1. INTRODUCTION TO THE APPOINTING AUTHORITIES AND THE FORUM’S ROLE

Hampshire County Council (HCC)

Andy Smith, Head of Countryside, welcomed new and returning members to the Forum and provided an overview of the work of the Countryside Service:

- It aims to “provide the highest quality countryside and green places for everyone to enjoy now and in the future.”
- It is responsible for Rights of Way (approximately 3000 miles), Country Parks, Conservation Areas, Access Land, Permissive Paths and Common Land.
- Its Rights of Way function includes protection of the public’s right, path maintenance, promotion (including long-distance routes), maintaining the legal record (‘Definitive Map and Statement’) and partnership projects.
- It values working with partners such as Local Councils, landowners, user groups, Forestry Commission, Natural England, Defra, Wildlife Trust and the New Forest and South Downs National Parks. It particularly values the strong and productive relationship established with the Hampshire Countryside Access Forum.

Portsmouth City Council (PCC) & Southampton City Council (SCC)

Apologies were received from Jayne Rodgers, PCC Sustainable Transport Officer, and David Blakeway, SCC Rights of Way Officer. An introduction and update will be provided at a future Forum meeting.
The role of the Hampshire Countryside Access Forum (HCAF)

Amanda Hull, Forum Officer, provided an introduction to Local Access Forums.

- Local Access Forum’s (LAFs) were established under section 94 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 as advisory bodies for matters relating to access to the countryside.
- They are made up of 10-22 volunteers with a broad range of interests (e.g. land management, users, conservation etc) as it is important for LAFs to be able to give balanced advice.
- HCAF was established in 2002 and has the overall aim of ‘providing guidance on and contributing towards improving opportunities to enjoy Hampshire’s countryside and coast’.
- HCAF is a joint forum, with HCC, PCC and SCC as the appointing authorities. The remit of the Forum excludes the New Forest National Park area and the remaining parts of the New Forest District, which is covered by the New Forest Access Forum. It also excludes the South Downs National Park area which is covered by the South Downs Local Access Forum.
- The statutory function of the Forum is to give advice to the appointing authorities (HCC, PCC, SCC), district or borough councils within the area of the Forum, Defra, Natural England, Forestry Commission and English Heritage. These bodies must have regard to any relevant advice given to them by the Forum.
- In general the advice given by the Forum is on a strategic level and it avoids getting involved in site or route specific matters e.g. the Forum has helped to develop a policy for the use of Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) in the Countryside, but it does not comment on consultations for TROs on a specific right of way.
- Members are appointed to the Forum to be a representative of a particular interest, not an organisation. However, members are encouraged to share the work of the Forum as widely as possible, and seek views from others to feedback into the Forum’s work.
- There are four full meetings per year, as well as sub-group meetings where necessary.
- Between meetings important updates and consultations will be circulated by email. Members will be asked to submit responses by a specified date.
- HCC looks after the running of the Forum on behalf of the appointing authorities – it provides venues, refreshments, secretariat, support and guidance. It also reimburses travel expenses (a travel claim form was circulated to members with the meeting papers).
- HCC also promotes the work of the Forum, through the website (www.hants.gov.uk/hcaf), annual report, newsletters, press releases and articles in national publications.

2. INTRODUCTIONS TO FORUM MEMBERS

As the first meeting of the newly appointed forum, members were invited to each provide a brief introduction to themselves, including their area of interest on the Forum. A brief biography has been added to the website: www.hants.gov.uk/hcaf.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of Meeting 41 (21st July) were accepted as a true record. Matters arising:

**Winnall Moors bridge (action 0711.01)** – Forum members had requested that the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HWT) consider the provision of a T-shaped ramp, rather than steps, down from the recreation centre bridge to enable wheelchair and pushchair access. A letter had been sent to HWT reinforcing that this work should be carried out. A response was received stating that they are looking to implement greater access for disabled users and families with pushchairs throughout the reserve, including the construction of passing bays on the boardwalk. The provision of a ramp, rather than steps down from the recreation centre bridge had been discussed, and whilst easy to construct, it is felt that the specification for the ramp would pose its own problems for ease of access along the path for the public. A revised reserve leaflet has been published which now highlights the presence of steps down from the bridge entrance. They have also erected a sign on the gate notifying approaching visitors.
At the July meeting of the Forum, members expressed disappointment that more had not been done to rectify this problem and it was suggested that HCAF carry out a feasibility study and send this to HWT and the Access Officer at Winchester City Council (WCC). Richard looked into this but was unable to conduct a study, furthermore from examining the revised reserve leaflet, it was considered under the DDA/Equality Act legislation, that there was reasonable provision for disabled access already in place via the other entrance to the site.

