

## NEW FOREST ACCESS FORUM

**Meeting:** *Monday 07 March 2016*

**Agenda item 4:** *Forum Officer's report*

### 1. Future meeting dates

These are now confirmed as follows (all on the first Monday of the month):

7 March – Ferny Crofts

6 June – Calshot

5 September – Lymington Community Centre

5 December - Hythe

### 2. Hampshire County Council update

- **HCC staffing** – Jonathan Woods joined us in January from Central Bedfordshire Countryside Service, taking over the role of Access Team Leader. Emma Noyce is leaving the Countryside Service at the end of February to take up a new post with the Library Service – a well deserved promotion for someone who has achieved a great deal during her time with us and we wish her well, though she will be sorely missed! A new Community Engagement Ranger has now joined each of the 3 Area Teams – the CER for the Southern Area Access Team is Natalie Hands.
- **Hampshire Countryside Access Plan 2015-25** – printed copies were sent out to all Forum members before Christmas – please let Petronella know if you have not received yours. Jonathan Woods will be talking further about CAP implementation under item 6. A new flier has been produced to promote awareness of the CAP. Paper copies will be available at the meeting and electronically, if required.

### 3. LAF update

- **National LAF conference** – takes place in Bristol on Tuesday 23 February. Ruth Croker is attending and will provide an update at the meeting.
- **LAF 2014-15 National Annual Report** has been submitted to Defra. This report summarises the work of Local Access Forums (LAFs) to improve access for all covering the financial year 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015, based on Annual Review/Report forms submitted by 86% of LAFs last June. The report is available to download from Huddle; an electronic copy is also being circulated with the Agenda and papers for 7 March.

### 4. Other

- **The Hampshire Walking Strategy** was approved by the Executive Member for Economy, Transport and the Environment in January
- **Changes at Sustrans** – Sustrans is reorganising to move from eight English regions to three geographical teams: North, Midlands and South. Ian Barrett (formerly Regional Director for the South West) has been appointed as the new England Director South.