

## **Agenda item 7.E**

### **Leicestershire Local Access Forum – 16 April 2015**

#### **Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies**

##### **National Forest Access and Recreation**

This is a report of the meeting at the National Forest on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

We were introduced to John Everitt the new Chairman who seemed very positive. He stressed the new emphasis on supporting and encouraging access to and use of the Forest especially for sporting and organised leisure purposes which can only be encouraging. We were also introduced to the lady who has been appointed Sports Development Officer on a 3 days per week 18 month contract.

Around Hicks lodge two permissive cycle-cum bridleways are being created. One will provide access to Moira via the old Newfields Colliery site and one will be a circular horse route around the Shellbrook area.

In addition a planning application for housing in Moira near the Village Hall includes providing access from that direction into the new Hanging Hill area. That application has not yet been determined. This area is being opened up to the public shortly although access is already available informally. The area, within walking distance of Conkers, is a sizeable block of new amenity land.

As part of the new push to encourage usage they are also to provide a new portal on their website where organisations will be able to lodge details of all events and activities within the Forest.

Roy Denney

National Forest Representative