It had been suggested that the issue be taken up with WCC as the landowner, however it was noted that responsibility, under the terms of the Equality Act, for providing reasonable access to the site rests with the provider of the service to the public (in this case HWT) and not the landowner.

Regardless of this, it was felt that there should be a moral obligation to provide access from both entrances and it was felt that this would be best addressed through the City Council. It was felt that the Forum should be putting pressure on the City Council to modify the bridge and questioned whether a letter should be sent to them.

Overall it was agreed that there is a need to raise the profile of the issue, including getting people with disabilities and users with pushchairs to support the request made by the Forum. This could then be followed by a letter to the Hampshire Chronicle about the issue including concrete examples and suitable recommendations.

David A explained to new members that although the Forum typically does not get involved in site specific issues, its involvement in the Winnall Moors bridge is because the HWT had approached the Forum for support in securing funding to make improvements at the site.

It was noted that in future when the Forum offers support for a project, the way it is worded should be carefully considered.

**ACTION 1111.01: Sue C** – generate local interest in the issue (families with pushchairs, disabled users), draft a press release highlighting that the bridge is not accessible for all users.

**List of Streets (action 0711.04)** – Sue C noted that seeking clarity on the List of Streets would be a useful project for the Forum to take forward, and it could feed into the proposed Highways sub-group. David A confirmed that this could be considered as part of the workshop session under item 7.

**4. COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION 2011**

Hampshire County Council’s Area Countryside Access Managers (ACAMs) were invited to outline key achievements against the Countryside Access Plans (CAPs) in 2011, including use of volunteers and relationships that have been developed with landowners.

Phil Allen, Team Leader (Access Management and Countryside Sites), introduced his role and the role of the ACAMs – Sam Jones, Matt Beal and Alison Perry. A map showing the geographic division of the area teams and the names of the Senior Countryside Access Rangers (SCARs - Rob Thompson, Liz Giles, Peter Watson and Simon Marriott) was circulated to members with the meeting papers.

The ACAMs have responsibility for managing the ranger team, managing contractors, enforcement, implementation and development of the Small Grants Scheme. Phil also announced that a recent development has been a move towards more consistent working across the areas, this has been facilitated through the adoption of a new management information system, CAMS (Countryside Access Management System).

Phil introduced the CAP Network Development layer, an aspirational network to be implemented as and when opportunities arise.

He acknowledged the lack of progress in reconvening the Forest of Bere working group, and assured the Forum that this will be addressed.
Northern Area – incorporating Basingstoke and Deane, Hart, Rushmoor
Matt Beal, Area Countryside Access Manager, noted some examples of key projects in the Northern Area, all in direct response to the CAPs, s106 developer funding and involvement in town access plans. Progress has also been made in identifying multi-user routes, and engaging with user groups. He hopes to build on this in the coming year.

- Working with the landowner of a farm in Rotherwick, a right of way across farm land was confirmed and redefined. This included improved signage on the farm to prevent use of the unofficial routes that had been created in the area, causing damage to crops.
- A partnership project between HCC, Basingstoke and Deane BC and the Manydown Estate, has seen the provision of a new multi-user route, creating safe access between Oakley and Basingstoke (to be officially launched on 1st December). This has been facilitated through permissive access by the Manydown Estate.
- The team is working with Parish Councils to work out the priority cutting list for the area. Maps have been sent to Parish Councils with proposed routes for cutting to check they meet local needs.
- The area is continuing to work on the stiles to gates project – an example of this is on Hook FPs 10 and 12. Here the new landowner contacted the Team for assistance improving access on his land. Four medium mobility kissing gates were supplied to the landowner to replace stiles currently in place. This also allowed the opportunity to make minor realignments to the FP.
- The team has been inspecting bridges and performing repairs where possible – an example of this is on Bramley FP 702 where two ‘bridges’ over ditch crossings consisted of rotten railway sleepers. The ditch was cleared, the bank shored and two new bridges with handrails installed. The approaches to the bridges were also improved.
- Working in partnership with the Parish Council, user groups, the Police and HCAF, signage was developed for the Harroway (Overton BOAT 23), to promote responsible use of the route.

