MORAY LOCAL OUTDOOR ACCESS FORUM FIFTH MEETING

MINUTES

Tuesday 29th December 2006 at Moray Resource Centre, Elgin 4.00pm- 6.00pm

PRESENT

Ian Douglas (Moray Council- Moray Access Manager), Claire Bell (Moray Council- Path Project Officer),

Members:

Peter Graham-SRPBA (Landowner)- Convener Simon Jacyna- MEAG (Outdoor Access User)- Vice Convener Janet Trythall,-(Outdoor Access User) Rita Marks- Moray Tourism Forum (Outdoor Access User) John Fleming- MALT (Community Groups) Jean Oliver- Speyside Paths Network Group (Community Groups) Ray Brumby- Speyside Paths Network Group (Community Groups) Duncan McConnell- Dyke & Landward Community Council (Community Groups) Jenny Gate- Glenlivet & Inveravon Community Association (Community Groups) Jenny Gate- Glenlivet & Inveravon Community Association (Community Groups) Iain Green-NFUS (Landowner) John MacLean- Westfield Farms (Landowner) Philip Whitefield- Forestry Commission Scotland (Public Agencies) Iain Stephen - Moray Access Panel Barbara Stearn- Moray Health & Social Care Partnership (Public Agencies)

Apologies

Ian Bruce (Moray Council- Environmental Services Manager), Honor Third – Moray Access Panel, Cath Clark -Paths for All Partnership, Watson Bell (Outdoor Access User), Alasdair Laing-Logie Estate (Landowner), Kelley Miller –SNH.

Non Attendees

Toby Metcalfe -Smiths Gore (Landowner), Franziska Smith- HIE Moray (Public Agencies

Item		Action
1.0	Welcome The meeting was chaired by the Convener Peter Graham.	
1.1	Non-Attendance of Meetings Toby Metcalfe and Franziska Smith have now missed 3No meetings in a row. The Chairman is to write to these members and warn them, that in accordance with the Forum procedures, they will be struck off the Forum membership if they fail to attend the next meeting.	Peter Graham
1.2	Ian Douglas reported that Cllr Linda Gorn- Moray Council has informed him that she will be no longer able to attend due to other commitments. Although she is unable to formally resign, the Council will be appointing a new Member to the post following the Local Authority elections in May.	Council Committee
2.0	Accuracy of Previous Minutes	
2.1	The previous meetings were agreed as being true and accurate.	
3.0	Matters Arising	
3.1	Item 3.5-Funding Ian Douglas has still had no response from Cllr Bob Wilson regarding the matter of funding of Outdoor Access and the Forum at the Council.	

 allocation of the 2008 budget for the Core Path Plan. Peter Graha on the matter. 3.2 Item 4.3: National Outdoor Acc. Jean Oliver attended the Nationminutes available on www.outd JO noted a specific issue raised, any members with access experise be appointed next year and it is deficit. 3.3 Item 5.3: Website Links Cath Clark to advise Ian Doug outdoor leaflets to be included of a straining and the report to Peter Graham, who will the report to Peter Graham, who will advise the report to Peter Graham, who will a the form at the report to Peter Graham, who will a the form of the next meeting. 4.0 Training Programme Cath Clark to bring copies of the to the next meeting. 5.0 Core Paths Planning 5.1 Draft Programme had been Douglas explained that items 1-Douglas explained that items 1-Douglas explained that the first programme had been Douglas explained th	ad its members lobby the Councillors now for an outdoor access and including the implementation of a to write formally to the Convener of Moray Council as Forum AGM Forum's AGM on 20 th September 2006. Copy of the praccess-scotland.com under 'meetings'.	Peter Graham
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5.3 <u>Draft Core Path Maps</u> Initial Draft Core Path Maps w These illustrate the candidate O Group. The maps also show a Way Long Distance Footpath (n	s now had a series of informal preliminary meetings oray to discuss their initial thoughts on which paths Paths. The feedback is recorded in a schedule which	

