

## **Item 5 – Providing Access To Hampshire's Heritage (PATHH)**

The PATHH project report and completion report was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) in December 2012. Both reports were accepted by HLF and the remaining 10% of the funding has been paid to the Hampshire Countryside Access Forum (HCAF). This marks the end of the HLF funded PATHH project. The Steering Committee met for the last time in February 2013.

### **Education**

The educational element of the PATHH project, delivering workshops to schools, was hugely successful. In total the workshop was delivered in 13 schools (6 within the New Forest catchment area), to 29 classes (approximately 820 children). A resource pack for schools has also been produced to allow the workshop to be delivered by teachers. At its February meeting HCAF discussed the potential to continue the educational element of the project, potentially with a broader remit than initially covered through the PATHH project and in partnership with other relevant organisations (e.g. Hampshire Country Learning). HCAF members with relevant experience reviewed the PATHH resource pack and agreed that the content is good but that its effectiveness could be improved by making it compatible for use with smart boards. A sub-group to HCAF is looking at options to take this forward.

A copy of the education pack is available on the website: [www.pathh.hwtma.org.uk](http://www.pathh.hwtma.org.uk).

### **Research Output**

The final database of research output takes the form of excel spreadsheets with route grading and digital photographs of the evidence (OS mapping, Tithe, Inclosure and Highway Handover maps). The database has been reviewed by the Area Countryside Access Managers (ACAMs), and Sarah Manchester for routes in the New Forest, who have made comments on the desirability of routes. The output has also undergone an external independent review to determine the likelihood that a route could be added to the Definitive Map on the basis of the evidence to date.

Initial analysis of the results has found that of the total 189 routes with historic evidence (of which 16 were in the NFAF's area), 20 were both identified by the ACAMs as being highly desirable and matched the routes with the greatest historical evidence as identified in the independent review. Only one of these 20 is in the NFAF's area. It was agreed at the final Steering Committee meeting that these 20 routes should be looked at in the first instance. The remaining routes identified as having high desirability and some historic evidence (but not as strong as the 20 routes) should be revisited in the future.

The aim of PATHH was to look at the Countryside Access Plan aspirations and identify evidence that would allow new or upgraded routes to be added to the Definitive Map. The PATHH project has met this aim in full. At its February meeting HCAF agreed that it should continue its involvement in the project and that a sub-group should be formed to look at the most effective way of progressing the research output.

### **Further Work**

The first meeting of the new sub-group was held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2013. Membership of the sub-group was agreed to be: David Ashcroft (landowner), Mark Maclay (landowner), Nigel Wolstenholme (landowner), Alan Marlow and Sue Coles (HCAF); Ruth Croker (NFAF); Emma Noyce and Sam Jones (HCC). Alan Marlow was appointed Chair.

It was suggested that initially one case should be progressed as a pilot. The case chosen (in Test Valley) is currently the subject of a diversion request, and there is evidence for higher rights along the route. This will be progressed by arranging a meeting with the landowner, investigating who made the original request and deciding who will submit the claim for a Definitive Map Modification Order.

**The New Forest Access Forum is asked to support this work in principle. The sub-group will consult the New Forest Access Forum in more detail before progressing any cases in the New Forest Access Forum's area.**