Central Area – incorporating Test Valley, Winchester, East Hants
Alison Perry, Area Countryside Access Manager, noted some key achievements in the Central Area:

- Improvements have been completed on Cradle Lane (Kingsley BOAT 29 and Headley BOAT 36), part of the Shipwrights Way.
- A stiles to gates project is underway in conjunction with the South Downs National Park Authority, to provide improved access to areas of access land (Butser Hill and Charlton Down).
- Volunteers are assisting with the ongoing maintenance of the Meon Valley Trail. BTCV perform practical work every two months and the South Downs NPA volunteers also assist on the route. The medium term aspiration for this route is to make it a gateway to the National Park.
- The Itchen Navigation Heritage Trail Project is an HLF funded project with HCC working in partnership with the District Councils, the Environment Agency, Natural England, The Inland Waterways Association and Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, for conservation and access improvements to and along the navigation. Some major engineering and tree works have been undertaken and some further works to reopen a section of path at Hockley that had become dangerous to pass. To complete the works at Hockley a monorail system was used. This allowed minimal disturbance to the sensitive river, navigation and water meadows (all designated as a SSSI).
- On Houghton FP 6, the dilapidated bridge was replaced with a wider version and the approaches improved and resurfaced to make it more accessible.
- Making use of capital money, the team was able to resurface the entire length of West Tytherley BOAT 22, near the Wiltshire border, making it suitable for use by all legitimate users.

Southern Area – incorporating New Forest, Easleight, Fareham, Gosport, Havant
Sam Jones, Area Countryside Access Manager, reported on key achievements in the Southern Area. He noted that he would primarily be reporting on progress in the Solent area as progress in the New Forest is reported to the New Forest Access Forum.

- Good progress is being made with the New Forest CAP, with the working group (New Forest Access Forum) helping to identify and deliver aspirations. Resources in the area are being pooled to deliver projects.
• There has been significant progress with the Solent working group, the last meeting on 7th October identified aspirations across the area, refined this through discussion and established a feasibility study against aspirational projects.
  o 32 of the 51 prioritised projects have been identified at the highest level and are to be taken forward for implementation. The lower priority projects will still be implemented on the ground if opportunities arise.
  o The group is also looking to see how members of the working group can take projects forward themselves. This is first being piloted with CAP group member Greer Jones.
• Over the past year, 27 projects have been delivered, these range from locally important to strategic routes. These have been delivered working with partners such as district, borough and Parish Councils.
• An example of a project implemented this year is the Leigh Park multi-user route (Havant Bridleway 120), part of the Warren Community Project. The improvements to this bridleway provide a key link for multi-user access, connecting the existing bridleway/cycle routes. In addition to the surface works, the culvert crossing, which is situated approximately mid-way along the bridleway, has also been improved by Portsmouth City Council.

5. ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2011

A draft annual report had been circulated for comment, an amendment to the wording of the Highways section was noted.

ACTION 1111.02: Amanda – finalise the report, circulate and display on the Forum’s web-pages.

6. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

David Ashcroft was confirmed as Chair, and Patrick Manuel confirmed as Vice-Chair for 2012. Both were thanked for their work to date and for offering to remain in post for a second year.

7. WORKSHOP

Last year the Forum agreed the 3-5 year forward plan. At its last meeting the Forum identified a need to prioritise the forward plan to ensure the Forum is focussed and effective.

The Forum was split into three groups, each facilitated by an ACAM. Each group was asked to prioritise the forward plan and pick out five key priorities that they would like to be taken forward to the Forum’s work programme for 2012.

Following the workshop session, the ACAMs fed back the key priorities chosen by the group:

Group 1 (facilitated by Alison Perry)
  • CAP Implementation - provide a representative to each CAP working group
  • Promote opportunities to improve access through local communities - promote Small Grants Scheme, review as needed and advise on specific applications
  • Help to develop new and improved policies and guidance for multi-user routes
  • Influence behaviour in the countryside - provide advice and guidance to site owners/managers on techniques to influence behaviour
  • Other - develop sub-group to explore Highways & List of Streets (legal status of routes on LoS is unclear)

Group 2 (facilitated by Matt Beal)
  • Influence government policy and future legislation - provide advice and guidance to HCC/PCC/SCC
  • Promote opportunities to improve access through local communities – develop volunteer groups with local communities
  • Help to develop new and improved countryside policies and guidance for multi-user routes
  • Work with & support land owners, managers, tenants & occupiers to encourage access to the countryside - provide information and education
• *Influence behaviour in the countryside* - sponsor/develop codes of conduct and education material for countryside users

• *Seek out sponsor new opportunities for all types of access* - define innovative ‘multi-user’ potential project(s) and research innovative funding

**Group 3 (facilitated by Sam Jones)**

• *CAP Implementation* - provide advice & guidance on **strategic** means of implementation, advise on definition of implementation process.

