

**MORAY LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM**  
**52nd MEETING**  
**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018 at 4:00p.m.**  
**ELGIN TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Clive Roberts (Vice Chair), Malcolm Campbell, Janet Trythall, Alastair Sutherland, Terry Ballard, Ed Dunbar, Wilson Metcalfe, Gilbert Bain

**Present:** Ian Douglas (Moray Council Outdoor Access Manager)

**Vacancies:** FES position, NFUS position, Disabled rep position (formerly T Anderson), Land manger position (formerly W Hawes), Community position (formerly P Carroll)

**Non attendees:** Angus Dixon

Item	Welcome	Action
1	CR chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone.	
2	<b>Apologies:</b> Louise Laing (convener), Laura Sutherland, Simon Jacyna, Shirley Reid, Charles Petrie, Jean Oliver	
3	<b>Declaration of Interest:</b> It was recorded no members present has any conflict of interests in relation the items to be discussed at this meeting	
4	<b>Accuracy of previous minutes - Proposer and seconder</b> Minutes agreed. Proposed Malcolm Campbell, seconded Alastair Sutherland	
5	<b>Matters Arising</b> See matters arising schedule.	
6	<b>Membership – Update</b> Currently there are 5 existing vacancies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NFUS – LL to contact Martin Birse and Ian Wilson to determine if either of them are prepared to be NFUS rep on the Forum. ID to send LL their contact details.</li> <li>• Forestry rep – will be jointly filled by Tim Gordon-Roberts (FCS) and Justin Livesey (FES). Both will operate on the basis of only attending meetings when requested by the chair.</li> <li>• Disabled rep - TB produced poster advertising vacant position now displayed at Moray Resource Centre. Willie Jack at the Centre agreed to help by contacting people he thinks would be interested. TB to follow this and keep in contact.</li> <li>• Land Manager Rep – MC contacted Faye Gonzalez at Savills who confirmed suggesting that she may be able to suggest a couple of candidates in the new year.MC to follow up.</li> <li>• Community Rep – MC contacted Susan Davis at TSi MORAY requesting assistance to find a community and disabled rep.MC to follow up.</li> </ul> <p>Further 4 vacancies - ID outlined four members coming to end of 3 year tenure i.e. Clive Roberts (community), Terry Ballard (user), Jean Oliver (community) and Alistair Sutherland (user).  At meeting all four members indicated they wished to re-apply for their positions.ID to issue these members application forms.  ID to widely advertise and promote these 4 positions and the additional community and land manager positions. Deadline for application responses to be 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019.  ID to organise Members Sub Group (WM, LL, and MC) meeting at Ashgrove on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019 at 10.00am to select new members to be allocated to the vacant positions from applications received.</p>	<p>LL/ ID</p> <p>TB</p> <p>MC</p> <p>MC</p> <p>ID</p> <p>ID</p> <p>ID</p>

