

# CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TARKA TRAIL USERS

The Tarka Trail is enjoyed by many different types of user - Walkers, cyclists, wheelchair users, mobility scooters, dog walkers and horse riders, please remember that it is here for everyone to enjoy, **not just you**.

We hope to create an environment where we all –

## Share the Trail!

**Be sensitive to the needs of others and follow these simple guidelines.**

- **Keep left.** When using the trail if you keep to your left everyone can travel safely. It reduces collisions, makes it easier to pass other users, reduces 'traffic jams' and helps trail traffic move smoothly.
- **Give Way!** Cyclists always give way **to all other users**. Pass them slowly. If you cannot get past safely, stop and dismount. With the new keep left system, wait till there is a gap in on coming traffic and then over take, it's that simple!
- **Ring! Ring!** Your bike should have a bell fitted. Make sure other Tarka Trail users are aware of your presence. Ring your bell or call out a warning.
- **Relax! Take it easy!** Keep your speed down; the Tarka Trail is not a racing track. Slow down and enjoy the scenery.
- **Watch out!** During peak times the Tarka Trail is used by many more cyclists than walkers. Walkers take care and **'be aware'**. If you are using headphones you need to be aware what's going on around you, if you restrict your hearing you must be prepared to improve your visual awareness!
- **Two's Company!** When the Tarka Trail is busy, especially in the summer months, keep to just two abreast so as not to hinder other users, if it's really busy go single file.
- **Take the lead!** Please keep your dogs under control at all times. The Tarka Trail is a haven for wildlife, which is vulnerable to disturbance. Don't let your dog interfere with cyclists by getting in their way or chasing them. **We would advise keeping your dog on a lead.** Please keep you dog out of adjacent farm land – worrying sheep is a serious problem and could result in the loss of your pet!
- **Mucky pups!** Dog mess is unpleasant for everyone. Please act responsibly carry plastic bags and clean up after your dog. There are red dog bins along the trail where it can be deposited or better still take it home and deposit it in your domestic bin - but please don't throw filled bags in the hedges!
- **Hoofing it!** The Tarka Trail is used by horses between Torrington Servis Farm and Meeth Halt. Approach considerately at all times. See separate guidance for Horse Riders.
- Please **be considerate** to other users, think about their enjoyment as well as your own.
- Follow the Country Code, leave no litter and **close all gates after you pass through**. Please be aware that camping is prohibited on any part of the trail, including picnic sites and any areas of open space.