• *Promote opportunities to improve access through local communities* - assist in defining, preparing and promoting guidance to Town & Parish Councils and other community groups

• *Help to develop new and improved countryside policies and guidance* - communication between users and area officers

• *Influence behaviour in the Countryside* - advise on delivery of education to where needed (e.g. CLA/NFU/RDS)

• *Seek out sponsor new opportunities for all types of access* - define innovative ‘multi-user’ potential project(s) and research innovative funding

It was noted that although these priorities had been chosen, it was still important to ensure no item is dropped off of the plan for the Forum. David assured the Forum that although the work programme for 2012 would be based on the discussions today, the work programmes will be flexible.

**ACTION 1111.03: David A/Patrick M** – finalise forward plan for 2012 and circulate for approval.

**8. FORUM OFFICER’S REPORT**

Questions were invited and updates provided on matters relating to the Forum Officers report.

• *Small Grants Scheme* – it was questioned what the budget for the Small Grants Scheme would be next year. Andy Smith confirmed that the budget would be similar to the budget this year, however it is expected to take a small cut, as all grant budgets are being cut in the next financial year.

• *Meeting dates for 2012* – it was noted that the proposed date in May would be unsuitable as it clashes with the elections. Amanda agreed to circulate new dates via email.

**ACTION 1111.04: Amanda** – circulate revised Forum meeting dates for 2012.

• *Cross Forum Liaison* – it was reported that the date for the Wiltshire LAF meeting has changed to 29\(^{th}\) February. The date for the next Mid and West Berks LAF meeting was announced as being the 18\(^{th}\) January in Reading. Amanda agreed to circulate meetings papers and details when available. Forum members were urged to inform Amanda if they would like to volunteer to attend any neighbouring LAF meetings.

• *LAF update*
  - Funding for the post of regional coordinator will not continue next year, however the current co-ordinator, Jonathan Clark, has agreed to continue collating and forwarding relevant useful information for LAF officers to pass on. Martin Gilchrist will be the main point of contact with Natural England (NE) and Defra.
  - The LAF conference will be main vehicle for receiving feedback on the Richard Benyon ‘improving communication between LAFs and Government’ consultation. LAFs should receive an invite letter to the conference shortly.
  - Huddle, the new online workspace for LAFs, will be rolled out after the conference. Martin Gilchrist was not able to make this meeting but has agreed to do a demo of it at the February meeting. Following this demo, the Forum can discuss whether anyone would like to volunteer to be the main HCAF user on this site.
Consultation round-up – the Department for Transport Traffic Regulation Order consultation is still not out, Amanda will circulate details when available.

Bid to Local Sustainable Transport Fund – the draft bid is to be made available in the week beginning 5th December, it will then be circulated to Forum members for comment.

9. REPORTS FROM OTHER LAFs

New Forest Access Forum
John Cropp from the New Forest LAF reported on the recent work of the Forum. Minutes of the last meeting were circulated with the agenda.

- Village Greens consultation – the Forum responded to this consultation in general disagreement with many of the proposals including the character test and that the land must be open and unenclosed. They did however agree that there was a need to sift vexatious applications.

- Forestry Commission Recreation Site Assessments – the Forum had been asked for comment on future site assessments including maintenance and improvement of the visitor experience. The majority of assessments are for car parks (104).

- Informing the public about site works – a number of complaints had been received about the lack of advance notice for Forestry Commission car park closures. The Forum advised that the Forestry Commission look into developing a procedure for advanced notification, including consistent newspaper articles.

- Recreation Management Strategy – a Forum member sits on this working group. It is currently looking into a local definition of tranquility and erosion studies.

John also noted, for interest, that the National Trust had recently acquired the Foxbury Plantation. This has huge potential for access for all users.