<b>7</b>	<b>Core Paths Plan Review</b>	
	<p>Core Paths Sub Group (CR, WM, ED, LL, JO) took place on 11<sup>th</sup> Oct and considered all objections received and agreed proposed modifications to the Plan as contained in the table issued to all Forum members. All present at meeting agreed to the proposed Plan modifications.</p> <p>ID outlined there were still 14 outstanding objections to the proposed LM01 amendment at Roseisle and 3 outstanding objections to new Core Path proposal CCP21 at Rafford. These were detailed in the issued table.</p> <p>Due to the sensitive nature of these two issues, the Forum conducted a closed meeting to discuss these objections without the Moray Outdoor Access Manager being present.</p> <p>All present thereafter agreed to support the Sub Group recommendations presented in the table to retain the LM01 amendment and the new CCP21 proposal in the Plan and that the outstanding objections should be addressed through a Local Inquiry.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Communications</b>	
	<p>Induction Handbook – MG still to forward a final copy to ID who will arrange printing of 50 copies for distribution to existing and any future new members.</p> <p>Core Path Leaflet – MG still to forward a final copy to ID who will arrange a print of 500.</p>	<p><b>MG, ID</b></p> <p><b>MG, ID</b></p>
<b>9</b>	<b>Business Plan</b>	
	All items to report covered as individual items on the meeting agenda.	
<b>10</b>	<b>Dorenell Site Visit 12<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	
	<p>Site visit was hosted by EDF and attended by CR, TB, JO, LL and ID. This looked at the various onsite public access improvements required by the planning consent and the AMS. This included various path improvements and the site of a new bridge. Those who had attended agreed it was a worthwhile visit and that EDF seem committed to the access improvements.</p> <p>LL to contact Darren to establish when next meeting of the AMS steering group will take place.</p>	<b>LL</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Roths to Craigellachie Cycle Route</b>	
	ID reported that the group had been successful in obtaining 100% funding from Sustrans for a stage 1 Feasibility Study and that local businesses were backing the proposal. Consultants will be invited to tender for this work. Three route options will be considered in this study leading to a more detailed design at stage 2 on the selected option. This work will be carried out in full consultation and partnership with local landowners. One major obstacle to be overcome is the presence of Japanese Knotweed.	
<b>12</b>	<b>Hopeman to Lossiemouth Cycle Route</b>	
	<p>JT informed the meeting that Consultants WYG were carrying out the Phase 1 Feasibility Study into route options and this work was nearly complete</p> <p>.Persuading landowners has proved to be a major constraint which severely limits options available. Local community group leading the project will have to decide if the project is worth pursuing to stage 2 detailed design and cost given that route options available are likely to be sub optimal.</p> <p>JT to give further updates.</p>	<b>JT</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Clashgower Windfarm extension</b>	
	<p>TB contacted Force9energy suggesting that an AMS be devised for the windfarm similar to the one for Dorenell. This should contain 3 elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Access management during construction</li> <li>2. Path network improvements</li> <li>3. Vision for integration and connection to the wider paths network</li> </ol> <p>Force9energy response was that the points were noted and that they would get back in touch in due course.</p>	

<b>14</b>	<b>Findochty-Cullen Cycle Path closure</b>	
	The route is now open again after temporary repairs were carried out and signage will be erected advising users to proceed with caution. Moray Council will monitor the embankment to check for any further movement or slippage. Long term aim is to fix the drainage problem that caused the slippage but this will be expensive and will require Sustrans funding to go ahead.	
<b>15</b>	<b>Access Issues</b>	
	<p><b>a) Locked gate on Fishwives path</b> – Carried forward: SJ still to have further meeting with farmer to get gate unlocked for a trial period, with new FES rep on Forum who can input about what FES can do to deter motorbikes in the forest.</p> <p><b>b) Dog Familiarisation with sheep: possible training event</b> – Carried forward: NFUS who indicated a willingness to work jointly with the forum on an event building on current initiatives like the SNH social media campaign. To be pursued with new NFUS rep on the Forum (once in place).</p>	<p><b>SJ</b></p> <p><b>NFUS rep</b></p>
<b>16</b>	<b>AOCB.</b>	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Macalea RoW – Carried over: JO had said previously that the route was still difficult to walk along due to cattle .ID to follow up previous letter to Crown Estate seeking fence to keep livestock off the RoW.</li> <li>2. JT and ED commented that coastal trail path needs further work to clear gorse between Covesea lookout tower and Covesea.ID to follow up with Moray Ranger, Ged Connell</li> </ol>	<p><b>ID</b></p> <p><b>ID</b></p>
<b>17</b>	<b>Date of next meetings</b>	
	<p>The meetings for 2018 were agreed as follows:  Tues 19<sup>th</sup> March-cancelled due to insufficient member attendance.  Tues 4<sup>th</sup> June  Tues 10<sup>th</sup> Sept  Tues 26<sup>th</sup> Nov</p> <p>All to take place in the Lounge Room, Elgin Town Hall from 4.00 to 6.00pm.</p>	