Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum

2016

Annual Report

March 2017
Foreword to the Annual Report 2016

2016 has been a busy year for the Forum with 4 meetings, a significant number of items discussed, 2 presentations received and 3 new members recruited.

I feel the Forum has continued to make progress with increased awareness of what the Forum does and more input from various departments within Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC). However it is still apparent that more needs to be done to ensure the Forum is consulted on a regular basis with regards to all projects that affect access to the Countryside.

The Guidance for Local Authorities on Public Rights of Way (October 2016) produced by the Welsh Government has proved to be a useful document setting out in detail what Local Authorities must do when it comes to managing Public Rights of Way and interacting with the Forum. I would like to see CCC adopt this document and link it into the new Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) that is currently being produced.

It has also been noted that the number of outstanding issues (maintenance & legal) reported within Carmarthenshire has been increasing as confirmed by the reports shown in Appendix 1. These reports, which started being produced in May 2016 show that Outstanding Maintenance Issues have increased by 8% and that Outstanding Legal Issues have increased by 11% over the 8 months up to the 13th January 2017. The Local Access Forum is concerned that these problems are increasing and urge the local authority to work towards reducing the numbers of outstanding issues.

2017 will be another busy year for the Forum with a significant amount of input needed on the new Rights of Way Improvement Plan for Carmarthenshire and some significant projects underway including the Towy Valley Cycle Route, which the Forum hopes it will be consulted on in more detail over the coming months.

I would like to thank Jonathan Tudor, Caroline Ferguson and their team for the time they have spent and advice that has been given to the forum as secretary and advisors for the past year.

I would also like to thank all forum members for the time and expertise they give to the forum. As shown in Appendix 4 many LAF members are also members of other organisations / committees and it is hoped that this will assist in taking the work of the LAF forward to a wider audience.

Mark Hadley
Chairman
Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum
Introduction

The Carmarthenshire LAF was established in September 2002, and covers the County of Carmarthenshire, excluding the area of the Brecon Beacons National Park Authority for which their Western Area LAF has responsibility as shown in Appendix 3. The Local Authority had a statutory duty to establish the LAF as required by the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000.

The statutory function of the Forum is to advise the authority, Natural Resources Wales and others as to the improvement of public access to land in the area for the purpose of open-air recreation and the enjoyment of the area, with regards to the needs of land-management and the natural beauty of the area.

The remit of the Forum is now widened to advise not only the appointing authority (in our case Carmarthenshire County Council), the Highway Authority and other bodies as may be prescribed by regulations but to advise on the Public Rights of Way Improvement Plans, Wardening, the making of bylaws and long term exclusions and restrictions on access.

The views of the Forum should be sought on any new regulations under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, the management of the new rights of access, the strategic priorities for the public rights of way and cycle networks and all other forms of open air recreation.

Forum members are committed to attend outside groups if appropriate and are encouraged to do all they can to engage with the public.

All meetings of the Forum are open to the public. Minutes of meetings and other LAF details are available on the Carmarthenshire County Council website at: http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/leisure-outdoor-activities/public-rights-of-way/local-access-forum/#.ViuVxZUvnIU

The National Assembly for Wales regulations require appointing authorities to prepare an annual report for each LAF for which it is responsible as soon as possible after the end of the financial year. This report incorporates Natural Resources Wales’ guidance on the production and content of Local Access Forum Annual Reports.

The annual report will serve several purposes:

a) A summary record of the previous year’s work. Minutes of individual meetings and other documents produced will give greater detail but the annual report will summarise the LAF’s work.

b) A work plan for the coming year. This will be the plan agreed between the LAF and the appointing authority, in accordance with regulation 16(2)(b). It is acknowledged that changing priorities and pressure of other work may prevent the plan being adhered to in full.
c) A ‘publicity’ document. The annual report must, by statute, be made available for public inspection and it must be available for the public to buy.

The Year Reviewed

Reporting of the Statutory Function

This section of the annual report focuses upon the LAF’s performance of its statutory function during the year ending 31st December 2016 (December meeting held on 19th January 2017). This function, as included in the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000 is to advise:

a) The appointing authority.
b) Any body exercising functions under part I in relation to land in that area.
c) If the appointing authority is a National Park Authority, the local highway authority for any part of that land, and
d) Such other bodies as may be prescribed.

