with the aims of the DCAF to improve access and enjoyment of the countryside. The creation of new footpath routes, accessible for wheelchairs and mobility scooters, will enable more people to take advantage of the site and enjoy extensive walks. The Forum also welcomes improved cycle links.

Stover Country Park has the capacity to act as a recreational hub as it is well-linked to other public rights of way and an important multi-use trail which connects to Moretonhampstead, Bovey Tracey and Newton Abbot. It is well-served by public transport links which increases its accessibility to a wide range of users.

The Devon Countryside Access Forum is a local access forum. It is required, in accordance with Sections 94 and 95 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000, to provide advice as to the improvement of public access to land for the purposes of open-air recreation and enjoyment.

supported by
Devon
County Council

Increased recreational access opportunities and proposals to encourage community engagement and volunteering will enable Stover to deliver a range of benefits for health and well-being.

The Forum welcomes partnership approaches and agreements with Stover School and Sibelco UK Ltd to allow permissive access to woodland and interesting historical sites will enhance the visitor experience and enjoyment of the Park.

Stover Country Park is already established and has a strong community presence. Additional funding will allow the restoration of important historical buildings, improve the biodiversity and appearance of the lake and ornamental waters, and open up viewpoints. These features will provide an enriched experience for the many visitors who come to Stover and will safeguard the historic setting of the Park for the future

The DCAF has no hesitation in commending this project and hopes that the Heritage Lottery Fund will provide funding to allow this exciting and aspirational project to go forward.

Yours sincerely



H. Winter
Forum Officer

Letter signed on behalf of Devon Countryside Access Forum.

*Chair: Sarah Slade
Vice Chair: Chris Cole*