



PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY USER EVIDENCE FORM

Parish &/or Name of Route _____

PLEASE NOTE:

- This form is designed to help establish whether or not the claimed route is a public right of way. It also provides evidence of how it is used e.g. on foot, on horseback, by vehicles etc.
- **The information you give in this form cannot be treated as confidential.**
To determine the application it may be necessary for Hertfordshire County Council to disclose information received from you to others, which may include other local authorities, the Planning Inspectorate and other Government Departments, public bodies, other organisations and members of the public. If the application proceeds to a public inquiry your evidence will be made available to the inquiry.
- If the County Council proceeds with the claim, but it is contested (e.g. by a landowner), there may be a Public Inquiry. Public Inquiries are usually held locally (i.e. in the village hall). If you are unable to attend a Public Inquiry your evidence may be given in writing, but user evidence is of much greater value if you attend in person and are prepared to answer questions on your evidence (see Question 19). Inquiries are kept as informal as possible, and the County Council will help you give your evidence.
- The information you give in this form will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. It is held by the Rights of Way Service of Hertfordshire County Council for the purpose of processing the application for the route referred to.
- **This form should be completed by one person only and should relate to only one route.** If you need more space please continue on a separate sheet(s) which will need to be attached and referred to in this form.

Please use black ink and return this form to the person who asked you to complete it, or send it to:

The Rights of Way Service, Hertfordshire County Council,
County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford SG13 8DN

If you need any help to complete this form please contact us on 01992 555279.

1. **Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss)**

2. **Address:**

..... **Postcode:**

Telephone: (work) (home)

Email:

3. **Year of Birth:** **NB:** *You do not have to give this but it helps the County Council assess your evidence.*

4. Please give a full description of the route you use, and mark it on the attached map. e.g. where you start from, where you go and where you finish.
- You also need to describe the full width of the path you have used. Please identify if there are any nearby physical boundaries on either or both sides - e.g. a hedge or fence and measure the width between these. If the path goes across open land, you will need to consider the width that is being used when people pass each other. This may well be more than just the 'trodden path'. If the width varies, please could you identify this on the attached plan or in the sketch below.

Description of route

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Description of width

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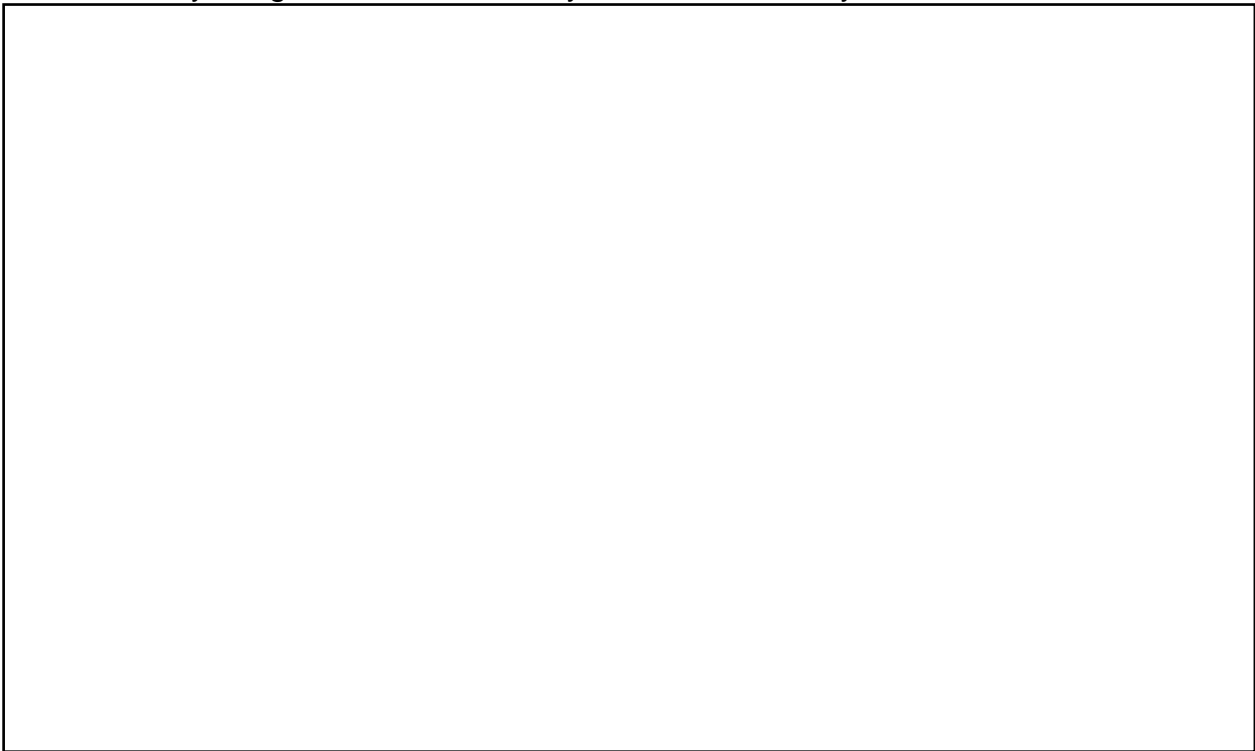
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5. Please identify the route of the path you are referring to, either by sketching it below or on an additional sheet, or marking it on an attached map (or on both). Please mark and label any features – e.g. notices/signs, stiles, gates, bridges, boundary hedges/fences etc. or any other information you think is relevant.



