

Are you aware that unrecorded rights of way may be lost after 2026?

Herefordshire Local Access Forum - Unrecorded Ways Project Parish Research Workshop Herefordshire Archive and Records Centre 14 00 April 18th

In partnership with Herefordshire Council, we are undertaking an exciting new project to record the rights of way missing from the Definitive Map (The Council's record of Public Rights of Way) , and its other highway records.

What are Unrecorded Ways?

Unrecorded ways are routes currently or once used by the public, which are not recorded on current highway records. They can be:

- Footpaths and bridleways
- Byways (green lanes)
- Various roads: Un-adopted etc
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Why are they not recorded?

Herefordshire Council has lots of records dating back many years, but sometimes the details are incomplete or there are missing links, or they are under recorded. Eg a footpath should be a bridleway.

How can you help?

After 2026 it will no longer be possible to add them to the Definitive Map so we need to act now. We are asking parishes to help us find our unrecorded ways so that we can complete our definitive map and highway record and keep these routes safe for your enjoyment. Sometimes all it will take is a simple check of existing highways records to make sure your rights to use your favourite way is safe. Even if you don't have a parish footpath officer, your knowledge of your local area is invaluable.

- Where are your favourite dog walks or horse and pony rides?
- Are there any short cuts to the local school, shop or pub?
- Where are the best Sunday walks and picnic sites?
- What are the important walking and cycling routes identified in your neighbourhood or parish plan?
- Are there any missing links?

Once we have found out about routes that we think ought to be recorded, we need people to carry out research to collect evidence about the status of the routes, perhaps in the Herefordshire Archive & Record Centre or perhaps kept locally in parish archives or by interviewing local people.

Want to find out more?

Come to our introduction and training course. Everybody is welcome - you do not need any specialist knowledge, just enthusiasm for finding out about your local area and what goes on in it. If you are interested: **Please email Duncan Green (ddg@dinedor.org). Chairman HHAG: Herefordshire Heritage Access Group**