

Dear Sir or Madam,

MTBepics are establishing two new exciting British Cycling endorsed mountain biking events in 2014. One of these is in Devon. We have consulted widely to date. The staff at the Dartmoor National Park told me that some of the parishes in the Dartmoor park were concerned about events happening without them being aware. The intention of this letter is to inform you of our event, our plans and to hear from you if there are any specifics we should be aware of.

The events are endorsed by British Olympic riders Ollie Beckinsale and Liam Kileen and are designed for outdoor endurance enthusiasts looking for a new way to challenge themselves off-road while enjoying the English countryside. We have designed our routes (over 150 miles over 3 days) to ensure there is a challenging amount of vertical climbs (around 1500m climb per day) and as much off-road riding as we can arrange (above 75%) enabling riders to take in the scenery in some of English's most beautiful countryside.

The rides are provisioned and supported. We plan to carefully mark the route and marshal the participants with drink stops along the way as well as medical and mechanical facilities.

The challenges focus on personal achievement and satisfaction through endurance rather than racing, although entrants do still need to train for them. The events are NOT races in any way. Riding in teams of two, they offer a fantastic opportunity to train together as part of the experience. The dedicated website will also provide training tips as well as additional courses for those who want perfect preparation.

Our number of participants is much much less than events like the Dartmoor Classic. In that this is the first year we may have as few as 50 participants and in my wildest ambitions, I don't expect more than 400.

Event details applicable to you

Although our event is over 3 days, we are routing through your Parish on one day only, namely 27th September.

#### Risk Management

Our sportive event is registered with and benefits from £10mn public liability insurance cover in place through British Cycling. We also follow the British Cycling Risk Management and Event management guidelines. Key features of the risk management plan are:

1. Extensive route research to minimise crossings of difficult routes and to ensure no use of cycles on footpaths, except where we obtain land-owner permission.
2. Use of marshalls at risk points.
3. Route marking and signage, notifying riders of features they need to be aware of.
4. A briefing at the start of each day, of any particular requirements or features of the day's riding.
5. Back marker guide riders to ensure bike markers are looked after.
6. Events terms and conditions that make participants responsibilities to take due care in terms of waste and litter.

Our terms and conditions that participants agree to when signing up make it clear to participants their responsibility for safety and to follow the instructions of the marshalls.

#### Consultation

Apart from this communication to yourselves, I have engaged in extensive consultation and planning with various county, district and town councils, in some instances dating back to November

2013. I have also engaged with local land owners, Dartmoor National Park, accommodation providers and other local service providers. Where requested, I have already submitted draft risk management plans and event management plans.

Based on feedback from various parties we moved our event from the planned dates at the end of August to 26th, 27th and 28th September. Our event is now outside of the key tourism season. In other words, rather than crowding out other tourism activities I hope our event will be a net contributor to extending the tourism season, in a small part. Secondly, the end of September is not as busy a time for agriculture and so likely to reduce risks around farm vehicles and traffic in general.

I appreciate you may want to see the route. If this is the case, please send me an email and I will send you a link for you to see our route online. If you have any other queries or concerns, please do let me know.

Kind regards

Adrian

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Adrian Thornycroft

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