Carding Mill Valley and the Long Mynd Access Statement

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Introduction
Carding Mill Valley is the main valley for the Long Mynd. In this valley there is car parking and visitor facilities. The road runs through the valley to the top car park. As this is a valley there are steep slopes, uneven paths, steps and bridges. The stream runs the full length of the valley. In the valley way-marked walks start including an adventure trail.

Livestock – sheep and ponies graze across the hill. Dogs need to be kept under close control and in sight. There are also areas with ground nesting birds on top of the hill. In these areas dogs must stick to the paths. All dogs are welcome, including Assistance Dogs.

Across the wider hill there is a network of roads and paths, it is wild open countryside, so there are steep slopes, narrow and uneven paths. There are small car parks and pull-ins on the top of the hill. The path from Pole Cottage to Pole Bank is suitable for pushchairs, wheelchairs and mobility scooters.

NB - Mobile phone reception is not very good across the site. In an emergency, please make contact on the phone number above as soon as you are able to or call the emergency services directly.

Arrival & Parking Facilities
1. There are brown National Trust signs off the A49 in to Church Stretton, either through Church Stretton or All Stretton.
2. On arrival in Carding Mill Valley cars can park along the side of the road, on the grass all the way along the valley. There is also a car park further up the valley. The top car park surface is hard standing, the parking off the road is on grass. Spaces are not marked out.
3. There are 2 designated spaces for disabled people in front of the Chalet Pavilion on hard standing. If these spaces are full then please drop off at the Chalet and park elsewhere.
4. There are payment machines in 4 different places along the valley. The cost to park is £3.60, or free for National Trust members and blue badge holders.
5. All the footpaths off the car park are a mix of hard standing with loose stone covering. Most have drainage channels crossing them and some require scrambling over boulders. When crossing the stream there are bridges in some places and stepping stones in others.
6. The car parks at the top of the Long Mynd are free of charge. They are all on hard standing with loose material on top. Pole Cottage is largest car park on the top of the hill.
WCs
1. The accessible toilet is located outside the Chalet Pavilion. It needs a RADAR key to access it. There are spare keys that can be borrowed in the shop and in the tea-room.
2. The accessible toilet is at least 1.5m x 2.2m
3. The accessible WC right hand transfer
4. It is lit with artificial light, and there is not much natural light
5. The WCs (both accessible and non-accessible) have automatic hand driers

Catering
1. The tea-room is located within the Chalet Pavilion. The Chalet is in the middle of the valley. From the disabled parking area the Chalet is approximately 5 metres. From the nearest parking area the Chalet is approximately 20 metres.
2. The surface outside the tea-room is all tarmac and hard standing.
3. There is a level entrance into the tea-room.
4. The entrance doors are manual opening, both doors into the tearoom need to be opened for pushchairs and wheelchairs. The doors can open inwards or outwards. Staff/volunteers can assist with opening the door if required.
5. The tea-room has a lino floor throughout. There are no rugs or carpets.
6. The area is lit with lots of overhead lights. There is not a lot of natural light.
7. There is a roof terrace which is accessed by an external staircase.
8. The counter height is not higher than 850mm.
9. Staff will assist visitors as required, they will bring food to the tables and carry any trays.
10. The circulation space between the tables is along the main routes down the length of the tea-room, there is less space between the tables horizontally.
11. There are currently no induction loops in the building.
12. The staff are happy to discuss what is on the menu that day.

Retail
1. The shop is located within the Chalet Pavilion. The Chalet is in the middle of the valley. From the disabled parking area the Chalet is approximately 5 metres. From the nearest parking area the Chalet is approximately 20 metres.
2. The surface outside the shop is all tarmac and hard standing.
3. There are two entrances into the shop. One is via two steps, the other is via level entrance into the tea-room.
4. The entrance door by the steps opens into the shop. The doors between the shop and tea-room open into the shop. Staff/volunteers can assist with opening the door if required.
5. The shop has carpet tiles and floorboards.
6. The area is lit with spot light bulbs, there is not a lot of natural light.
7. The counter height is not higher than 850mm.
8. It is possible to get a wheelchair and pushchair around the shop, but not between the display stands in the middle.
9. There are currently no induction loops in the building.
10. Staff will assist reaching down items to view if they cannot be reached by customers.
11. Staff will assist with telling visitors the price of items.
Countryside
1. There is a road that runs through Carding Mill Valley to the top car park. There is also a single-track road (Burway) with pull-ins that leads to the top of the hill, accessible from the centre of Church Stretton. There is a network of roads across the hill. There are car parks at the top where it is possible to see the view or start walks from.
2. As this is a countryside site there are steep slopes, uneven paths, steps and bridges.
3. The stream runs the full length of Carding Mill Valley. There are ponds across in the valley and across the hill. There is a reservoir in Carding Mill Valley.
4. Way-marked routes start from Carding Mill Valley including an adventure trail. The routes go from 1.5miles – 6miles in length. Walks cards are available showing these routes. These are available from the Welcome Boards in Carding Mill Valley or from the Information Hut or shop.
5. There are a few benches in Carding Mill Valley, in the lower Valley, outside the Chalet and near the top car park. Otherwise there is very little seating.

Contact details for more information
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