As to the improvement of public access to land in that area for the purposes of open-air recreation and enjoyment of the area.

The bodies mentioned in a) to d) above shall have regard, in carrying out their functions, to any relevant advice given to them by a LAF under this subsection or any other provision of this Act.

The LAF held 4 meetings in the period 1st January 2016 to 31st December 2016 (December Meeting Deferred to 19th January 2017). These meetings can be summarised as follows:

1) 18th February 2016 – Carmarthen Leisure Centre
2) 12th May 2016 – Carmarthen Leisure Centre
3) 22nd September 2016 – Carmarthen Leisure Centre
4) 8th December 2016 (Deferred to 19th January) – Carmarthen Leisure Centre
Matter Considered by the LAF 1st January – 31st December 2016 (19th January)

1. Topic Considered: New Members / Resignations
   Date(s) Considered: 18th February 2016, 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017
   Summary: Richard Leggett’s new membership agreed at the February meeting. Becky Chunising stood down from the LAF on the 9th March 2016. John Cook and Gerald Brown’s new membership agreed at the September meeting.

2. Topic Considered: Carmarthenshire Archive Service
   Date(s) Considered: 18th February 2016
   Summary: Item discussed confirming that CCC’s Executive Board had agreed for the archives to remain in Carmarthenshire. The Forum confirmed that the archive is essential for applications to add rights of way to the definitive map under section 53 of the CROW Act 2000.

3. Topic Considered: Dog Control Orders
   Date(s) Considered: 18th February 2016, 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016
   Summary: The LAF confirmed support of the proposals to control dogs in certain areas at the February meeting. Copies of fact sheets relating to the orders were handed to members at the May meeting. Final copies of the leaflets were handed out in the September meeting.

   Date(s) Considered: 18th February 2016
   Summary: Geoffrey Williams informed the LAF that a copy of the Ramblers response on this matter would be obtained. The LAF had also submitted a response to NRW expressing concerns about funding for the implementation on new ROWIP’s.
5. **Topic Considered:** Brechfa Forest Wind Farm  
   **Date(s) Considered:** 18th February 2016, 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017  
   **Summary:** The LAF had received confirmation from RWE that they would meet if required. At the May meeting Jillie Gardiner gave an update relating to the connection phase of the project. At the September meeting it was confirmed that Bethan Edwards, Development Project Manager for Brechfa Wind Farm would attend the next meeting. Members were still expressing concerns with regards to lack of consultation regarding the project. It was also discussed that a member of the LAF should join NPower’s community forum. Bethan Edwards and Martin Kelly presented to the January meeting regarding rights of way management during the construction phase of the project. At the January meeting members of the Forum asked that concerns regarding the lack of consultation on this project be conveyed to the Chief Executive. Following this a letter was sent to the Chief Executive and a meeting has been arranged in April with the relevant heads of service for each department where this matter will be discussed.

6. **Topic Covered:** Glastir Advanced Permissive Route  
   **Date(s) Considered:** 18th February 2016  
   **Summary:** The LAF discussed a Glastir Route in Cilycwm.

7. **Topic Considered:** Active Travel  
   **Date(s) Considered:** 18th February 2016, 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017  
   **Summary:** At the February meeting the LAF asked for confirmation from NRW as to what extent local authorities should consult with the forum with regards to active travel routes. (No response has been received.) At the May meeting the LAF had still not received much information and asked Simon Charles to contact it regarding mapping of Active Travel routes. For the September meeting Simon Charles had confirmed that that the
integrated network map wasn’t complete & would be ready for the December meeting. It was confirmed in the January meeting that Simon Charles would be attending the February meeting. At the January meeting members of the Forum asked that concerns regarding the lack of consultation on the Carmarthen to Llandeilo cycle route project be conveyed to the Chief Executive. Following this a letter was sent to the Chief Executive and a meeting has been arranged in April with the relevant heads of service for each department where this matter will be discussed.

8. Topic Covered: **Diversion Order Process**  
   Date(s) Considered: 18\(^{th}\) February 2016  
   Summary: The process for diversion orders on rights of way was explained to the LAF.