South Downs Local Access Forum (SDLAF)
Minutes of the last meeting were circulated with the agenda. David A noted particular items of interest.

- Hampshire Roamability - David Livermore attended the meeting to push for access improvements for trampers across the whole National Park area. In particular he noted that standard kissing gates are not wide enough for trampers. They will be looking to make the South Downs Way their main route to be an exemplar across the Park.

- PATHH – David A noted that SDLAF members did not appear to be clear about the background and purpose of PATHH. It was suggested that the document prepared by Sue C for new HCAF members, should also be circulated to the SDLAF.

ACTION 1111.05: Amanda – forward PATHH briefing to Tim Squire to circulate to SDLAF members.

- South Downs CAP – Alison Perry attended the SDLAF meeting to discuss how it could be involved in CAP delivery. It was agreed that Tim Squire and members of the LAF should sit on the CAP working group. It was confirmed that HCC, as the Highway Authority, is still responsible for the delivery of the CAP in the South Downs area and HCC is happy for continued involvement from HCAF in issues relating to access in the South Downs National Park.

- Byways – the National Park Authority (NPA) has powers to put blanket TROs on all BOATS in the NPA area. It was noted that HCC and the NPA will have to work closely if this is proposed, and one will need to have the support of the other.
Mid and West Berks LAF
Alan T attended a meeting of the Mid and West Berks LAF. It was noted at this meeting of the surprise regarding HCAF’s item at the July meeting, discussing its role and profile, as it was generally considered that HCAF has a high profile. An item was held on its own role and profile. In particular it was noted that planning authorities in its area had no awareness of Rights of Way Improvement Plans (ROWIPs).

West Sussex LAF
Amanda reported that Sue Montila had attended the West Sussex LAF meeting on 2nd November. She had asked that some key points be shared with the Forum. Similar to HCAF, the Forum had been talking about how to raise its profile. They discussed producing an A5 undated promotional document that is easy for members to carry and hand out, as well as name badges and business cards for Forum members. It was also discussed that a letter be sent to all lead council members and members of the planning committee with a copy of the Defra circular ‘Rights of Way Guidance for Local Authorities’ (published in 2009).

10. LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP (LNP)

One of the key initiatives announced in the Natural Environment White Paper, published on 7 June 2011, was the establishment of Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs) – ‘strategic partnerships of organisations that work to create a shared vision for their area and deliver better, more integrated, environmental outcomes’.

The Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HWT) is leading on the formation of a Local Nature Partnership for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. In July 2011, the Forum was invited to express interest in becoming a partner. ‘In principle’ support was given, and on 27th September Frank Pearson attended a workshop on behalf of the Forum. This was an opportunity for potential partners to discuss what functions the LNP could perform and to scope the details of a bid to the Local Nature Partnership Fund to support capacity building work. The final bid was circulated to Forum members with the agenda.

Frank provided an overview of the workshop and shared his thoughts on the LNP. He introduced various background documents (including the Natural Environment White Paper, Think Big, a Minerals and Waste document, National Planning Policy) leading to the notion of LNPs. In all of these documents it was difficult to see any reference to access to the countryside or the CROW Act (although there is mention of health and well-being).

Frank sees it necessary to look at what is implied in the Natural Environment White Paper from a health and well-being and tourism point of view. It does not talk about management but does talk about educated access to the countryside. The LNP will be looking to develop a shared environmental vision and this will include issues that could affect access. As such Frank recommended that the Forum should be involved in the LNP.

Concern was raised about what the partnership could achieve and it was queried how the Forum would make its voice heard if it is part of the partnership.

Jo Hatton stated that she had also attended the meeting on behalf of Hampshire Country Learning and understood the LNP to be an umbrella organisation, to come up with strategies that could benefit as many people as possible.

Andy Smith noted that it may be a body through which external funding comes into the County, so it will be important for the right people to be involved to ensure the right priorities are set for the LNP and ensure access is on agenda. Protecting the countryside is also about getting people to enjoy it.

It was generally felt that there is a danger that if the Forum is not present on the LNP, its voice will not be heard. It was agreed that the Forum could not afford to not be involved, however there was still some doubt among members as to what could be achieved.

A vote was held to decide whether or not the Forum should be involved – it was unanimously agreed that the Forum should be involved.
Frank Pearson agreed to be the main contact on behalf of the Forum. He noted however that he may have other commitments next year and that a deputy should also be appointed. Jo Hatton agreed to represent the Forum in Frank’s absence.

