

Public Guidance Note 19

Motor Trials or Rallies Utilising Public Rights of Way Obtaining Permission for Events

Motor vehicle rallies using or crossing footpaths, bridleways or restricted byways must have authorisation from the Highway Authority (in this case Shropshire Council) and the landowner and 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** either private vehicular rights exist, or the Highway Authority has given consent or granted a license.

Section 33 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 enables the authority to give consent for motor rallies to take place that affect public rights of way.

Shropshire Council gives consent to several such rallies each year subject to conditions relating to the proper marshalling, clear signage and the reinstatement of affected Rights of Way, if required, following the event.

If objections are raised by local users, Parish Councils or affected parties, we will usually enter into dialogue with the trial organisers to establish a means of alleviating their concerns.

Racing and trials of speed are never permitted on public footpaths, bridleways or restricted byways and the Council has no powers to authorise such events. Furthermore, it is an offence to drive a mechanically propelled vehicle on a road or public place without due care and attention.

What do I need to do to apply for a licence?

- Make your application **at least two months** before the date of the event.
- Complete the application form in full and return it.
- Make payment online via the Councils website at www.shropshire.gov.uk of **£216.86** application fee (non-refundable), to cover admin costs.
- Provide a clear marked up map of the route to be used together with 6 figure grid references and location descriptions of the routes. (e.g., 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 with clear identification of the sections of the route applying to them.
- Provide photographic evidence of the surface condition of routes to be used prior to the event if requested.

