

Shropshire Local Access Forum

14 January 2011

To: All Members of the Local Access Forum

A meeting of the **SHROPSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM** will be held at **10.00 A.M.** on **MONDAY 24 JANUARY 2011** in the **SHREWSBURY ROOM** at **THE SHIREHALL, ABBEY FOREGATE, SHREWSBURY**

Please find the agenda attached.

David Wise
Secretary to the Forum

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Members of the Forum

Name	Fields of Interest
Mrs Jane Ing (Chair)	Conservation Wildlife/Walking
Mr Mark Weston (Vice-Chair)	Horseriding/Carriage Driving/Voluntary Activities
Mr Stephen Bell	Walking/Conservation Wildlife/Disabled Access
Mr Gareth Boxley	Motorised vehicular use/Conservation Wildlife/Disabled Access
Mr Steve Charmley	Shropshire Councillor
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
Mr Clive Leworthy	Local community/ Walking/Tourism
Mr Stuart Morgan	Walking /Tourism/route design and application
Dr Jane Morris	Conservation/Wildlife/ Walking/ Disabled access
Mr Mike Owen	Shropshire Councillor
Mrs Alison Parker	Walking/Conservation wildlife/local community
Mr Roger Plowden	Landowner/Conservation Wildlife/Farming
Ms Sula Rayska	Tourism/Countryside Voluntary Activity/Walking
Mrs Zia Robins	Horse riding

Shropshire Local Access Forum

Monday 24 January 2011 - 10.00 am

AGENDA

1. David Shelley

Members are requested to stand for a minute's silence in memory of David Shelley, who sadly died on 5 December 2010.

2. Apologies for absence

Please ensure you sign the attendance record.

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Minutes and any matters arising

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting held on 21 October 2010 (attached marked: A)

5. Public Question Time

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

6. Bus Strategy for Shropshire 2011- 2016 – Consultation

Shropshire Council are facing difficult decisions in the short and medium term, as financial pressures increase on the budget for the provision of supported local bus services. This will affect the delivery and sustainability of bus services in all areas of the county. Shropshire Council must ensure that the money which is available is targeted at bus services which are essential in enabling people to go about their daily lives.

Shropshire Council are consulting with people across Shropshire during January to March 2011 about proposed changes to local bus services. These changes will be laid out in the Bus Strategy for Shropshire Council 2011 – 2016.

A presentation will be made by Jonathan Hayes, Principal Transport Officer.

7. Local Transport Plan (LTP3)

The bus strategy forms part of the Local Transport Plan, which was the subject of a presentation at the last meeting from Jan Cook. A survey on priorities can be undertaken on line at

<http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/transportconsultation>

8. The Sale of the Public Forest Estate in England

Report attached marked: B

9. Shropshire Council budget 2011/12 and organisational changes

Verbal update by Neil Willcox, Head of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation

10. Natural England Organisational changes

Jonathan Felton, Senior Specialist for Access and Recreation, Natural England will make an oral report.

11. Open Space, Sport & Recreation Planning Guidance

Shropshire Council have adopted county wide Interim Planning Guidance (IPG) pending the development of new policies as part of the Council's Local Development Framework (LDF). The purpose of the Interim Planning Guidance is to address the inconsistency and uncertainty which arose from the different policy approaches in 'saved' Local Plans which all contain policies which require developer contributions towards public open space. The IPG will apply a standard tariff, in the interests of consistency and fairness, and then tailor it to meet local needs.

It will provide consistent and more up to date and locally sensitive advice concerning the calculation of open space and recreation provision to be provided as part of new developments, following the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study which recognised areas of deficiency in types of open spaces across all areas of Shropshire.

Mark Blount, Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Manager, will provide further details at the meeting including future changes on the horizon.

12. Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Project

A report will be made by Lisa Barlow, of the Shropshire Wildlife Trust, on the conservation of the natural and historic environment within the Meres and Mosses area.

13. Shropshire Walking Forum

An update on changes to the remit and membership of the Walking Forum will be made by Alison Parker.

14. Rights of Way Condition Survey

Presentation by Richard Knight, Access Maintenance Team Leader.

15. Sustainable Tourism Strategy for the Shropshire Hills

A report by Phil Holden, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Manager on the Sustainable Tourism Strategy for the Shropshire Hills, currently being prepared, is attached marked: C

16. Update on Shropshire Way and other matters

Report by Jim Stabler, Access Development Officer (attached marked: D)

17. LAF Members' Handbook

Three copies of the draft handbook have been produced by Jim Stabler for the Chair, Jane Ing to distribute for comments.

18. Changes to Higher Level Stewardship payments for permissive and educational access options

In December representations were made to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs by Jane Ing, on behalf of the Forum, against the decision that future Higher Level Stewardship schemes will no longer include payments for permissive and educational access, other than grants for capital works. These representations were also copied to Shropshire MPs. A copy of a response from DEFRA dated 4 January 2011 is attached marked: E

19. Grassroots Natural England consultation

Oral report by Jane Ing.

20. Feedback from other Forums and items for noting.

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

Byways Liaison Group Minutes of 16 September 2010 (attached marked: F)

Shropshire Cycle Forum Minutes of 7 December 2010 (attached marked: G)

Access newsletter issue No. 47 (attached marked: H)

21. Items for next agenda

Members are asked to suggest agenda items for the next meeting on Wednesday 27 April 2011.

Jan Cook has agreed to attend the next meeting to talk about Quiet Lanes and give an update on the Local Transport Plan.

22. Future meetings

Possible dates for 2011/12 starting at 10.00 a.m. are as follows:

Wednesday 15 July 2010

Thursday 21 October 2011

Monday 23 January 2012

Tuesday 1 May 2012

It is suggested that an away day should be held at Ellesmere.