

# Public Document Pack



Neuadd y Sir  
Y Rhadyr  
Brynbuga  
NP15 1GA

County Hall  
Rhadyr  
Usk  
NP15 1GA

6<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**Notice of meeting / Hysbysiad o gyfarfod:**

## **Local Access Forum**

**Tuesday, 12th April, 2016 at 1.00 pm,  
Innovation House Magor - Room 6 Innovation House Magor**

### **AGENDA**

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Pages</b>
1.	Apologies for absence	
2.	Declarations of interest	
3.	To confirm and sign the minutes of the Monmouthshire Local Access Forum meeting held 26 January 2016 (copy attached) and to receive any updates	1 - 4
4.	To consider the attached report on the Proposed New M4 Scheme	5 - 6
5.	To consider the attached report on Performance Measures	7 - 8
6.	Future work programme	9 - 10
7.	To confirm the next date for meeting in September 2016	

**Paul Matthews**

**Chief Executive / Prif Weithredwr**

MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
CYNGOR SIR FYNWY

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEE IS AS FOLLOWS:

J. Askew  
J. Barrell  
P. Belsten  
J. Bolwell  
I. Brooke  
P. Cawley  
S. Collard  
R. Davies  
Councillor P.A.D. Hobson  
A. Thomas  
A. Underwood  
Councillor A. Webb

# Aims and Values of Monmouthshire County Council

## Sustainable and Resilient Communities

### Outcomes we are working towards

#### **Nobody Is Left Behind**

- Older people are able to live their good life
- People have access to appropriate and affordable housing
- People have good access and mobility

#### **People Are Confident, Capable and Involved**

- People's lives are not affected by alcohol and drug misuse
- Families are supported
- People feel safe

#### **Our County Thrives**

- Business and enterprise
- People have access to practical and flexible learning
- People protect and enhance the environment

### Our priorities

- Schools
- Protection of vulnerable people
- Supporting Business and Job Creation
- Maintaining locally accessible services

### Our Values

- **Openness:** we aspire to be open and honest to develop trusting relationships.
- **Fairness:** we aspire to provide fair choice, opportunities and experiences and become an organisation built on mutual respect.
- **Flexibility:** we aspire to be flexible in our thinking and action to become an effective and efficient organisation.
- **Teamwork:** we aspire to work together to share our successes and failures by building on our strengths and supporting one another to achieve our goals.

# Nodau a Gwerthoedd Cyngor Sir Fynwy

## Cymunedau Cynaliadwy a Chryf

### Canlyniadau y gweithiwn i'w cyflawni

#### Neb yn cael ei adael ar ôl

- Gall pobl hŷn fyw bywyd da
- Pobl â mynediad i dai addas a fforddiadwy
- Pobl â mynediad a symudedd da

#### Pobl yn hyderus, galluog ac yn cymryd rhan

- Camddefnyddio alcohol a chyffuriau ddim yn effeithio ar fywydau pobl
- Teuluoedd yn cael eu cefnogi
- Pobl yn teimlo'n ddiogel

#### Ein sir yn ffynnu

- Busnes a menter
- Pobl â mynediad i ddysgu ymarferol a hyblyg
- Pobl yn diogelu ac yn cyfoethogi'r amgylchedd

### Ein blaenoriaethau

- Ysgolion
- Diogelu pobl agored i niwed
- Cefnogi busnes a chreu swyddi
- Cynnal gwasanaethau sy'n hygyrch yn lleol

### Ein gwerthoedd

- **Bod yn agored:** anelwn fod yn agored ac onest i ddatblygu perthnasoedd ymddiriedus
- **Tegwch:** anelwn ddarparu dewis teg, cyfleoedd a phrofiadau a dod yn sefydliad a adeiladwyd ar barch un at y llall.
- **Hyblygrwydd:** anelwn fod yn hyblyg yn ein syniadau a'n gweithredoedd i ddod yn sefydliad effeithlon ac effeithiol.
- **Gwaith tîm:** anelwn gydweithio i rannu ein llwyddiannau a'n methiannau drwy adeiladu ar ein cryfderau a chefnogi ein gilydd i gyflawni ein nodau.

# Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

## MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 1:00pm  
The Learning Room, Shire Hall, Usk

### PRESENT:

#### Members:

Mr Richard Davies	Chair	RD
Mrs Joanne Bolwell		JB
Mrs Irene Brook		IB
Mrs Stella Collard		SC
Mrs Anne Underwood		AU

MCC	Mr Matthew Lewis	ML
MCC Highways Network	Mr Paul Keeble	PK
Minute Secretary:	Alan Clarke	AC

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from John Askew, Jenny Barrell, Pat Belsten, Allan Thomas, Cllr Ann Webb and Ruth Rourke

### 2. Introductions

RD welcomed members to the meeting.

### 3. Declarations of Interest

There were no new declarations of interest.

### 4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 were agreed by those present.

### 5. Matters Arising

**M4 Scheme.** ML said he had met with consultants on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Issues raised by the LAF had been broadly agreed. However there were some difficult constraints on footpath routing at Greenmoor Lane and the consultants were going back to the site to look at these. It was expected that formal consultation would commence as planned on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016.

# Monmouthshire

## Local Access Forum

**Mons Lane Care Scheme.** **PK** said letters had gone out to local councils and landowners. One response had been received from a landowner who then had accepted reassurances **JA** had given.

**JA** has carried out risk assessments on the proposed routes and clearance work was now scheduled to commence in March 2016.

**Welsh Government Green Paper.** **ML** said there had been no response to the submissions made. He said it was unlikely that anything further would now happen before the Welsh Government elections in May 2016.

**Active Travel.** Members noted the paper produced by Christian Schmidt. **ML** said a number of options had been proposed and will be assessed by **CS** before submission.

**RD** said it was possible to submit proposals for the integrated network maps up to the deadline of 24<sup>th</sup> September 2017 and encouraged members to think about potential options for submission.

### 6. ROWIP Improvement Plans

Members noted the document produced by **ML**. He said the general view from other authorities was that the Welsh Government proposals would make things more complicated. Meanwhile work continued on the preparation of the review of the Monmouthshire ROWIP.

**ML** said the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority has indicated that, for financial reasons, it was considering withdrawing from the provision of statutory rights of way services. The NPA will be considering this in more detail at a meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016. **ML** said that, if the proposals are agreed, the National Park would not be preparing a ROWIP although it would continue to have a LAF. However responsibility for maintenance of rights of way would revert to the appropriate local authorities. In the case of Monmouthshire, this amounted to an additional 500kms of rights of way. A number of issues would need to be clarified with the National Park and any additional maintenance work would have to be prioritised within Monmouthshire's existing workload.

**RD** suggested that, once firmer decisions had been taken by the National Park, a sub-committee should be formed by the two LAFs to hold further discussions with the National Park.

Members noted the report made by **RR** and the proposed timescale for producing and consulting on the revised LAF. It was agreed that it would be useful to hold drop-in consultation meetings again and to consider taking stands at local shows as well as advertising in local publications. Consultation with user groups should also take place with the production of an information pack which could be easily distributed.

# Monmouthshire

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**IB** said ways should be considered to encourage more people to use the rights of way network. She felt that the production of local A4/A3 maps would help. Many people with eyesight problems had difficulty reading traditional maps when out in the field. Also a growing number of people now lacked good map reading skills.

### 7. LAF Annual Report 2015

Members noted and agreed the LAF Annual Report for 2015. **ML** said he will now publish the LAF with a press release and will use the report when advertising for new LAF members.

### 8. Re-Appointment of LAF

**ML** said he will commence the process of re-appointment of the LAF at the end of February. He will prepare a draft notice and circulate to Members by email for consideration.

