

## NEW FOREST ACCESS FORUM

**Meeting:** Monday 01 June 2015

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

### 1. HCC update

- **Rights of way problem reporting** – a new problem reporting system is being launched on the Hampshire County Council website. This will take the form of an interactive map which can be used to: 1) view existing problems and furniture (e.g. stiles and gates), request an update or add comments; 2) report problems found on rights of way, submit photographs, receive confirmation emails and updates; 3) review reports you have made and check their status; 4) track a problem. This new system will replace all current online methods for rights of way problem reporting. A link will be sent to members when the system is live and comments will be welcomed.
- **Rights of way online mapping** – following a request by the Hampshire Countryside Access Forum, the rights of way online mapping has now been updated to include the road network, including unclassified ('u') roads. This was requested as not all 'u' roads, specifically adopted, unmetalled roads, are present on OS mapping (some are present as Other Routes with Public Access (ORPA's)) and there was concern that non-motorised users in particular would be unaware of this important access resource. [View the online mapping.](#)

### 2. LAF update

- **South East LAF update** – the future of the SELAF was briefly discussed at the recent conference and it was agreed that there is value in continuing to meet as a group (i.e. Chairs meetings and an annual conference). A SELAF Officers meeting will be held in September with a view to discussing how this can be facilitated.
- **Huddle** – an online workspace for LAFs across the country to share information, good practice and to seek advice on particular issues. The workspace is managed by Natural England and they use it as their primary method of sharing information with LAFs. An email has been sent to all members with joining instructions and a user guide.
- **LAF toolkit** - a collection of information, advice and links for LAFs on a range of themes is now available on Huddle. Feedback and suggestions for new themes are welcomed.
- **LAF News** – the sixth edition of the [Local Access Forum newsletter](#) published by Natural England is now available. Any ideas for future articles to feature in this publication are welcomed.
- The Natural England area contact for the Forum has now left this post. The interim contact is the Area Team Manager, Fran Davis.

### 3. National update

**Coastal Access** – staff have now been recruited to implement the England Coast Path by the 2020 completion date. The Officer dealing with the stretches in Hampshire has now met with the County Council and it is anticipated that he will attend the September meeting of the Forum to provide an overview of the scheme and seek Forum input.

The England Coast Path stretch map circulated at the last meeting is also available to [view online](#). The stretch covering the New Forest (7. Christchurch to Calshot) has an estimated start of 2015-16.

For reference the approved methodology for the implementation of the England Coast Path is available on the [Natural England website](#).