Presentment by Richard Taylor to the New Forest Verderers Court – 17/11/21

Thank you for allowing me to make this presentment regarding Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycles (EAPCs)

I am Richard Taylor – Minstead resident for 28 years, keen cyclist, Minstead Parish Councillor, NE Quadrant NFNPA Member and New Forest Cycle Working group chair. However, this presentment is purely on a personal basis.

My late father in-law lived in Sway and purchased an EAPC in his late 70s after serious health issues. This allowed him to continue cycling well into his 80s. He could cycle with his family on the gravel in the Forest, and pop down to the local shops for his daily paper and milk. This had huge benefits for his health, both physically and mentally.

I believe this demonstrates very well the benefits that use of EAPCs can have for those who would otherwise only be able to access the tranquillity of the New Forest by car. I only support use of approved EAPCs on the permitted network, and would welcome a better connected network with better information about how to use that network appropriately.