

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

MINUTES OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY AND COMMONS SUB-COMMITTEE

**HELD AT THE CIVIC CENTRE, SWANSEA ON WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2014 AT
2.00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Councillor J A Raynor (Chair) presided

Councillor(s):	Councillor(s):	Councillor(s):
A M Cook	R V Smith	L J Tyler-Lloyd
J E C Harris	D W W Thomas	T M White
J Newbury		

Officers:

S Richards	-	Principal Lawyer
C Dale	-	Countryside Access Team Leader (Rights of Way)
M Workman	-	Rights of Way Officer
S Collins	-	Democratic Services Assistant

28. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Y V Jardine and K E Marsh.

29. **DISCLOSURES OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS**

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Conduct adopted by the City and County of Swansea there were no interests declared.

30. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Rights of Way and Commons Sub-Committee held on 8 January 2014 be accepted as a correct record.

31. **ALLEGED PUBLIC FOOTPATH FROM LANDOR DRIVE TO THE CROFT - COMMUNITY OF LOUGHOR**

The Rights of Way Officer presented a report which considered whether to make a Modification Order to record the amendment to the current position of footpath No. 43.

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The report provided the evidence to show the claimed route had been used as of right and without interruption for the requisite minimum period of 20 years. Evidence was also provided also to show that footpath No. 43 should be shown in a different alignment and that part of this path should be deleted.

The Committee discussed and considered the recommendation made within the report.

The Officer requested that an amendment be recorded to the recommendation to state; that a Modification Order should be made to delete that length of footpath between points E-G -J as shown on Plan No. 3, but to add that length E-F as shown on the same plan.

RESOLVED that:

- (1) that a Modification Order be made to record the path as a public footpath;
- (2) the wording of the recommendation in paragraph 5.8 of the report be amended as reported by the Officer;
- (3) the amended text be included in a revised report to the next scheduled meeting.

32. **PRIORITIES FOR DEALING WITH OBSTRUCTIONS ON PUBLIC PATHS**

The Countryside Access Team Leader (Rights of Way) presented a report which informed the Committee about the current obstruction issues and policy for prioritising The Countryside Access Plan 2007-2017.

The Committee were updated on the current situation, measures taken to reduce obstructions and the implications for health and tourism.

A discussion took place in respect of the current financial climate and its relation to Category two paths which are still blocked by legacy obstruction. Members questioned that funding should be spent on improving well used paths rather than opening up long abandoned paths. The Committee asked further questions in relation to obstructions on the path network to which the Officer responded accordingly.

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RESOLVED that:

- (1) the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) the Transport Strategy Officer provides a progress report on the Active Travel Plan to the next scheduled meeting of the Committee;
- (3) the Chair writes a to the Head of Economic Regeneration and Planning to request clarification on Section 106 arrangements within developments;
- (4) a report detailing the Rights of Way budget and grant funding for the next financial year be placed on the agenda for the next scheduled meeting of the Committee.

33. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 2PM ON WEDNESDAY, 23 APRIL 2014**

RESOLVED that the date of the next meeting be noted.

The meeting ended at 3.00 pm.

CHAIR