6. How have you used the route, and during which years?

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) on foot | <input type="checkbox"/> | between _____ and _____ |
| (b) on horseback | <input type="checkbox"/> | between _____ and _____ |
| (c) on bicycle/horse-drawn vehicle | <input type="checkbox"/> | between _____ and _____ |
| (d) with motorised vehicle | <input type="checkbox"/> | between _____ and _____ |

7. Were there any years during which you did not use the route at all? YES NO

If YES, which years and why? between _____ and _____

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8. How frequently do/did you use the route?

	daily	once a week	once a month
(a) on foot	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) on horseback	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) on bicycle/horse-drawn vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) with motorised vehicle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If less than once a month, please specify how many times a year you use the route.

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9. For what purpose do/did you use the route? e.g. for pleasure, going to work etc.

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10. Has the route always followed the line described above? YES NO

If NO, please describe how, when and why it changed.

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11. When you used the route, did the route cross land which was under your control as :-

- | | | | | |
|---|-----|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|
| (a) an owner | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) a tenant | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (c) an employee | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (d) a family member of any of the above | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | <input type="checkbox"/> |

12. Did you ever meet the landowner, their employees or family while you were using the route? YES NO
If YES, what did they say?
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13. Have you ever been given permission to use the route? YES NO
If YES, who gave you permission and when?
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14. Has anyone ever attempted to turn you back or said that you had no right to be on the route? YES NO
If YES, please give details including when this happened.
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15. Have you ever seen any notices on or near the route either encouraging or discouraging your use of it? YES NO
If YES (a) where were they?

(b) what did they say?

(c) when were they present? between _____ and _____

16. Have there ever been stiles, gates or bridges on the route? YES NO
If YES (a) what were they?

(b) when were they erected?

(c) how long were they in place?

(d) did they prevent or deter you from using the route? YES NO

(e) if gates were present, were they ever locked? YES NO

If YES, when and for how long?

17. Has there ever been an obstruction to your use of the route? YES NO
If YES (a) what was the obstruction?

(b) when was it put there?

(c) how long was it in place?

(d) did it prevent or deter you from using the route? YES NO

I have marked on my sketch/on the attached map the location of any notices, stiles, gates, bridges or obstructions etc.

18. Do you have any other information about the route which might be useful?
(please continue on the back of this form or on a separate sheet if necessary, stating here that is what you have done)

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19. If necessary, would you be prepared to give evidence at a public inquiry in respect of the evidence you have given? YES NO

If not, please briefly explain your reasons.

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I hereby confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information I have given is true.

The information you give in this form cannot be treated as confidential.

To determine the application it may be necessary for Hertfordshire County Council to disclose information received from you to others, which may include other local authorities, the Planning Inspectorate and other government departments, public bodies, other organisations and members of the public. If the application proceeds to a public inquiry your evidence will be made available to the inquiry.

I understand that the evidence form I have completed may become public knowledge. I authorise Hertfordshire County Council to disclose this form to anyone requiring access to the information contained in it in relation to this application. This may include the evidence being presented at a public inquiry.

Signature:

Date: