

COTSWOLDS@50

Summary: To update the Sub-committee of the current situation of the Cotswolds@50 Project

Recommendation: That the report be noted.

Officer Ref: Mark Connelly, Land Management Officer (01451 862006)

Background

1. In July this year both the Conserving and Managing Sub-committee and the Executive Committee received an update on Cotswolds@50. At that time it was hoped that the Countryside and Community Research Institute (CCRI) would be completing the scenario development enabling them to be put into a visual form for the community events to be organised for the autumn of 2017.
2. The Robert Barber's contract with the Board had finished on 31st July 2017 and with no successor, the organisation of the visualisation and the four community events would fall on Mark Connelly, Land Management Officer and Chris Brant, Communications Officer with the support of the project steering group.
3. Due to other work commitments including the development of the post-Brexit farming proposal and the new website no further progress has been made on the project. We are also awaiting the final scenario from the CCRI as Janet has been away most of the summer in Japan and has only recently returned. Current work commitments also mean little prospect of progress until the New Year at the earliest. As a consequence the project will run into the spring and needs to be included in the new business plan for 2018/19.
4. The next step is to complete the scenarios and turn them into a visual form. Once completed or we know when they will be completed by, dates and venues for the four community events can be organised. The invitation/publicity for the events will need to be carefully worded, highlighting 'threats' to the landscape to encourage people to attend.
5. The 50th anniversary of the Cotswolds AONB was in 2016 and it is suggested the project adopts the name of Future Landscapes to avoid being 'dated'. The Executive Committee endorsed this suggestion at their meeting on 9th November.

Supporting Paper(s):

There are no supporting papers