9. Topic Covered: **Grant Improvement Works Programme**  
   Date(s) Considered: 18\(^{th}\) February 2016, 12\(^{th}\) May 2016, 22\(^{nd}\) September 2016  
   Summary: A report regarding the Grant Improvement Works Programme was presented at the February meeting. Further reports were discussed at the May meeting. At the September meeting it was confirmed that CCC had spent £54,000 (ROWIP) and £70,000 (Joint Working Partnership) in the 2015/16 financial year. Funding for the 2016/17 financial year was also confirmed totalling £82,000. It was also confirmed that Ranger numbers had reduced and that it was likely community councils would be asked to maintain some paths in the future.

10. Topic Covered: **PROW Furniture (Gates / Stiles, etc) – Responsibility**  
    Date (S) Covered: 18\(^{th}\) February 2016  
    Summary: The issue regarding who is responsible for maintaining furniture on rights was discussed.

11. Topic Covered: **LAF Annual Report**
Date(s) Covered: 18th February 2016, 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017

Summary: It was agreed that the Annual Report is a useful document to help raise the profile of the LAF.

12. Topic Covered: Legal Case – Herrick v Kidner & Somerset County Council 2010
Date(s) Covered: 18th February 2016

Summary: This case related to use of the full width of a right of way and it was suggested it set a precedent for management of similar problems.

13. Topic Covered: Development of Tourism Destination Plan
Date(s) Covered: 18th February 2016

Summary: Jillie Gardiner commented that she had attended a meeting of tourism ambassadors and advised that the LAF will be included in the process.

14. Topic Covered: Sustrans Cycle Route in Burry Port
Date(s) Covered: 18th February 2016

Summary: Jillie Gardiner mentioned the project with further information to follow at the next meeting.

15. Topic Covered: Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Representatives
Date(s) Covered: 18th February 2016

Summary: At the February meeting the LAF were introduced to Glyn Lloyd-Jones who would be NRW’s representative at future LAF meetings.

16. Topic Covered: Abergaveny to Llandeilo Cycle Route
Date(s) Covered: 18th February 2016

Summary: Mark Hadley explained that he had attended a meeting about this project.

17. Topic Covered: Planning – Nationally Significant Development Projects
Date(s) Covered: 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016
Summary: The LAF received a presentation in May from Richard Jones (Development Management Officer) from CCC regarding the planning process relating to Nationally Significant projects and specifically the Brechfa Forest wind farms. The LAF suggested in September that all planning applications that are sent to the rights of way team are forwarded to LAF members via the Chair for comment. This was agreed at the January meeting.

18. Topic Covered: ROWIP Funding
   Date(s) Covered: 12th May 2016
   Summary: Caroline Ferguson confirmed that CCC had received a ROWIP funding letter confirming £54,607 of funding for the 2016 / 17 financial year.

19. Topic Covered: BBNP Delegation Agreement
   Date(s) Covered: 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017
   Summary: At the May meeting Caroline Ferguson outlined the position regarding the possible alteration of the existing delegation agreement with BBNP. At the September meeting it was confirmed negotiations were still ongoing. At the January meeting it was confirmed that discussions were still ongoing and that an agreement needs to be in place before the start of the next financial year. Members expressed concerns with regards to the BBNP carrying out their duties and how this new agreement may affect the Forum. Following this a letter was sent to the Chief Executive and a meeting has been arranged in April with the relevant heads of service for each department where this matter will be discussed.

20. Topic Covered: CCC Countryside Access Team
   Date(s) Covered: 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017
   Summary: An update was provided in May regarding the structure of the Countryside Access unit and members asked to be kept updated with regards to vacant posts. At the September meeting Alan Warner outlined
that he was looking to gain approval to use contractors for annual grass cutting or to hand back maintenance to Community Councils. This would free up Ranger time for Capital works, minor enforcement and furniture improvement works. It was confirmed at the September meeting that there was no update with regards to the structure of the legal team. At the January meeting the forum were informed that the new structure for the maintenance team was in place and that a new part time assistant was starting in the legal team. The forum asked the chair to contact the Chief Executive outlining concerns regarding recruitment and its impact on the service. Following this request a letter was sent to the Chief Executive and a meeting has been arranged in April with the relevant heads of service for each department.

