



**IOW
Local Access Forum**

c/o Stone Cottage, 2a Brook Close, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, PO35 5RG

To the Clerk of Parish/Town Council

8 October 2012

Dear Sir or Madam

**The Isle of Wight Local Access Forum
Litter on Public Rights of Way**

The purpose of this letter is to make you aware of the Isle of Wight Local Access Forum (LAF) and to bring your attention to an issue regarding litter on public rights of way.

The LAF is one of England's 83 Local Access Forums which are statutorily prescribed bodies introduced by s94 and s95 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000. Our main function is to advise various authorities (including town and parish councils), as to the improvement of public access to land on the Island for the purposes of open-air recreation and enjoyment. In carrying out its functions, we have regard to the needs of land management and the desirability of conserving the natural beauty of the Island, including the flora, fauna and its geological and physiographical features. The LAF comprises appointed voluntary members who are representative of both users of local rights of way or access land and owners and occupiers of access land or land encompassing local rights of way.

At recent LAF meetings the members have been raising concerns in respect of the considerable amount of litter on the Islands Public Footpaths, Bridleways and Byways. The Forum would like to request that the Parish/Town Council organises local litter picks with a view to cleaning up the paths to make them more enjoyable for all users. The Keep Britain Tidy website (www.keepbritaintidy.org/) provides a wealth of information including guidance on how to organise and advertise litter picks.

Mr Mike Rowland, from the Isle of Wight Council's, Environment Officers Team can assist with the supply of the litter picking equipment, bags and the collection of the rubbish after the community litter pick has taken place. Once you have got a team of volunteers together please contact Mike on 01983 821000 and talk to him about your plans. Remember to give Mike plenty of notice of your clean up event so he can ensure he has time to get the necessary equipment for you.

I would be very grateful for a reply to this letter so that I can report back to the LAF members at our next meeting.

Yours faithfully


Mrs S J Weedall
Chairman