

## LOW WEALD COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS SUB-FORUM

NOTES OF MEETING  
held at Station House, West Grinstead  
on Thursday 16 October 2008 at 2.00pm

PRESENT: Dave Evans -Chairman Mrs Pam Hurst Ben Rainbow  
Derek Crush Mrs Leila McCormick Alan (Ted) White  
Mrs Mary-Ann Edwards Geoff Perks John Wood Mrs Carol Houston

IN ATTENDANCE: Peter Brown (Chairman CAP for West Sussex)  
Mrs Tricia Butcher (Chairman High Weald CASF)  
Miss Jane Noble (Forum Officer, Rural Operations WSCC)

Peter Brown welcomed those present and stressed the importance of the Sub-Forum's (SF) work. The West Sussex Rights of Way Improvement Plan (WS RWIP) has now been published and the CAP hopes that the local knowledge of the SF's members will enable them to consider such matters as the impact which development plans are likely to have on Rights of Way (RoW), as well as more detailed examination of any perceived problems.

### 1. CHAIRMANSHIP

Dave Evans was warmly accepted as Chairman of the SF. He hopes to have a telephone connected soon.

### 2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUB-FORUM

In addition to the ten members present, it was hoped that Christopher Burke, Marlene Carmen, Darren Rolfe and Peter Tompkins would join the SF for future meetings. Jane Noble mentioned that she would only attend such meetings if specifically invited and available.

### 3. SPECIFIC COMPLAINTS

Several members took the opportunity to rehearse their dissatisfaction with various RoW items which they had previously drawn to the attention of WSCC without result. Mrs Edwards explained that much maintenance and improvement work is being done, while Peter Brown recalled that all RoW are inspected every nine months so that problems can be addressed. After a general exchange the Chairman invited all members to bring details of such complaints to the next meeting from which these could be forwarded to WSCC by the SF. Meanwhile Ben Rainbow invited members to advise him of any current problems.

### 4. RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Jane Noble reported that WSCC and others are already developing some of the projects indicated in the Plan. There are almost 100 Low Weald projects on the list -Ted White pointed out that at least two of these have been completed. The SF is asked to review this list and identify a few local items to be put to the CAP for priority action. Miss Noble indicated that any recommendations should take account of such factors as safety; links with other RoW; local support; physical practicality (eg available width); landowner support (or otherwise); any possible source of funding; possible wider benefits (eg tourism).

Carol Houston drew attention to unanticipated problems such as heavy traffic moving to a new or expanded industrial sites, and Tricia Butcher stressed that people need to be kept informed about such planned developments so that the possible effect on RoW can be considered.

Peter Brown hoped that the SF would go through the list, with any desired additions, at its next couple of meetings and then present to the CAP a short list of recommended achievable projects.

### 5. FURTHER ACTION

Peter Brown mentioned the desirability of building a relationship with Parish Councils (PC) and Jane Noble undertook to note on the list which PCs are concerned with each project. Jane Noble will also circulate the contact details of all members. Tricia Butcher suggested that it would be helpful to split the projects between maintenance and development.

### 6. NEXT MEETING

To be held at Station House, West Grinstead on Tuesday 2 December 2008 at 2.00pm.

Distribution: All Members (14); all those in attendance (3).