



www.laragb.org  
admin@laragb.org

Life Vice-President, Don Green

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## CHAIRMAN'S E-NEWSLETTER – No.7 – November 2017

### PLEASE CIRCULATE WITHIN YOUR ORGANISATION

Humble apologies that this is the first Chairman's e-Newsletter since April, but we've had rather a busy six months at LARA's virtual HQ.

### HOUSE OF LORDS COMMITTEE ON NERCA REVIEW

This, as those who attended the September Steering Committee meeting will know, came at us 'out of the blue' in the summer. Although the terms of the review did not seem to cover topics of interest or concern to LARA and its members, we were encouraged to make a submission. This has been accepted and we have now been invited to give verbal evidence to the Committee on 21 November. Alan Kind and I will be attending, and the proceedings should be available to watch, live, on <http://parliamentlive.tv/>

### FIGHTING FUND PROJECTS

#### Motoring Stakeholder Working Group

The MSWG has continued to meet through the summer, although the eventual 'output' from the Group seems to get more watered-down with each meeting. The next meeting is planned for early December and we will report back afterwards.

#### Powys County Council and s33 event authorisations

The ongoing dialogue between ACU/ LARA/ MSA and Powys County Council continues, without any real progress worth reporting. Recent elections in Powys may be changing the Council's priorities and it is possible that implementing any departure from their current s33 procedures may be slipping-down their action list. The MSA has recently issued a robust defence of the 'status quo' and we await a response from Powys CC.

### LARA WEBSITE

We have recently started re-publishing documents from the old LARA website, and publishing, for the first time, many historical documents which are still relevant today. You can see the results starting at <https://laragborg.wordpress.com/reference-documents/>

We also hope to finally complete the move to a new server sometime between now and Christmas. The site may be offline for up to 48 hours while we make the change, so please keep an eye on the LARA Facebook page if the website is unavailable.



## **LARA PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS**

Alongside the re-publishing of historic documents from the old LARA website, we have also started a review of the current LARA publications. The first one to be tackled is the report on Unsealed Unclassified Roads, last updated in March 2013. This review is well underway, and the updated report should be available on the LARA website not long after you receive this e-Newsletter.

We also plan to review the LARA Byway Code in the New Year.

## **LARA FINANCES**

We can, at last, report that LARA's finances are reasonably healthy, if healthy means that we anticipate having just enough income to meet the predicted expenditure in the current LARA financial year. We continue to run a 'tight ship' in allocating costs to either the General Account or the Fighting Fund, predicting that the General Account will end the year with a surplus on subscriptions, and the Fighting Fund will end the year with a deficit on donations. A transfer from General Account to Fighting Funds should keep both accounts 'in the black' by Year End.

## **STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2018**

Tuesday, 23 January 2018 – AMCA, Cannock.

Wednesday, 23 May 2018 – MSA, Colnbrook. (AGM).

Tuesday, 25 September 2018 – VSCC, Chipping Norton.

Andrew Brown  
Honorary Chairman LARA  
[chairman@laragb.org](mailto:chairman@laragb.org)