21. Topic Covered: Definitive Map / Legal Orders 2015/16
Dates(s) Covered: 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017
Summary: A table of legal orders processed and outstanding was presented at the May meeting it was noted that the numbers of outstanding orders were increasing. Report provided at September meeting providing update. The report provided at the January meeting shows steady completion of PPO’s but that DMMO’s completion has not moved forward.

22. Topic Covered: Improving Opportunities to Access the Outdoors Green Paper – Summary of Response Received by Welsh Government
Date(s) Covered: 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016
Summary: Issues regarding the green paper were discussed.

23. Topic Covered: Heart of Wales Line Walking Trail Proposal
Date(s) Covered: 12th May 2016, 19th January 2017
Summary: At the May meeting the project was outlined to LAF members and some leaflets handed out. At the January meeting Caroline
Ferguson confirmed that she had met with members of the project team and that CCC were working with the HOWLTA on the routes in Carmarthenshire.

24. **Topic Covered:** Bridges on Rights of Way  
   **Date(s) Covered:** 12th May 2016, 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017  
   **Summary:** Issues regarding the number of bridges requiring repair were discussed at the May meeting. At the September meeting Alan Warner confirmed that £450,000 would be available to repair bridges. It was confirmed at the January meeting that 9 bridges would be repaired / replaced in the next financial year. It was suggested that once works are complete these routes should be promoted.

25. **Topic Covered:** ROWIP Review  
   **Date(s) Covered:** 22nd September 2016, January 2017  
   **Summary:** The forum were informed at the September meeting that consultants would be used to undertake the review and that the forum would be involved in the consultation process. At the January meeting the forum were informed that Capita had been appointed as consultants to undertake the review and that things had progressed slowly. Forum members asked that the Chair contact the CCC Chief Executive to outline the forums concerns that the ROWIP may not be completed on time. Following this request a letter was sent to the Chief Executive and a meeting has been arranged in April with the relevant heads of service when this matter will be discussed. It was also discussed that it was likely Capita would attend the next forum meeting.

26. **Topic Covered:** PROW Network Issues Report  
   **Date(s) Covered:** 22nd September 2016, 19th January 2017  
   **Summary:** At the September meeting reports regarding outstanding Maintenance and Legal Issues were distributed to the forum. It was requested that these be produced for every forum meeting. It was agreed that the
outstanding issues appeared to be increasing and that this would be monitored at future meetings. It was agreed at the January meeting that the reports continued to show an increase in the number of outstanding issues and that this may relate to the number of vacant posts. The forum asked the Chair to contact the Chief Executive outlining these concerns. Following this request a letter was sent to the Chief Executive and a meeting has been arranged in April with the relevant heads of service when this matter will be discussed.

### 27. Topic Covered: Volunteers
**Date(s) Covered:** 22nd September 2016

**Summary:** Geoffrey Williams informed the forum how the Ramblers Association (RA) use volunteers and confirmed that volunteers are insured by the RA. Members asked if volunteers could be used to help identify bridges that need repair.

### 28. Topic Covered: Cambrian Way
**Date(s) Covered:** 22nd September 2016

**Summary:** Geoffrey Williams informed the Forum that he is a Trustee of the Cambrian Way and responsible for monitoring the route within Carmarthenshire and that way marking along the route is in the process of being improved.

**Date(s) Covered:** 19th January 2017

**Summary:** Geoffrey Williams / Mark Hadley gave an update regarding the LAF Conference that they had attended.

### 30. Topic Covered: 3D Walking Campaign / Visit Wales Themes
**Date(s) Covered:** 19th January 2017

**Summary:** This project related to the Welsh Government theme of ‘Legends’ for 2017. A number of LAF members had attended a presentation about Carmarthenshire promoting a number of walking routes under this theme. The project was due to be live in
January and the forum was informed that an update was expected shortly. The forum was informed that the 2018 theme would be the ‘Sea’.

31. Topic Covered: **Revised Welsh Government PROW Guidance**  
Date(s) Covered: 19th January 2017  
Summary: The forum discussed this document and it was explained that the guidance consolidates existing guidance and circulars into one catch-all document and references newer legislation such as the Active Travel Act.