Members noted the ongoing lack of representation at the LAF by other statutory authorities, in particular NRW. Members understood that NRW had gone through a period of restructuring but there was now a need to clarify the best way for NRW to engage with the LAF and have a clear means of exchanging information. **ML** said he would try to re-establish the most appropriate lines of communication with NRW following restructuring. **Action: ML**

### 9. Future Work Plan

Members noted the proposed future work plan for the LAF. **ML** said there was a lot of work to consider at the next two meetings prior to the formation of the new LAF in November 2016. He will prioritise the workload for the forthcoming meetings.

**JB** and **SC** left the meeting at 3.30pm.

### 10. Date of Next Meetings

It was agreed that next meetings will be held on:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at 1.00pm & Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 1.00pm.

Venues to be agreed.

The meeting closed at 3.45pm.

Signed as a true record of the proceedings:.....

(Chairman)

Date:.....

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## Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED NEW M4 SCHEME**  
**MEETING: MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**  
**DATE: 12 APRIL 2016**

**AGENDA ITEM: 4**

**1. PURPOSE:**

- 1.1 To further consider the public rights of way issues associated with the proposed new M4 scheme.

**2. RECOMMENDATION:**

- 2.1 The Local Access Forum considers whether it wishes to make any further representations on the public rights of way issues associated with the proposed new M4 scheme.

**3. BACKGROUND:**

- 3.1 The LAF considered the draft proposals in June 2015 and both the LAF and the County Council made representations on the rights of way issues. Further informal discussions have also been held with the design consortium as reported to the last LAF meeting.
- 3.2 The draft orders and Environmental Statement for the proposed new M4 scheme were published by Welsh Government on 10 March 2016. Subject to a decision by the incoming Government as to whether to proceed with the scheme it is envisaged a Public Local Inquiry will be held later in 2016.
- 3.3 Should the LAF wish to make any further representations they have to be made by 4 May 2016.
- 3.4 The draft orders can be viewed at <http://gov.wales/topics/transport/roads/schemes/m4/corridor-around-newport/draft-orders/?lang=en>

The Environmental Statement also addresses Public Rights of Way / Non-Motorised Users – the most relevant documents / plans can be viewed at <http://gov.wales/topics/transport/roads/schemes/m4/corridor-around-newport/environmental-info/all-travellers/?lang=en>

- 3.5 Given the number, volume and complexity of the order plans / supporting documents a summary of the changes proposed will be presented at the meeting together with additional information provided by the design consortium on the construction impacts.

**4. AUTHOR:**

Matthew Lewis, LAF Secretary

# Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

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## Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

**SUBJECT: PERFORMANCE MEASURES**  
**MEETING: MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**  
**DATE: 12 APRIL 2016**

