

## North Yorkshire Local Access Forum

### Principles to Underpin the Forum's Work

This version to be offered to the full LAF meeting in August for final amendment and adoption.

| <b>North Yorkshire Local Access Forum Principles</b>  |
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| <p>1. All rights of way should be maintained to the standard required.</p> <p>Proposed addition:</p> <p>‘and where appropriate, upgraded physically and legally to a higher standard.’ David Gibson</p>   |
| <p>2. The Forum will work to get rights of way developed to redress the fragmentation of the network, connect communities and improve links to places of demand.</p>  |
| <p>3. Any new rights of way or permissive access should be at the highest rights possible. (E.g. Establishing a bridleway rather than just a footpath.)</p>   |
| <p>4. The Forum will work to develop more access opportunities for the widest possible range of users, especially families, children, minority groups and the less able.</p> <p>Proposed addition:</p> <p>‘by the provision of gaps and gates suitable for their use, wherever appropriate, on rights of way, access land and coastal access land..’ David Gibson</p>   |
| <p>5. The Forum expects the establishment of an annual budget to fund the fulfilment of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.</p>   |
| <p>6. The creation of permissive access is welcomed but the Forum promotes the view that permissive (temporary) rights do not equate with definitive (permanent) rights, which are preferred.</p>   |
| <p>7. The Forum supports the challenge to illegal users of rights of way, and would rather raise awareness of how different classes can enjoy sharing routes with others whenever appropriate</p> <p>Proposed replacement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Forum opposes the illegal use or prevention of use of any right of way. It will work with others to raise awareness of how different classes of user can share routes, when legal/appropriate to do so, in order to increase the number of users enjoying rights of way.</li></ul> |

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| David Gibson (further amended by Tony Turner)   |
| <p>8. The Forum recognises the establishment and challenges of new initiatives e.g. The Marine Bill, coastal access, access to water, access to forests and woods and dedication of land for public access, <i>where these are compatible with the needs of all parties.</i></p> <p>Proposed amendment: replace last phrase with 'having regard to the needs of all parties.'<br/>DG.</p> |
| <p>9. The Forum supports the continuation of the Best Value Performance Indicator for Rights of Way (BVPI 178) to measure the overall ease of use of routes in the County.</p> <p>Proposed amendment: add at end 'and in view of budget cuts in the Rights of Way section they should be done by trained countryside volunteers.' DG.</p>   |