

REGISTRATION AND TRAVEL

REGISTRATION

Complete and return the registration form enclosed within. Please indicate which days you want to attend and also if you require bed and breakfast.

Refreshments and a buffet lunch are included in the cost.

Please note that there will be no accommodation available at the University on the Friday night.

Return your completed booking form together with your payment or invoicing details as soon as possible to ensure a place.

Cheques should be made payable to 'University of Gloucestershire'. We also accept payment by credit card.

CONTACT DETAILS

The organisers of the seminar are Christopher Short, Evelyn Shaw and Jill Harper of the Countryside and Community Research Unit at the University of Gloucestershire, Park Campus, Cheltenham.

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PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings from the seminar are included in the seminar fee and will be sent to all participants. They will also be available on the CCRU web site.

LOCATION

The conference will be held at the Park Campus of the University of Gloucestershire in Cheltenham. On arrival, please make your way to the main reception area (Elwes Building), which is signposted. Refreshments will be available from 9.15am.

BY RAIL

Cheltenham Spa and Gloucester are well served by the intercity and rail services from Paddington, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Plymouth, Manchester, Leeds, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

BY ROAD

Directions by road can be found at www.glos.ac.uk/directions/travelpa.cfm or by entering the postcode, GL50 2RH into www.streetmap.co.uk

SIXTH NATIONAL SEMINAR ON COMMON LAND AND TOWN AND VILLAGE GREENS

to be held at the University of Gloucestershire on
14 & 15 September 2006



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ENGLISH HERITAGE

THE COUNTRYSIDE & COMMUNITY RESEARCH UNIT

Sixth National Seminar on Common Land and Town and Village Greens

The 6th National Seminar on Common Land and Town and Village Greens will take place on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th September 2006 at the University of Gloucestershire Park Campus, Cheltenham.

We are delighted that Defra is again providing sponsorship for the event.

This series of seminars has played a vital role in disseminating information on best practice in the management of common land and town and village greens, as well as developments in legislation. The 2006 Seminar promises to deliver informative discussion on the Commons Act, as well as opportunities for delegates to discuss their own particular issues of interest through workshops and interactive surgery sessions.

We have arranged this year's seminar to take place over two days.

DAY ONE will focus on management and protection of common land. It will include an update on the current situation on commons legislation and other related policies. The afternoon session will be more interactive with case studies of good practice and small group surgeries, as suggested in the feedback from last year's event.

DAY TWO will focus on registration matters for commons and greens. It is specifically for Commons Registration Officers (CROs) and other associated staff within local government. A new association for CROs was announced by Minister Jim Knight at last year's seminar, and it will be holding its first AGM during the afternoon.

Defra's support has enabled us to keep the cost of **DAY ONE** at **£75**; the cost for **DAY TWO** is **£90**. Commons Registration Officers and other associated staff within local authorities will be able to attend both days at a discounted rate of £150. Refreshments and a buffet lunch are included in the cost.

There are a limited number of bed and breakfast places available on the nights of Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th at an additional cost of £36.00 per person per night. No accommodation at the University is available on the Friday night.

Summary of Key Speakers

Graham Bathe is Access and Common Land Projects Manager for English Nature, working alongside Defra on the legislative reform of Common Land.

Mark Bowden is an Investigator in the Archaeological Survey & Investigation team at English Heritage, responsible for field survey of archaeological sites and historic landscapes. He is also responsible for bringing together the results of the national project into Urban Commons.

Jo Chaffer is the Project Officer for the Open Spaces, Green Places project currently being developed for Friends of the Lake District and Cumbria County Council with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Hugh Craddock is Principal Policy Officer in Defra's Commons Bill Team, and is responsible for the implementation of the registration measures in the Commons Act. He has previously worked on legislation to deliver greater access to open country.

Andrew Dagleish has oversight of implementation for the Commons Act in Defra. He will also chair the national Commons Stakeholder Forum.