**AGENDA ITEM: 5**

**1. PURPOSE:**

1.1 To consider the public rights of way performance measures

**2. RECOMMENDATION:**

2.1 The Local Access Forum notes the public rights of way performance measures.

**3. BACKGROUND:**

3.1 The current performance measures are as follows (missing Q4 figures which should be available for the meeting):

Indicator	Actual 2012/13	Actual 2013/14	Actual 2014/15	Target 2015/16	Actual 2015/16 Q1	Actual 2015/16 Q2	Actual 2015/16 Q3	Actual 2015/16 Q4	Context/ Comment
Number of volunteer hours (direct volunteers)	4,048	3,196	2,355	2,000	487.5	299	318	tbc	
Number of volunteer hours (indirect volunteers)	n/a	n/a	5,630	6,000	227	339	190	tbc	Incomplete figures (only Friends of Castle Meadows)
Numbers using the Wales Coast Path	26,398	27,354	26,183	26,000	n/a	n/a	tbc	tbc	Note 1: Annual point data at Blackrock Picnic Site, based on WCP counter data. Data available at 6 monthly intervals
Numbers using "tourism trails"	n/a	7,644 (30,971) (1)	5,631 (29,557)	8,000 (30,000)	5,446 (23,651) (2)	n/a	n/a	tbc	Note 1: comparable tourism trails counter data excluding Wentwood (figure in brackets with Wentwood). Data measured annually. Note 2: 12 months to Apr 15 – figures impacted by Forestry works closures
Numbers using Wye Valley Walk	n/a	n/a	n/a	tbc	n/a	n/a	n/a	tbc	New counters to be read to establish baseline.
Number of resolved ROW enforcement issues in year	102	142	115		32	20	2	tbc	
Number of unresolved ROW enforcement issues	941	971	1173		1180	1182	1185	tbc	
Percentage of ROW enforcements	52.21	54.65	50.98	54%	51.44	52.45	52.71	tbc	

# Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

issues resolved (cumulative)									
Number of resolved ROW maintenance issues in year	466	590	321		50	66	33		
Number of unresolved ROW maintenance issues	2385	2393	2607		2706	2836	2819		
Percentage of ROW maintenance issues resolved (cumulative)	62.99	66.02	65.58	65%	64.97	64.19	64.81		

3.2 Further consideration needs to be given to refining the performance measures to more usefully measure performance against the prioritisation system. One option would be to “strip out” the low priority issues which currently mask performance against higher priority issues. The LAFs views would be welcome.

3.3 As a result of ROWIP grant funding additional people counters (using a newer and more accessible technology) have been purchased and installed along both the Usk Valley Walk, Three Castles Walk and on a footbridge at Castle Meadows, Abergavenny to improve our overall information base. It is also intended that counters can be used on a temporary basis to assess the use of paths in association with improvement projects or other issues and counters were installed at Ty Hir, Hendre Bridge and Llangua Bridge.

**4. AUTHOR:**

Matthew Lewis, LAF Secretary

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# Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

**SUBJECT: FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME**

**AGENDA ITEM: 6**

**MEETING: MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM**

**DATE: 12 APRIL 2016**

Item	Background	Reporting Arrangements
<b>Standard Items:</b>		
Performance Measures	Report to 12 April LAF (2015/16 outturn)	Regular report to LAF
Funding	Report to Sept LAF (2015/16 outturn & 2016/17)	Regular report to LAF
Consultations	As required (no further consultations currently on horizon)	Report to LAF
<b>Working Groups:</b>		
Tir Gofal / Glastir Permissive routes	Report as required	Sub Group / Report to LAF
Development/External Funding/Active Travel	Report as required	Sub Group / Report to LAF
<b>Work Programme Items</b>		
Training	As required / New LAF	Training sessions
Green Paper – Legislation Programme	Awaiting response to Green Paper consultation from Welsh Government	Future report to LAF

# Monmouthshire Local Access Forum

Production of Annual Report	Final Report of Current LAF due in November 2016	
Highway Records and Claims	Considering progress being made on reviewing procedures, protocols and records, including Definitive Map Modification Order, List of Street, Highway Records and Definitive Map Records – Propose report to Sept LAF	Background addressed in training / Future report to LAF
Prioritisation System	Reviewed LAF 11 December 2014 and 28 April 2015 and LAF will maintain an overall review of the operation of the prioritisation system – Propose to include in update report to April/May LAF (2015/16 outturn)	Future report to LAF
Volunteering	Update / review – to be agreed	Future report to LAF
Natural Resources Wales	Natural Resources Wales Update	Future report to LAF
Active Travel	Integrated Network Map – to be agreed	Future report to LAF
New M4	Consideration of Draft Orders due to be published 10 March 2016 (To include consideration of sub group if required with Newport LAF)	Report to 13 April LAF
Walking Product & Websites	Consideration and review of current position – to be agreed	Future report to LAF
Rights of Way Improvement Plan	Procedures and timescale for its review – report to January LAF	Future report to LAF