32. Topic Covered: **TRO’s on Byways / UCR’s**  
Date(s) Covered: 19th January 2017  
Summary: Mark Hadley expressed concerns that it would appear CCC is implementing TRO’s over resolving problems.
Other Chair / Deputy Chair / LAF Activities
List of other engagements carried out by the Chairperson / Deputy / Other LAF Members in pursuance of the aims of the forum:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Attended</th>
<th>Nature of Attendance</th>
<th>Attended By</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19/04/16</td>
<td>Byway User Group Meeting</td>
<td>LAF Members</td>
<td>Mark Hadley, Karen Burch, Jane Evans, Caroline Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/10/16</td>
<td>Byway User Group Meeting</td>
<td>LAF Members</td>
<td>Mark Hadley, Karen Burch, Jane Evans, Caroline Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19/10/16</td>
<td>LAF Conference 2016</td>
<td>LAF Members</td>
<td>Mark Hadley, Geoffrey Williams, Jillie Gardiner, Caroline Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/10/16</td>
<td>3 D Walking Campaign Meeting</td>
<td>LAF Members</td>
<td>Mark Hadley, Jillie Gardiner, Caroline Evans, Caroline Ferguson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LAF Committees / Other Meetings

LAF regulation 13 allows for the establishment of committees of a LAF. The Forum established the following committees / attended the following meetings in 2016:

No other meetings apart from those highlighted above were attended in 2016.

Presentations to the LAF

The following presentations were given to the LAF in 2016:

2. 19th January 2017 – Bethan Edwards (Development Project Manager for Brechfa Wind Farm) and Martin Kelly – Gave a presentation regarding the construction phase of the Brechfa wind farm and management of public rights of way during construction.

**Work Plan 2017**

Regulation 16(2)(b) requires that a LAF annual report includes a programme of works which have been agreed between the forum and the appointing authority, which the forum plans to undertake during the next twelve months. The following items are included for 2017:

1. **Items expected to be referred to the LAF by other bodies:**

   **Local Authority:**
   It is anticipated that the following items will be discussed with CCC in 2017:

   - Active Travel
   - Towy Valley Cycleway Project
   - ROWIP Review
   - Planning
   - Grant Improvement Works Programme
   - Improved Communication Between Council Departments and the LAF
   - Carmarthenshire County Council Countryside Access Legal and Maintenance Department Staffing Structures
   - Brecon Beacons National Park Delegation Agreement
   - Regular updates on the grant improvements programme and right of way work undertaken by the authority.
   - Updates at each meeting with regards to outstanding maintenance and legal issues.

   **Welsh Assembly Government and Natural Resources Wales**
   It is anticipated that the following items will be referred to the LAF by the Welsh Assembly in 2017:

   - ROWIP Review Process

   The following are matters that NRW and WAG anticipate that they will refer to LAF’s during the year. This is for guidance only and may change to reflect work priorities. **It should not be taken as definitive.** In addition Local Authorities and National Park Authorities will refer matters to LAF’s. LAF members themselves should also be encouraged to put forward agenda items:

   - Engagement with other organisations.
   - Publicising the LAF and its work.
• Influence – Monitoring the impact of advice and recommendations.
• Work Plan for the year.
• Membership.
• Role and governance of the LAF.
• Look at support for LAF’s.

2. Items Proposed by LAF Members and Others:

LAF members have requested that the following items be discussed in 2017:

• Recruitment of other members of the public / groups that are not represented on the LAF including a Disability User Group Representative.
• Heart of Wales Line Walking Trail
• Visit Wales Featured Themes
• Brechfa Wind Farm
• Public Service Boards – Forum Involvement
• CCC – Use of TRO’s

Proposed Meetings in 2017

The proposed schedule for meetings in 2017 is as follows:

• 16th February 2017 – Carmarthen Leisure Centre
• 11th May 2017 – Tywi Centre Llandeilo
• 21st September 2017 – Carmarthen Leisure Centre (TBC)
• 7th December 2017 – Tywi Centre Llandeilo (TBC)
Appendices
Appendix 1
Outstanding Maintenance and Legal Issues Reports

12/05/16

Outstanding Maintenance Issues as at 12/05/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Maint Status Desc - Legal or Unresolved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross path</td>
<td>298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign roadside</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gate</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stile</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrain</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign not road</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steps</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alongside path</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boardwalk</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>1250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Outstanding Maintenance Issues as at 12/05/16

