

**1. South Downs Neighbourhood Planning Consultancy**

- 1.1 The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) has launched a Neighbourhood Planning Consultancy Service. Over the past seven years its small team of planners and community development specialists has supported more than 50 Neighbourhood Planning Groups as well as Village Design Statements, Parish Plans and Local Landscape Character Assessments across the National Park, gaining a wealth of experience taking planning into communities. Now the SDNPA is sharing these skills beyond its borders with a new consultancy service offering neighbourhood and community planning support. It plans to offer a bespoke service helping parish councils and local authorities to deliver plans that are sensitive to landscape and village or town character and firmly guided by the needs and aspirations of the community. Find out more on the [SDNPA's Neighbourhood Planning Consultancy pages](#).

**2. West Sussex County Council (WSCC) staff changes**

- 2.1 Charlotte Weller returns to the post of Countryside Services Managers on 1 August following maternity leave. Jo Dixon, who covered this position while Charlotte was off, leaves on 27 July 2018.
- 2.2 Christine Luff, Rights of Way Team Leader Legal Services, retired earlier in the year.

**3. WSCC and SDNPA Joint Minerals Local Plan for West Sussex**

- 3.1 Following public examination hearings during September last year, and a representations period on Proposed Modifications during January – March this year, the Planning Inspector has now issued his Final Report. The Joint Minerals Local Plan has been sound.

**4. G-class highways**

- 4.1 G-class highway is the new term to be used for routes previously referred to as G-roads. Continuing to refer to 'road' increases confusion about these routes, which are primarily used by non-motorised users (NMUs) for leisure purposes. It is agreed within WSCC these routes are of uncertain status and that the surface is publicly maintainable highway; so this term should be used to help make a distinction from the county's road network.

**5. Ordnance Survey – Mapping ORPAs**

- 5.1 Ordnance Survey (OS) shows Other routes with public access (ORPA) on its maps. There was a proposal to review the role and position of ORPAs on the Explorer and Landranger paper maps later this summer but this will now no longer take place. OS therefore has no plans to amend how ORPAs appear on our maps, or to remove them, at this time.

**6. WSCC Rights of Way Committee and Definitive Map Changes**

- 6.1 The last meetings of the Rights of Way Committee were held on 20 February 2018 and 12 June 2018. All papers can be found on the [Rights of Way Committee web pages](#). Future meetings are scheduled for:
- 30 October 2018

6.2 Since the last WSLAF meeting the following map changes have been made to all or part of the following paths:

- **Cowfold Public footpath (FP)** – Diversion, Section 257 Town and Country Planning Act (TCPA) 1990).
- **Fittleworth FP 701** – Diversion, Section 119 Highways Act (HA) 1980.
- **Fittleworth FP 3768** – Creation S25 HA 1980 – adding approximately 50m of footpath linking FPs 701 and 2864.
- **Eastgate/Aldingbourne FP 297** - Cycle Tracks Act 1983 – extinguished, as now is a Cycle Track.
- **Lindfield Rural FPs 36LR and 13LR** - Diversions, S119, HA 1980. This tidies up the mapping as the route on the ground was not that on the line Definitive Map.
- **Southwater FP 1656** – Diversion, S257 TCPA 1990.
- **Southwater FP 1655** - Creation, S25 HA 1980 – creating a short link to connect FP 1655 and the diverted section of FP 1656.
- **Bersted FP 152** – Diversion, S257 TCPA 1990
- **Aldingbourne FP 297** – Diversion, S257 TCPA 1990.
- **Upper Beeding G52 / Bridleway (BW) 2758** – Following determination of this route as a bridleway by the Planning Inspectorate the G-Class Highways moved following designation as Public Bridleway 2758.

## 7. Neighbouring Local Access Forums (LAFs)

### 7.1 [South Downs Local Access Forum \(SDLAF\)](#)

The last meeting of the SDLAF was on 17 July (Paper circulated to members). Next meeting is scheduled for:

- 23 October 2018

WSLAF link member: Tricia Butcher

### 7.2 [Brighton & Hove Local Access Forum](#)

The previous meeting was held on 12 July 2018. Next meetings are scheduled for:

- Thursday 11 October 2018
- Thursday 17 January 2019

### 7.3 [East Sussex Local Access Forum](#)

The previous meeting was on 20 June 2018. Next meetings are scheduled for:

- 7 November 2018

### 7.4 [Surrey Local Access Forum \(SLAF\)](#)

The previous meeting was held on 16 July 2018. Next meetings are scheduled for:

- Monday 15 October

**Jane Noble, Forum Officer**