Nicola Hodgson is the Case Officer for the Open Spaces Society. She was a solicitor in private practice and assisted Sunningwell Parish Council with their landmark victory in the House of Lords.

Marian Jenner managed the Commons Bill through Parliament, and is responsible for the implementation of environmental and agricultural management measures of the Act. She is also responsible for policy on England's uplands.

Paul Johnson was seconded from the Countryside Agency to Defra's Commons Bill Team for a year, leading on greens registration issues and works control for commons. He has over 20 years' experience in the fields of commons, greens and open space, and is currently running the Agency's Open Access Programme.

Buddug Jones has worked for the Countryside Council for Wales as Agricultural Policy Officer since 1991.

Elaine Kendall has recently joined Defra's Common Land and Greens' Protection team and will be responsible for the implementation of the protection measures of the Act.

Adrian Phillips CBE was Director General at the Countryside Commission during the time of the Common Land Forum and he has worked with the government, voluntary, academic and business sectors in relation to UK conservation and countryside issues for most of his working life.

Christine Plant is Company Secretary of the recently formed Commons and Greens Registration and Management Association and has worked in the Land Charges Department of Suffolk County Council since 1997. In this time she has worked extensively on common land and village green matters.

Chris Short is Senior Research Fellow in the CCRU and has organised the National Seminar since 1999. He was the principal author of 'A Common Purpose – a guide to agreeing management on common land' published in 2005.

Martin Wright is Land Searches Manager with Cornwall County Council. Martin has been part of the land searches office, inclusive of commons registration, since November 1984. Martin is currently Chair of the recently formed Commons and Greens Registration and Management Association (CGRMA) and Commons Contact within the Local Land Charges Institute.

DAY ONE PROGRAMME

9:15-10:00 Registration and Coffee

Morning Sessions

10:00	Introduction and Welcome	Professor Adrian Phillips
10:10	Update on the Commons Act 2006 and plans for implementation: - Management - Protection - Registration Questions to Defra team	Andrew Dagleish Marian Jenner Elaine Kendall Hugh Craddock
11:20	Comfort Break	
11:30	Town and Village Greens - what the recent changes to the law mean in practice	Paul Johnson
12:00	Agency responsibilities within the new Commons Act and update on related policy	Graham Bathe and Buddug Jones
12:15	The Heritage Aspect of Commons and Village Greens	Mark Bowden
12:30	Lunch and coffee	

Afternoon Sessions

14:00	<i>Opportunities within the Commons Act 2006:</i> - Getting greens registered - Protection of common land - Commons Councils - Rectifying the Registers - Management of common land and village greens by local authorities	Workshops to be conducted by Defra staff and others with the aim of outlining the opportunities contained within the Act and those areas under consultation.
15:15	Tea / Coffee break	
15:45	<i>Case studies of positive management and protection:</i> - Upland commons - Lowland commons - Local authority managed common - Protecting our open spaces - Heritage and common land Small group surgery with Defra staff	These interactive sessions will look at community involvement, securing funding and ways to tackle various management and protection issues, including the process outlined in 'A Common Purpose'.
17:00 - 17:30	Plenary Session and concluding Comments	

DAY TWO PROGRAMME

9:30	Welcome and Introductions	Chris Short
9:45	The role of the Commons & Greens Registration & Management Association (CGRMA)	Martin Wright and Christine Plant
10:00	Small group workshops: Digitising maps, basic introduction to the registers, apportionment etc. Small group surgery with Defra staff	Interactive sessions to be lead by specialists working with CROs as well as some CROs themselves who specialise in particular areas.
10:45	Tea/Coffee break	
11:15	Small group workshops: new registrations and deregistration as in new Commons Act	Interactive sessions to be lead by specialists working with CROs as well as some CROs themselves who specialise in particular areas.
12:00	Small group workshops: updating the registers Small group surgery with Defra staff	
1:00	Lunch	
2:15	AGM for CGRM Association	
3:15	Plenary and summing up	
4:00	Depart	