Number of Issues
### Outstanding Legal Issues as at 12/05/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Number of Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstacles</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross path</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land use</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimidating or Misleading</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alongside path</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMS</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>373</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outstanding Legal Issues as at 12/05/16 Graph

- **Legal**: 274
- **Obstacles**: 40
- **Cross path**: 29
- **Land use**: 20
- **Intimidating or Misleading**: 5
- **Alongside path**: 3
- **CAMS**: 2

Number of Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstacles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimidating or Misleading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alongside path</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAMS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Outstanding Maintenance Issues as at 20/09/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Maint Status Desc = Legal or Unresolved</th>
<th>(Multiple Items)</th>
<th>Number of Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross path</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign roadside</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stile</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrain</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign not road</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steps</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boardwalk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alongside path</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Litter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1271</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outstanding Maintenance Issues as at 20/09/16

![Bar chart showing number of issues per category]
### Outstanding Legal Issues as at 20/09/16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maint Type Description</th>
<th>Number of Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstacles</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross path</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land use</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimidating or Misleading</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alongside path</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>381</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Bar Graph of Outstanding Legal Issues as at 20/09/16](image)
### Outstanding Maintenance Issues as at 13/01/2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maintain Type Description</th>
<th>Number of Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cross path</td>
<td>287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign roadside</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gate</td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stile</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetation</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrain</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sign not road</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steps</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alongside path</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boardwalk</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1315</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Bar chart showing the number of issues for each maintain type as of 13/01/2017.](image-url)
### Outstanding Legal Issues as at 13/01/2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maint Type Description</th>
<th>Number of Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legal</td>
<td>322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obstacles</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross path</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land use</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimidating or Misleading</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alongside path</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>415</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Bar chart showing number of issues for each category]
Appendix 2 – Appointing Authority Details

Name of Appointing Authority: Carmarthenshire County Council

Area Covered by LAF: The whole of Carmarthenshire except that part which lies within the Brecon Beacons National Park.

Secretary: Caroline Ferguson, Acting Countryside Access Manager, Countryside Recreation and Access Unit, Carmarthenshire County Council, Mynydd Mawr Woodland Park, Heol Hirwaun Olau, Tumble, Carmarthenshire, SA14 6HU.

Telephone: 01554 742216 (ext 2216)

E-Mail: CFerguson@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Appendix 3 – Map of Local Access Forum Area

Key

Area Surrounded in Red = Carmarthenshire
Area Surrounded in Yellow = Section of County in Brecon Beacons National Park (Not Covered by Carmarthenshire LAF)
Appendix 4 – Membership / Recruitment Details

In accordance with Regulation 3 of the Countryside Access (LAF) (Wales) Regulations 2001, all members of a forum are appointed for three years from the date of the first meeting of a three year cycle that a forum exists for.

At the meeting of 26th February 2015 Mark Hadley was elected as Chair and Karen Burch was elected as Vice Chair. The following table contains brief details of the membership up to 31st December 2016.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date Appointed to LAF</th>
<th>Date LAF Membership Terminated</th>
<th>Brief Background Details / Interests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark Hadley (Chair)</td>
<td>26/02/15</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Tourism, Walking, Motorised Access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Burch (Vice Chair)</td>
<td>26/02/15</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Equestrian Access, Tourism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The LAF Members attended the following LAF meetings in 2016:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>18/02/16</th>
<th>12/05/16</th>
<th>22/09/16</th>
<th>08/12/16 (19/01/16)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark Hadley (Chair)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Burch (Vice Chair)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Apologies</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Tudor (Secretary)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Ferguson</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Apologies

Edward Percy  Apologies  Yes  Apologies  Apologies
Caroline Evans  Apologies  Apologies  Yes  Yes
Eric Jones  No  No  No  No
Jillie Gardiner  Yes  Yes  Yes  Apologies
Chris Rankin  Yes  No  Yes  Yes
Keith Morgan  Apologies  Yes  Yes  Apologies
Glyn Evans  Yes  Yes  Yes  No
Eric Davies  Apologies  Apologies  Apologies  No
David Stacey  Apologies  Yes  Apologies  Apologies
Becky Chunisingh  No  Resigned  N/A  N/A
Jane Evans  Yes  No  Yes  Apologies
Richard Leggett  Yes  Yes  Apologies  Yes
Geoffrey Williams  Yes  Apologies  Yes  Yes
John Cook  N/A  N/A  Yes  No
Gerald Brown  N/A  N/A  Yes  Yes

### Key
- **Yes**: Attended meeting
- **Apologies**: Apologies of non-attendance received
- **No**: Did not attend meeting & no apologies received
- **N/A**: Person was not a LAF member at this meeting.