It was noted that a bid had also been submitted for an LNP for the PUSH area. It was suggested that only one bid might be likely to succeed and that the Forum should lend its support to whichever is successful. Amanda noted that a decision is expected from Defra in late December/early January.

11. SOLUTIONS FOR BOATs

At the April meeting of the Forum, concern was raised about a number of problems on Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs). Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs), as they have traditionally been used in Hampshire, although legally enforceable, were not considered to be suitable in all cases due to the lack of flexibility. Voluntary restraints can be successful but they rely on the cooperation of users and are not legally enforceable. The Forum requested that Hampshire County Council (HCC) look into more flexible mechanisms that could be applied. At the July meeting of the Forum, HCC presented examples of the flexible application of TROs in other parts of the country (Discretionary TROs and TROs with a permit system). A paper summarising these options was circulated with the agenda. The Forum welcomed the examples, acknowledging that they are both positive as they do not involve a complete ban. It was noted that for sensitive routes the Permit System would be beneficial as it would also allow volume of use to be controlled, however in general the Discretionary TRO was preferred. The Chair was now keen that some formal advice be issued to the County Council.

It was queried about the current situation with Cradle Lane. The Forum had visited Cradle Lane at the July meeting and it was understood that it was the subject of a staged reopening to all users. It has subsequently come to the attention of the Forum that HCC is consulting on banning all vehicular traffic. Concern was expressed that the TRO policy that HCAF had spent some time developing, is not being implemented or carried out in a clear way. It was queried whether the Policy is being fully adhered to in all cases.

Nigel assured members that the policy is being followed in these cases, including Cradle Lane. Options had been developed, an appraisal of options performed, and a recommendation of these options put to the Executive Member for a decision.

Patrick expressed concern about the consultation process. Others shared concern that the consultations for at least the previous two TRO consultations (Cradle Lane and Langrish) had not reached user groups via the appropriate channels. It was requested that the list of consultees be checked. Nigel confirmed that he would find out who had been sent details of the recent consultations and circulate to all.

Patrick re-emphasised that he is against illegal and irresponsible use, and supports the need for education and prosecution. He did however express concern that there are currently 47 byways across the county that are covered by TROs. He queried whether these had been reviewed, in line with the policy. If not, he would like to see what advice the Forum can give to HCC.

With regards to completing the review process, Nigel confirmed that HCC is aware that the policy has not been fully adhered to and there has been no formal process set up for conducting the reviews. However, the TROs have been reviewed informally as issues have come up on the routes. Nigel reported that the Service is currently developing a formal methodology for undertaking a review of all TROs – this includes collating information about the original reason for the TRO, so they can be approached in a systematic way. This will be put on the website so all are aware how and when these reviews will take place.

David A was keen that the Forum issue some advice to HCC on this matter. Conscious that the issue needed sufficient time to explore the options and develop appropriate advice, it was suggested that a sub-group meet to progress this, a solution will then be circulated to the Forum to endorse. David A, Patrick, Jim, Alan M and Sue C volunteered to join this sub-group.

**ACTION 1111.06: HCC – circulate consultation list for TROs.**
ACTION 1111.07: David A, Patrick, Jim, Alan M, Sue C – meet to formulate advice on solutions for BOATs.

12. PATHH: PROVIDING ACCESS TO HAMPSHIRE’S HERITAGE

A project briefing document prepared by Sue Coles, Project Coordinator, had been circulated to all Forum members. This provided some background to the project and progress to date. The minutes of the recent Steering Committee meeting were also circulated with the agenda. Questions and comments were invited.

Sue C reported that a sub-group to the Steering Committee had met to discuss how the final output will be dealt with. A procedure had been discussed however there was still a degree of uncertainty about some aspects of this.

David A noted that he had attended the national British Horse Society conference to give a presentation about the project. It was well received by all. Sue C also noted that she had had considerable interest from other LAFs.

Sue C reported that one more of the routes from the pilot project, Discovering Hampshire’s Lost Ways, had been approved and is now ready to go on the Definitive Map as a restricted byway.

It was reported that the PATHH Steering Committee currently has two vacancies for HCAF members. Members were invited to contact Sue C or Alan M for more information.

NEXT MEETING: 28 February 2011

Meeting closed at 3.30pm

Minutes by: Amanda Hull (01962 847165)