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	The draft plan was discussed strategically at some length and the following was agreed:	
	a/ the maps are to be updated to illustrate additional categories of path: Core Paths, Aspirational Core Paths, Existing Promoted Paths, Other Paths, and The Speyside Way.	
	b/ The River Spey is to be included as a Core Path between the Highland Council Boundary and Aberlour.	
	c/ It was agreed that the Criteria for Core Paths require to be tightened to make them more prescriptive.	
	d/ Some of the existing Promoted Paths around settlements are to be dropped as Core Paths. These will be reviewed in relation to the updated criteria	
	The Core Path Planning Sub Group is to meet to review the Criteria and the Core Paths Maps. Meeting 10am on 23 rd January at Moray Council's Ashgrove Offices.	Core Path Plan. Sub Group
	Further to this meeting, Ian Douglas is to update the plans accordingly and to distribute copies to the Forum members prior to the next Forum meeting, where it is based that the Come Bath meters mill be seened her the Forum for inclusion in the	
	hoped that the Core Path routes will be agreed by the Forum for inclusion in the Consultative Draft.	Ian Douglas
5.4	Landowners Sub Group A landowner's subgroup will be formed to assist in identifying the land-owners of proposed Draft Core Paths, who will be contacted directly. This will include: Peter Graham, Watson Bell, Duncan McConnell, Ian Green, Toby Metcalfe, & John MacLean.	
	A date for convening will be agreed at the next Forum meeting.	
5.5	Open Day It was agreed that arrangements for this will be discussed at the next meeting.	
6.0	Communications	
6.1	<u>Media Liaison Officer</u> Rita Marks agreed to act in this capacity for sending the press release for the next	Rita Marks
	meeting. The post has still to be filled by a Forum member on a more permanent basis or an alternative system agreed.	The Forum
7.0	Dufftown Spur	
7.1	Risk Assessment Report	
	Ian Douglas reported that the Council have still to produce a Risk Assessment Report. The Forum noted their displeasure with this delay.	Moray Council
7.2	Kelly Miller to respond regarding the potential for the Speyside Way's publicity materials to publicise the route as a link path.	Kelly Miller
8.0	Access Issues	
8.1	<u>Right of Way- GM55, Duffus</u> Site report and photos were issued to Members prior to the meeting giving the background to this case.	
	Ian Douglas explained that there has been an ongoing long-term problem of ploughing, inappropriate barriers, cattle and bulls on an existing claimed right of way. At present the path through the field is churned up and extremely muddy due to cattle being concentrated for winter feed in the area of the path. Ian Douglas noted that the problem would be easily solved by erection of a fence to	
	keep cattle of the path which would thereafter dry up due to sandy soil.	
	The Forum unanimously agreed that the situation is unacceptable and reflects badly on	

	The Forum advise that the Moray Council take steps to enforce under Section 14 of the Land Reform Act (Scotland) and/ or for breech of the Countryside Scotland Act under the section relating to rights of way. Prior to any such proceedings being enacted, Ian Douglas is to approach the farmer (Mr. J.D. Anderson) giving him one last chance to resolve the situation within one month. Note: Simon Jacyna left the meeting for the duration of this item after declaring an interest - the farmer in question is one of his clients.	Ian Douglas
8.2	Right of Way- Corsairtly, Keith A formal request has been submitted to the Forum by the Keith Community Council for consideration of reinstatement of the claimed right of way between Strathmill Distillery, Corsairtly Farm and the main Dufftown/ Keith road. This has become overgrown and difficult to use between the farm and the distillery. It is also noted that the field adjacent to the path has outline planning consent for housing, although the footpath is not acknowledged. Copies of this letter and a map were distributed to the Forum Members prior to the meeting.	
	Ian Douglas noted that the farmer who is the landowner (Mr Davidson) is not actively obstructing access along the route, but during discussions on the matter, the farmer is clearly against any signage or promotion in any way and does not recognise the route as a right of way.	
	 Further to discussion the Forum agreed the clearance of the path is unenforceable but that the following is to be pursued: a/ The Community Council to be requested to provide evidence as to the path being a right of way. b/ The Planning Department to be contacted regarding the detailed planning consent for housing in the adjacent field with a view to seeking path improvements. c/ The matter to be discussed again with the farmer, to try to encourage him to consider taking on path maintenance under the Land Management Contract Scheme. 	Ian Douglas Ian Douglas Ian Douglas
9.0	AOCB	
9.1	Land Management Contracts Ian Douglas and Peter Graham noted that they will meet with SERAD to discuss general issues of LMCs and access.	Ian Douglas/ Peter Graham
10.0	Location & Date of Next Meeting	
	Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 13 th February 2006 at 4.00pm-6.00pm in The Lounge Room, Elgin Town Hall	
	Provisional dates for meetings during 2007: Wed 25 th April, Tues 3rd July, Tues 13 th November.	
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