

Motor Trials or Rallies utilising Public Rights of Way

Guidance Notes

Motor vehicle rallies (either by cars or motorcycles) which use or cross footpaths, bridleways or restricted byways must have authorisation from the highway authority (in this case Shropshire County Council) and the landowner, are subject to a range of conditions.

Generally speaking it is unlawful to drive a motor vehicle along a footpath, bridleway or restricted byway, **unless** private vehicular rights exist, the highway authority has given consent or a license has been made available by the County Council.

Rallies and trials that may be permitted must not be races or trials of speed.

It is section 33 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 that enables the authority to give consent for Motor Vehicle rallies to take place that directly affect public rights of way such as footpaths, bridleways or restricted byways. Shropshire County Council as highway authority gives consent after application, to a number of such rallies each year. These are subject to conditions (stated earlier) relating to the proper marshalling of the event, clear signage and the reinstatement of the affected Public Rights of Way if required.

Please note it is an offence to drive a mechanically propelled vehicle on a road or public place without due care and attention, contrary to Sec.3 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

Where particular concerns are raised by local users, parish councils or affected parties, we tend to enter into dialogue with the trial organisers to establish a means of meeting some of their concerns.

Please note that racing and speed Rallies/Trials are specifically not permitted on public footpaths, bridleways or restricted byways.

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Procedures for Organisers of Events

- Applications must be made at least **TWO MONTHS** before the date of the event.
- Organisers must complete an Application form in full and return to the address below with a cheque for the sum of £25.00 as a deposit which will be held until approx one month following the event in case of any contravention of the conditions. Otherwise the cheque will be returned to the organiser.
- Organisers will be required to provide a clear marked up map or photocopy (not tracing) of the route to be used together with 6 figure grid references and location descriptions of the routes. (I.e. Bridleway 18 in the Parish of Ludlow from Upper Evans to Mary Knoll House
Grid Ref: -----to -----).
- Provide written consent(s) of ALL landowners and occupiers with clear identification of the sections of the route applying to them.
- If requested to do so by the County Council, provide photographic evidence of the surface condition of routes to be used prior to the event,

Please send all correspondence to:

**Shropshire County Council
Countryside Access Team
Shirehall
Abbey Forgate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND**

Motor Trials or Rallies utilising Public Rights of Way Application Form

1 Name of club/or organisation:

2 Name or type of event, eg motor cycle or motor car rally or trial:

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3 Date of the event:

4 Name of Secretary of organisation/club:.....

5 Address of Secretary:.....

.....

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6 Name of Chairman of organisation/club:

7 Address of Chairman:.....

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The above named persons HEREBY UNDERTAKE that the said club/organisation will accept responsibility for the clearance of all litter along the route, make good any damage to the surface and remove any obstructions caused as a result of the event, within one week following the above event taking place. We acknowledge that a failure by the organisers to comply with this requirement will result in a complaint being lodged with the MSA (Motor Sports Association) by Shropshire County Council.

Signed:..... Date:.....
Chairman

Signed:..... Date:.....
Secretary

PLEASE ENCLOSE CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO SHROPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR THE SUM OF £25.00 (as a returnable deposit)