A number of advisors / members of the public have attended LAF meetings / given apologies throughout the year as shown in the table below.

### Name  |  Organisation  |  Meetings Attended
--- | --- | ---
Jane Tibbott | Welsh Government | |
Phil Stone | Natural Resources Wales | 18/02/16 |
Councillor Deryk Cundy | CCC Chair of Community Scrutiny Committee | Apologies for 18/02/16, Apologies 19/01/17 |
Nigel Powell | CCC | 18/02/16 |
Glyn Lloyd-Jones | Natural Resources Wales | 18/02/16, 19/01/17 |
Richard Jones | CCC Development Management Officer | 12/05/16 |
Peter Stopp | Member of the Public | 12/05/16 |
Marie George | Natural Resources Wales | Apologies for 12/05/216, Apologies for 22/09/16,
### Apologies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisation / Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucy Pugh</td>
<td>CCC Countryside Access Assistant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Kelly</td>
<td>CCC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethan Edwards</td>
<td>Innogy (Brechfa Wind Farm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Lawday</td>
<td>CCC Countryside Access Assistant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LAF Members – Representation in Other Organisations / Committees

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Organisations / Committees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark Hadley</td>
<td>Green Lane Association Member, Trail Riders Fellowship Member, Carmarthenshire Byway Users Group, Carmarthenshire Tourism Association Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Burch</td>
<td>British Horse Society Member, Carmarthenshire Byway Users Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Percy</td>
<td>Green Lane Association Member,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caroline Evans</td>
<td>Carmarthenshire Tourism Association Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Jones</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jillie Gardiner</td>
<td>Carmarthenshire Tourism Association Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Rankin</td>
<td>British Horse Society Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Morgan</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glyn Evans</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Davies</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Stacey</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Evans</td>
<td>British Horse Society Member, Carmarthenshire Byway Users Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Leggett</td>
<td>Carmarthen Ramblers Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoffrey Williams</td>
<td>Cambrian Way Trust Committee Member, Heart of Wales Line Travellers Association Committee Member, Ramblers Association Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Cook</td>
<td>Ramblers Association Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gerald Brown</td>
<td>TBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 5

LAF Annual Report Distribution List

CCC Website
CCC Libraries
CCC Customer Care Centres
Community Councils
CCC Members
CCC Chief Executive & Directors
Carmarthenshire Tourist Association
Ceredigion Ramblers Association
Pembroke Ramblers Association
Llanelli Ramblers Association
Dinefwr Ramblers Association
Carmarthen and District Ramblers Association
Lampeter Ramblers Association
Carmarthenshire Riders
British Horse Society  
Green Lane Association  
Treadlightly  
Trail Riders Fellowship  
Welsh Trail Riders Association  
Auto Cycle Union  
British Motorcyclists Association  
Sustrans Cymru  
Natural Resources Wales  
Farmers Union of Wales  
National Farmers Union  
Neighbouring Authority LAF’s  
National Trust  
Open Spaces Society  
Byway & Bridleways Trust  
British Driving Society  
Cyclists Touring Club  
LARA (Land Access & Recreation Association)

Appendix 6

Further Reading

LAF Annual Reports

All appointing authorities are required by statute to produce annual reports. These can be obtained from the relevant LAF secretary. Agendas, minutes and other papers are also available for individual LAF meeting at: http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/leisure-outdoor-activities/public-rights-of-way/local-access-forum/#.ViuVxZUvnIU

Government Act


National Assembly Wales

The Countryside Access (Local Access Forums)(Wales) Regulations 2001;
Appendix 7

Glossary

The list below shows the full definitions for the acronyms used throughout this annual report:

LAF  Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum
CCC  Carmarthenshire County Council
NRW  Natural Resources Wales
ROWIP Rights of Way Improvement Plan
PPO's Public Path Orders
DMMO's Definitive Map Modification Orders
HOWLTA Heart of Wales Line Travellers Association
RA Ramblers Association
TRO's Traffic Regulation Orders