

# Shropshire Local Access Forum

9 July 2009

**To: All Members of the Local Access Forum**

A meeting of the **SHROPSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM** will be held at **10.00 am** on **FRIDAY, 17 JULY 2009**, in the **CRAVEN ARMS COMMUNITY CENTRE, NEWINGTON WAY, CRAVEN ARMS.**

Please find the agenda attached.

David Wise  
Secretary to the Forum

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## Members of the Forum

<b>Name</b>	<b>Fields of Interest</b>
Mrs Caroline Bedell (Vice-Chair)	Landowner
Mr Stephen Bell	Walking/Conservation Wildlife/Disabled Access
Mr Gareth Boxley	Motorised vehicular use/Conservation Wildlife/Disabled Access
Mr Chris Chillingworth	Walking/Voluntary Activities/Community
Mr Richard Cotham	Landowner/Conservation Wildlife/Walking
Mr David Cowell	Landowner/Conservation Wildlife/Tourism
Mr Bob Hill	Conservation Wildlife/Voluntary Activities/ Landowning
Mrs Jane Ing	Conservation Wildlife/Walking
Mr Clive Leworthy	Local community/ Walking/Tourism
Dr Jane Morris	Conservation/Wildlife/ Walking/ Disabled access
Mr Dennis Nisbet	Walking/Conservation Wildlife/Voluntary activities
Mr Roger Plowden	Landowner/Conservation Wildlife/Farming
Ms Sula Rayska (Chair)	Tourism/Countryside Voluntary Activity/Walking
Mrs Zia Robins	Horse riding
Mr David Shelley	Walking/Conservation Wildlife/Tourism
Mr Mark Weston	Horseriding/Carriage Driving/Voluntary Activities

# **Shropshire Local Access Forum**

**Friday 17 July 2009 - 10.00 am – 12.30pm  
at Craven Arms Community Centre**

## **AGENDA**

### **1. Election of Chair**

Sula Rayska has indicated that she would be happy to remain as Chair for a second year.

### **2. Apologies for absence and welcome**

Please ensure you sign the attendance record. Could members also check their contact details against the list sent with this agenda.

Jim Stabler has been appointed Access Development Officer, in succession to Karen Wilson.

Shropshire Council's Outside Bodies Working Group will be considering member appointments to a large number of outside organizations at their meeting on 15 July 2009.

### **3. Election of Vice-Chair**

Caroline Bedell has indicated that she would be happy to remain as Vice-Chair for a second year.

### **4. Declarations of Interest**

### **5. Minutes**

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on 30 April 2009 (attached marked: A)

### **6. Public Question time**

To receive any questions, statements or petitions of which notice has been received from members of the public.

**7. Permissive Access: Environmental Stewardship Higher Level Schemes**

Mrs Evelyn Stabler, Natural England, will give a talk on the operation of permissive access schemes.

**8. Countryside Access Team Plan**

An oral report will be made by Deb Hughes, Countryside Access Manager.

**9. Delegation processes**

As requested at the last meeting, information is provided (attached marked: B ) on the exercise of Shropshire Council's regulatory functions relating to public rights of way as set out in Schedule 1 of the Local Authorities (Functions and responsibilities ) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) and the matters delegated to the Countryside Access Manager.

Shona Lewis, Access Mapping Team Leader, will be pleased to answer any questions.

**10. The Long-term Role of the Forestry Commission Public Forest Estate in England: Consultation.**

Consultation on the long term role of the Public Forest Estate in England was launched on 6 July 2009 and will finish on 28 September 2009. A copy of the summary is attached marked: C. The consultation document may be downloaded at <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/england-estatestudy> and there is an online response form.

Regional meetings are being held to support discussion on the issues raised by the consultation, and to encourage written responses. A meeting will be held at Hatherton Country House Hotel, Pinfold Lane, Penkridge Staffordshire on 9 September 2009 .

**11. Dog walkers and cattle and calves**

Caroline Bedell has asked what support messages the Forum can give farmers with concerns regarding cows and calves and dog walkers following recent well publicized incidents involving the public and cattle.

Guidance notes from the Shropshire Council website and an HSE Leaflet are attached: marked: D.

## **12. Feedback from other Forums and items for noting**

The following minutes/papers are provided as updates for members:

Minutes of Shropshire Riders and Carriage Drivers Groups held on 23 February 2009, (attached marked: E)

Minutes of the Byways Liaison Group meeting held on 25 March 2009 (attached marked: F)

Access newsletter issue No. 39 (attached marked: G)

DEFRA letter from Huw Irranca-Davies MP (Minister for Marine and Natural Environment, Wildlife and Rural Affairs dated 28 May 2009 (attached marked: H)

DEFRA letter containing amendments to Secretary of State's guidance on Local Access Forums dated 28 May 2009 (attached marked: I)

Natural England have been asked to provide documentation on the following matters set out in the minutes of the England Access Forum held on 11 March 2009:

- A summary of the legal basis for gating orders to be disseminated to LAFs
- Local Area Agreement paper to be disseminated to LAFs
- The recent response from the Highways Agency on Rights of Way and Trunk Road improvements be shared with the Suffolk LAF and the main points be passed to other LAFs
- The Diversity and Equality presentation be disseminated to LAFs

## **13. Shropshire Riding Website**

Jim Stabler will give a demonstration of this website: [www.shropshire-riding.co.uk](http://www.shropshire-riding.co.uk) at the meeting.

## **14. Items for next agenda**

Country Parks and sites

Members are asked to suggest other agenda items for the next meeting on 20 October 2009.

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Following lunch members are invited to a tour of the exhibition at the Discovery Centre which gives a geological history of the Shropshire Hills.